

American Dahlia Society  
Conference Call Minutes  
November 11, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm EDT by President Kevin Larkin.

**Present**

Those on the call were: Kevin Larkin, Brent Grant, Mac Boyer, Terry Schroeder, Bob Schroeder, Ken Jensen, Jerry Wittrig, Karen Nordahl, Claudia Biggs, Lou Paradise, Steve Nowotarski, Art Haskins, Harry Risetto, Wayne Shantz, Eleanor Shantz, John Morton, Norm Hines, and Ron Miner.

**Remembrance**

Kevin Larkin asked for a minute of remembrance on this special day for our veterans and ADS members who have recently passed away or are ill. One member who recently passed is Curt Sells, who started both the Skagit Valley and Whatcom Dahlia Societies.

**Minutes**

Harry Risetto moved and Brent Grant seconded to approve the minutes from the October, 2012 Conference Call, with a correction in the spelling of Gullikson and that Art Haskins and Jerry Landerholm worked on the Guide for Hosting a National Dahlia Show. Motion passed. Harry Risetto stated that a note should be included in these minutes indicating that after the call, it was determined that the bylaws do not require a vote of the Executive Board for committee appointments.

**President**

Kevin Larkin stated that in his article for The Bulletin he is asking societies to submit dues as soon as possible. He hopes this will encourage renewals to be in early in 2013. He also asked the ADS Representatives to remind the societies how important it is to get their dues in early. Next year he will put something in the September Bulletin about renewing your ADS membership. Alan reported that an insert goes in December and March for those who have not renewed.

**Treasurer**

Mac Boyer reported that the ADS Lake City bank account has a balance of \$64,471, including the CDs. He has \$3258 to be deposited. Our balance is a little lower than last year at this time. A check was sent to Michigan for the 2013 National Show. Alan Fisher moved and Brent Grant seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report, subject to future audit.

## **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS**

### **Mid Atlantic**

Karen Nordahl reported that she had sent Rosemary's New Society package to the Gettysburg Society, who are working on their bylaws and are thinking about getting into judging. They will have a show on the first weekend in September; they currently have about a dozen members and hope to grow.

### **Midwest**

Jerry Wittrig reported that they are working on ways to make the Midwest Conference more value added. As an example, it is difficult for smaller societies to have funds for down payments, etc for a conference show, so they will provide loans to smaller societies for this purpose.

### **North Atlantic**

Steve Nowotarski reported that some of their societies took a beating from the Hurricane Sandy, especially those in Rhode Island and Long Island.

### **Pacific Northwest**

Wayne Shantz reported that the DVD they prepared on judging is ready for distribution. It is available for \$50 for a five-disc set that includes about 8 hours of training. The Wild River Dahlia Society had their first meeting to organize.

### **Pacific Southwest**

John Morton reported that the Pacific Southwest societies have been making plans for digging their display gardens. Plans are going forward on the PSD Conference event in February hosted by the San Leandro Society.

### **Southern**

There is no representative for the Southern States Dahlia Conference. Kevin asked for any suggestions. Harry Risetto suggested someone from the Dahlia Society of Georgia who might be a possibility; Alan Fisher may be able to help identify someone.

### **Federation**

Bob and Terry Schroeder reported for Brad Freeman that they had their annual meeting in mid October. They distributed medals for winners of the Flower of the Year at the shows. Curt Sell, Dick Porter, Bill Bonneywell, Bill and Elsie Dungan, Lewie Bloom, and Richard and Patty Matthies were the Hall of Fame awardees for 2012. They continue to plan for the National Show in 2014.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Bulletin**

Kevin Larkin reported for Norm Hines that most of the show reports have been received. He is waiting on advertisements and medal results. There are 94 society reports, with many over the size limit, but all will be included. There are fewer advertisers than in December 2011.

## **Classification**

Lou Paradise reported that *The Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* was sent to the printer last week. They were able to incorporate show results from all but 3 societies into the 2013 CHD. Two of the three societies did not have shows in 2012, and Lou was unable to contact the other society. The book is two pages smaller this year due to attrition of some of the older varieties. The Classification book is published in 4-page format, so instead of removing the two-page classification table at the end of the book, which is a temporary feature, he elected to put two blank pages at the end of the book entitled "notes". This will allow at least one more year for people to use this expanded table until they get used to the key on page 12. All Classification Committee members reported their findings for varieties that were on the change request list. Approximately one half of the listed cultivars changed classification. The complete list will be in the 2013 CHD. In addition, all 4 cultivars, Bodacious, Nick Sr., River's Novelty and Valley Porcupine, are now listed with the reverse color(s). The Stanley Johnson winner for the 2012 growing season is Lakeview Glow originated by Bernie Wilson from the Pacific Northwest. Lou suggested that Steve use the October 10 date as the date for advertisers to get an ad in for the inside cover. There was discussion about accepting photographs for the cover of the CHD in digital format and getting consent electronically so that the photograph can be used by the ADS.

## **Finance**

Harry Risetto reported that the donation envelope included in the September Bulletin was successful, with about \$1600 being received. The Boeke Archive Fund has one donation so far; he is putting information in the December Bulletin about this fund. Harry Risetto is asking the Dahlia Society of Georgia for a donation. He is hoping to get a total of about \$10,000, so that the archives can be digitized.

## **Garden/Container Dahlias**

Steve Nowotarski reported that next year they will be evaluation three open centered dahlias, two mignon singles and a mignon orchid. Gallery La Tour is the Border/Container Dahlia of the Year. It is 16" with a fully double lavender bloom and dark foliage. The report will be in the March Bulletin. Anyone interested in being on the evaluation committee should contact Steve Nowotarski.

## **Historian**

Mac Boyer reported that they have several old commercial catalogs from the 1930s, 1940s, etc. They would be a good addition to the archive. It was discussed that there should be a listing of everything we have for the archives.

