

**American Dahlia Society  
Minutes – Board Meeting  
November 6, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 pm PST by President Brad Freeman. Brad asked for any additions or corrections; there were none.

**Present**

Board members present were Brad Freeman, Mark Oldenkamp, Tony Evangelista, Terry Schroeder, Charles Miehm, Jerry Landerholm, Harry Risetto, Ron Miner, Dana Miller, Robert Fackovec, Alli Richards, Jess Becker, Dan Baulig, Lou Paradise, Karen Sanchez, Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook, Heather Ramsay, Mel Epstein, Bob Schroeder, Elva Sellens, Rosemary Freeman, Debbie Pavich, Larry Smith, Kristine Albrecht, Roger Walker, Marilyn Walton, and Sharon Swaney.

**Remembrances**

Brad asked for a moment of remembrance for those who have passed or have significant health issues. Mark Oldenkamp shared that Ken Masurat, Monterey Bay Dahlia Society, is now in the hospital with pancreatic cancer, with a poor prognosis.

**Minutes**

Minutes from the July 17, 2022, meeting were sent to board members. **Lou Paradise moved, and Alli Richards seconded to approve as written. The motion passed.**

**OFFICERS REPORTS**

**President**

Brad Freeman reported the ADS Executive Committee met on October 30, 2022. They continue to look at every part of the ADS organization to find ways to efficiently deliver services and benefits to our members while being fiscally responsible. Steps will be taken, as needed, to reach goals while honoring the history and legacy of the ADS.

The ADS Organization Chart has been updated and is available on the website.

The October *Bulletin* was well received by ADS members. This is the first edition in the new full color magazine format. What is needed for the *Bulletin* is content. There has been a surge in new ADS members so articles, with photographs, on all aspects of growing dahlias are welcome. In addition, the *Bulletin* could use more regular columns on topics such as the garden and container dahlias, the international dahlia scene, ADS history, etc. If you are interested in providing content for the *Bulletin*, please feel free to contact the Bulletin Editor at ADSBulletin@dahlia.org.

This is the time of the year when most local dahlia societies start collecting membership dues for the following year. We encourage the local dahlia societies to continue to collect ADS membership information and dues along with their local and/or regional dahlia organizations' membership information and dues. The ADS membership year has changed to May 1st to April 30th. However, you do not need to wait until next April to submit the ADS membership information and dues to Elva Sellens, membership chair. In fact, it would be easier for Elva if they are submitted periodically between now and next April.

Brad looks forward to continuing working with the ADS leadership team during his third term as ADS President.

### **Treasurer**

Charles Miehms submitted and discussed the treasurer's report. Balance is lowest it has been in a long time. We normally would be getting cash infusion at this time, with memberships coming in. With the change in the membership year, we will see if we start getting memberships coming in during December or January or if many wait until April. Out of the \$39,000 we have in the bank, we have the January Bulletin that will need to be paid before the end of December, about \$11,000. Harry reported it will be about a year before we figure out where we are in the cycle of dues and expenses. The other thing is the market and what it is doing with the investment accounts. **Bob Schroeder moved, Harry Risetto seconded to approve the treasurer's report subject to audit. The motion passed.** Charles has found someone who can do a review of the ADS books for the past two fiscal years. The only payment she requests is tubers. Harry reported that a review is appropriate for an organization of our size. Charles requested that any 2022 expenses that need to be reimbursed must be sent to him no later than December 1, 2022. Brad suggested that local societies send dues they collect as they receive it between now and April.

### **TOTAL ADS FUNDS AS OF 06/30/2021**

Ameriprise Account (restricted)	\$ 48,401.86
Ameriprise Account (unrestricted)	\$ 23,069.48
Vanguard Account (unrestricted)	<u>\$ 64,029.20</u>
	\$135,500.54

### **TOTAL ADS FUNDS AS OF 06/30/2022**

Wells Fargo Account	<u>\$ 73,057.82</u>
	\$ 208,558.36

Total Unrestricted	\$ 76,916.49
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### **RESTRICTED FUNDS**

(These funds are included in the  
Wells Fargo bank balance listed above)

Virus Fund - Sheetz-Chuey Foundation	\$ 3,277.02
Genome Project	\$ 78,062.99
2023 National Show	<u>\$ 1,900.00</u>
Total Restricted	\$ 83,240.01

### **First Vice President**

Mark Oldenkamp reports he feels good about the positive feedback on the new *Bulletin*. While there are a few questions about the transition to the new fiscal year and the affect on dues, he has received no negative feedback. He looks forward to participating in further fine tuning this evolving process.

The leadership team is working well together.

