

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2011

In the absence of President Jerry Landerholm, the annual meeting of the American Dahlia Society was called to order by First Vice President Kevin Larkin at 9:05 AM PDT at the Santa Clara Marriott Hotel in Santa Clara, California. Other Board Members in attendance were Wayne and Eleanor Shantz, Allen Haas, Alan Fisher, John Morton, Brad and Rosemary Freeman, Norm and Judy Hines, Brent Grant, Ron Miner, Steve Nowotarski, Lou Paradise, Lois Ann Helgeson, Claudia Biggs and Anna Moynahan. Also in attendance were many local members, as well as members who came from throughout the country. On behalf of the ADS, Anna Moynahan thanked the Pacific Southwest Conference for hosting an outstanding show.

MINUTES. MOTION by Lou Paradise, second by Norm Hines to accept the minutes of the 2010 annual meeting as printed in the December 2010 *Bulletin*. PASSED

TREASURER. By email, Mac Boyer reported as of August 14, 2011 the following:

Lake City Bank, total assets, including CD's - \$77,854.75

Lake City Bank, designated funds - \$19,854.57

Ameriprise account - \$60,991.15 restricted

Vanguard account - \$26,375.36 restricted

Lake City Bank funds, August 14, 2010 - \$79,117.69 MOTION by Alan Fisher, second by Lou Paradise to accept the treasurer's report, subject to audit. PASSED

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS.

MID ATLANTIC STATES CONFERENCE. Brenton Grant reiterated that their Conference is to be known as the Mid Atlantic States Conference. He noted that the conference show will be hosted by the National Capital Dahlia Society in September.

MIDWEST CONFERENCE. Jerry Wittrig, by email, reported the Midwest Conference sponsored a judging seminar at the Bonneville TG in August. About 20 judges scored seedlings and enjoyed a pot luck luncheon sponsored by the Elkhart DS. A discussion of the proposed seedling scorecard followed. The Midwest Show will be held in Chicago, September 23 - 25.

NORTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE. Steve Nowotarski reported that they are still trying to fill the Vice President's position.

FEDERATION OF NORTHWEST DAHLIA GROWERS. Brad Freeman reported that the Federation has twelve clubs in their region and it is difficult to work all the shows into the schedule. With the 4 digit classification, they have changed their terminology to giant, large and medium to make it easier for the public to understand. Dick Parshall noted that the Washington State Dahlia Society is celebrating their 100th anniversary. Kevin Larkin reported that the Federation may have some interest in hosting the 2014 National Show

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE. John Morton reported that the Bay Cities Club disbanded and their members joined the South Coast Dahlia Society. They held their conference

meeting in February which was dedicated to finalizing the plans for this show.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CONFERENCE. Wayne Shantz reported they have held several judging schools. He invited all to attend the National Show next year in Portland , OR on Labor Day weekend.

TRUSTEES. Harry Risetto, by email reported that he is familiar with the financial activities of the American Dahlia Society and reports that they are conducted prudently and in the interests of the Society. Harry commends the Treasurer for his diligent oversight of Society affairs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS. *BULLETIN* Norm Hines reported that the *Bulletin* is a volunteer project, from the typist to the mailing team. He stated that in order to get the issues mailed on time, deadlines must be observed. Send your reports early and he wants all societies to sent reports about their activities. Norm thanked Lou for sending his material in a timely fashion. Kevin thanked Norm for all the work he does on the *Bulletin*.

CLASSIFICATION. Lou Paradise reports that he has not received any reports as yet. He receives about ½ of the show results electronically. He reminds everyone that the deadline for sending in show reports is October 10, but urges everyone to send them in as soon as possible. At the Classification meeting, it was decided to eliminate the RHS color numbers in the CHD. The possibility of a new class size was discussed as well as how to report the reverse color of the ray floret. These subjects are still under discussion.

GARDEN DAHLIAS. Steve Nowotarski reported the evaluation of three cultivars is ongoing.

IMAGE LIBRARY. Claudia Biggs reported that she will be working on the New Introductions DVD in the fall.

INSURANCE. Judy Hines asked everyone to use the forms printed in the Bulletin.

MEMBERSHIP. Alan Fisher reported that membership is 99% of last years level. He reports total members of 2502 with 293 new memberships in 2011.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION. Arthur Haskins, by email, thanked the Pacific Southwest Conference for hosting this years ADS National Show. Future shows are 2012 Portland Oregon, 2013 Michigan, 2014 open as of this date, 2015, Mid Island, New York(the 100th anniversary of the ADS) and 2016 Carolinas DS. He thanks all who have committed to future shows.