## **Image Library**

Claudia Biggs reported that she has received over 60 entries so far and more are coming in. She is targeting the first of January for completion. Societies can request the program only or the program plus photos. Information on submitting photos to be used for the image for the CHD is published in the March Bulletin.

### **Judging Accreditation**

Bob Schroeder reported that he will be sending out the lists of judges for each society to their Judging Chair. The Judging Roster will include the information that has always been in there as well as email addresses for those who want theirs listed. A listing of those who have moved up in judging status will be in the March Bulletin. Bob is still looking at having judging pins and is looking for samples. Harry Rissetto said he would send a box of pins to Bob this week.

### **Membership**

Alan Fisher reported that he is encouraging societies to send information in on new members as soon as possible and then send the checks later to help get the December Bulletin to those new members in a timely manner. There was discussion about retention rates, offering multi-year renewals and the percentages of membership between this year and last year. Most societies are resistant to having multi-year renewals as it makes their bookkeeping more difficult. Alan will have the statistics on the numbers of members for 2012 soon. It is felt that there is value in doing membership through local societies.

### **National Exhibition**

Art Haskins reported that he has received a request from a society to host the 2017 National Show, the Central States Dahlia Society. They need to take it back to their membership for approval. One of the best exhibition gardens, Dahlia Hill Garden, is in Midlands, MI, about two hours from the show site for 2013.

### **Photography Contest**

Martin Kral reported that he has received five entries for the Photo Contest so far, but is hoping to receive more before Thanksgiving.

### **Research and Education**

Brent Grant reported that he is working on three emphases this year: 1) Virus study at Washington State, 2) Statistical review of Penn State Research Lab data from 2010 and merge with Longwood Gardens study and reduce to guidelines for growers, 3) Develop and make available by tuber sale time an instruction piece, similar to the instructional side of the wall chart that was done previously. He has received a quote of \$425 for 2000 and has received permission from the originator's widow to print that many, since it is copyrighted. He also has someone who may be able to review the Penn State information.

### **Seedling Bench Evaluation**

Roger Walker reported that the seedling bench evaluation report has been finalized and submitted to the ADS Bulletin for publication. There were some delays due to late and/or incomplete club reporting, but seems to be a yearly issue. He thanks Chris Stout who carefully double checked every score sheet to ensure accuracy. All Lynn B. Dudley and Evie Gullikson award winners have been notified.

## **Special Awards**

Jerry Landerholm reported that he will be getting the medals for Trial Garden and Seedling Bench Evaluation engraved and sent to the respective winners, once he receives all of the information.

## **Trial Garden**

Ron Miner reported the Trial Garden reports for the Bulletin were sent to the Publisher on October 31. Any difficulties in classification between trial gardens and/or with seedling bench evaluation were resolved without any difficulty. Ron will be putting summary information from the trial garden results on the website, as he did last year. He wants to thank the Trial Garden Directors and their teams for all of their efforts this season, as well as Lou Paradise. He would also like to thank the Alberta Dahlia and Gladiolus Society for their initiative in establishing a new probationary Trial Garden in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada. He will send Lois Ann Helgeson the results for a press release and will post them on the website. Kevin Larkin will also ask Roger Walker to do the same for the Seedling Bench Evaluation.

## **Website**

Ron Miner reported that he is pleased with Linda Holmes-Cook's progress on the website; she has done a considerable amount of work. They will continue to work together until she is comfortable managing the process on her own. They are beginning to look at a new way to put the classification guide on the website and hope to have more information in the next few months.

## **Advertising**

Steve Nowotarski reported that there are more ads, a total of eleven, scheduled for the June Bulletin than we've had, due to people signing up for a full year of advertising.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Web Site Media Page Development**

Ron reported that he will be able to get the media page up soon. An icon, "Media" will be placed on the website that will open to a page with some articles that media persons can put into their print information. Lois Ann Helgeson has plans to do produce press releases regarding the 2012 Trial Garden and Seedling Bench Evaluation award winners.

### **Guidelines to Societies Hosting National Show and Annual Meeting**

Art Haskins reported that the manual was sent out to the Board and the decision was made to have the award information in the policy manual, so that information can be easily updated.

### **ADS 2015 Centennial Planning**

Steve Nowotarski reported that the actual schedule for the centennial show is not quite complete, but should be ready for discussion at the spring planning meeting.

## **Publications**

Kevin Larkin reported that he is the interim chair of this committee. He has been working on a new membership tri-fold that could be on the web and downloadable. Local societies could download and print it out to use. He will send a copy to the Executive Board for their comments, with the hope it could be on the web in early 2013.

## **Spring Planning**

Kevin Larkin spoke with Spencer Mortensen, Utah Dahlia Society, and April 5-7 will not be a good date for our spring planning meeting as there is a huge LDS event that weekend and all hotels are booked. The next weekend, April 12-14 was decided on as many members felt they would be able to attend that weekend. There was discussion about setting aside some time to do a judging seminar for the local society.

## **International Affiliated Society Membership Class**

This item is still on the table, but nothing new to report at this time.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **New Probationary Trial Garden**

Ken Jensen reported that the Alberta Dahlia and Gladiola Society are glad to have the trial garden. Since the growing season is shorter than most, they plan to start plants inside and plant out about the first of June. They have secured \$1000 for supplies and a shed for storage. Growers from the US must have certification to mail tubers to the Alberta Trial Garden. They will start with 30 varieties. It will be called Piper Creek Trial Garden. There is a plan to have a grand opening in August. The Alberta Dahlia Society will be coordinating orders for new originations from the Alberta Society members so that they can easily be ordered by members in the United States.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting seconded. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Terry Schroeder  
ADS Secretary