PHOTOGRAPHY. Martin Kral, by email reported a bounty of 364 photos from 28 photographers in the latest ADS Photo Contest. A report appeared in the June *Bulletin*. The deadline for this years contest is December, 2, 2011. He is looking for new competitors and at least as many entries as in the past.

PUBLICITY/PUBLIC RELATIONS. Lois Ann Helgeson is working with Ron Miner to get a media press kit on the members only portion of the web site for use by local societies and also

one on the open section for use by newspapers and magazines. She and Claudia Biggs are working on images for a new set of post cards.

RESEARCH & EDUCATION. Brenton Grant reported that the results of the fertility trial which began about 18 months ago have been summarized and presented as a power point presentation by Matt Taylor of Longwood Gardens. Most of the materials and soil and some of the labor was donated. The cost to the ADS was about \$2500. He has an extensive report which will continue to be studied by the appropriate people.

SPECIAL AWARDS. The American Dahlia Society Gold Medal was awarded to Claudia Biggs and Dick Kohlschreiber at the banquet last evening. The President's Award was presented to John Morton of the Pacific Southwest Conference.

TRIAL GARDENS. Ron Miner reported the trial gardens are at the peak of their activity. There is concern about the submission of entries that are not worthy and so do not come close to achieving a passing score. These require the same amount of work as those which do score. Ron encourages all ADS members and particularly judges to invest time and effort in support of their nearest trial garden. He thanks all Trial Garden Directors, local societies and conferences for their work on behalf of the ADS.

WEB SITE. Ron Miner reported that they are in the process of posting the *Bulletins* for the decade from 1990 to 1999. He anticipates going ahead with previous decades, however Mac will need help finding some of the *Bulletins* from the '80's and earlier. A question concerning the CHB and pictures dating to 2007 on the Web site was raised. Ron noted that while this information is outdated, it does have historical interest. He stated that this portion was done by Andrew Miller and he has not been able to get it updated. The issue of putting the current CHB on the members only portion will be discussed by the Executive Board. He also noted that the TG results will be posted as they become available in November. Show results will also be posted and show chairs should send their results to showresults@dahlia.org.

FINANCE. Harry Risetto, by email, wrote that the committee has reviewed the finances of the ADS and concluded that with respect to normal operation it is on sound footing. It has several restricted accounts that support special awards and the ADS Web site and other publications. The ADS lacks a general fund that is available to support new initiatives such as research and the color chart. The Committee recommends that the ADS encourage memorial gifts, bequests and an annual giving solicitation to support these activities. A suggestion of soliciting a \$1 contribution to be sent in with dues was put forth. Questions concerning the research fund at WSU were also raised. A lengthy discussion followed. Dr. Pappu responded that in this economy the fund is not generating any revenue. However, he is doing research on other crops which may translate to the dahlia.

OLD BUSINESS.

ENDORSEMENT OF THE ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. MOTION by Alan Fisher, second by Lois Ann Helgeson to endorse the actions of the Executive Committee during the past year. PASSED

HONORARIA. MOTION by Alan Fisher, second by Brad Freeman to give honoraria in the amount of \$100 each to the Secretary and Treasurer. PASSED

NEW BUSINESS.

FUTURE SHOWS Kevin noted that 2014 may be hosted in the Northwest.. In regard to the Centennial show in 2015, Harry Rissetto wrote, the Mid Island DS has agreed to host the ADS Centennial show. This is fitting because the ADS was born in the New York area in 1915. An ADS Planning Committee is being formed to work with the host society to make our 100th anniversary an unique occasion. Tom Cleere will represent the North Atlantic Dahlia Conference and Steve Nowotarski will be working with the Mid-Island DS. ADS members interested in assisting with this show should contact Harry at hrrissetto@morganlewis.com. Fund raising is currently under way because of special costs associated with the festivities celebrating the dahlia.

DUES INCREASE. Kevin explained that the Board has proposed a \$4.00 dues increase to cover the cost of first class postage for the December *Bulletin*. Alan Fisher further explained that effective in 2012, the cost would go from \$20 and \$23 to \$24 and \$27 for those joining through their societies. For at large members the dues would be \$27 and \$31. Canadian members and overseas members would remain unchanged since they already pay the first class rate. Family members would receive the *Bulletin*, show reports and one Classification Book. The second CHB will be sent bulk rate to keep our Bulk Mailing permit valid. MOTION by Ken Walton, second by Bob Schroeder to raise the dues by \$4.00 to cover the cost of first class mailing for the December issue. A discussion followed. Norm Hines noted that the first class option is already in place and often the *Bulletin* is late getting in the mail due to actions of the committee. The motion PASSED by a hand count of 26 for and 10 opposed.

MOTION by Cindy Soule, second by Brad Freeman to adjourn at 10:45 AM PDT

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Moynahan
Secretary