Save the date for National Show in Portland, August 24-29, 2023. Look for details in the January *Bulletin*.

### **Second Vice President**

Tony Evangelista reports he has nothing new to report. He is still enjoying the glow of our new *Bulletin*. Comments have been overwhelmingly positive.

### **Third Vice President**

Ken Jensen reports he may be contacting Mark and Tony regarding the Clean Offense award. Jerry Landerholm suggested the three vice-presidents to set the criteria for the award after this first year.

## **REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS**

### **Mid Atlantic Conference**

Dana Miller reports the dahlia shows are over. In many areas of the Mid-Atlantic region, frost has come, and the tuber harvest has begun. Some areas are still waiting for their first killing frost and are enjoying some late blooms.

November is a busy month in the business of running a dahlia society. Meetings are being held in all the dahlia societies of the Mid-Atlantic Conference and reviews of the successful shows are being conducted. Members of the National Capital Dahlia Society are hosting a hybrid meeting, with topics of raising their annual dues and electing their officers for 2023. Their education session will cover dividing and storing tubers. They have already put their trial garden to bed for the season. The Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society is going to decide if they will change the timing of their dues payments to align with the changes made at the ADS. In addition, potential candidate judges will be recruited. Dr. Tim Elkner will present an educational discussion on "What's Bugging Your Dahlias?" The Gettysburg Dahlia Society ends its season by meeting, sharing a meal, thanking everyone for their efforts in presenting the 2022 show, and planning next year's activities.

We all look forward to another dahlia season... just not too soon.

### **North Atlantic Conference**

Robert Fackovec reports he has been contacting the societies in the North Atlantic Conference to get current contact information. He has been unable to contact the southern tier (NY) and Provincetown (MA). It seems they may not be viable clubs anymore, but he will continue to work on it. He contacted Tom Preckwinkle for NJ and is waiting to hear from him. Here is the information he has received:

- Greenwich Dahlia Society:

- President: Vikki Cappiali, [president@greenwichbotanicalcenter.org](mailto:president@greenwichbotanicalcenter.org)
  - ADS rep: Ken Pojman, [samp323@optonline.net](mailto:samp323@optonline.net)
- Long Island Dahlia Society:
  - President: Bill Bushman, [wjbphd6593@msn.com](mailto:wjbphd6593@msn.com)
  - ADS Rep: Robert Tobias, [bobt58@yahoo.com](mailto:bobt58@yahoo.com)
- Mid Island Dahlia Society:
  - President: Mike Shukofsky, [kathleenmike20@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenmike20@gmail.com)
  - ADS Rep: Kitty Shukofsky, [kathleenmike20@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenmike20@gmail.com)
- New England Dahlia Society:
  - President: Gabriele Zybarth, [burdicho@yahoo.com](mailto:burdicho@yahoo.com)
  - Ads Rep: Donna Lane, [donnamlane@verizon.net](mailto:donnamlane@verizon.net)
- Rhode Island Dahlia Society:
  - President: Cardleen Frey, [caroleen.frey@gmail.com](mailto:caroleen.frey@gmail.com)
  - Ads Rep: Jim Wilson, [jrw1920@gmail.com](mailto:jrw1920@gmail.com)
- Rochester Dahlia Society:
  - President: Bill Doolittle, [bdcd123@gmail.com](mailto:bdcd123@gmail.com)
  - Ads Rep: Mary Feasel, [mary.feasel@gmail.com](mailto:mary.feasel@gmail.com)
- Yankee Dahlia Society:
  - Co-Presidents: Misty Flores, [info@yankeedahliasociety.com](mailto:info@yankeedahliasociety.com)  
Carol Palmer, [info@yankeedahliasociety.com](mailto:info@yankeedahliasociety.com)
  - Ads Reps: Same as Above
- Connecticut Dahlia Society:
  - President: Kevin Wasilewski, [kevinwas@live.com](mailto:kevinwas@live.com)
  - Ads Rep: Barbara LaRochelle, [andrebara@comcast.com](mailto:andrebara@comcast.com)

### **Midwest Dahlia Conference**

Randy Foith reports the conference membership is busy with the annual ritual of digging and dividing dahlia clumps. In Ohio, the weather has been quite warm and dry for November. That makes this task much easier to endure. Then we can get to looking at catalogs for that next dahlia that urges anew!

The ADS National Show in Reston, Virginia was enjoyed by many of the Midwest members. They were able to exhibit their beautiful blooms for all to see. Todd Imhoff of the Dahlia Society of Ohio captured the top two honors by winning both the Senior and Reserve Grand Champions, a great feat at a great show. Others from throughout the conference placed their prized blooms on the Court of Honor. The Midwest members receiving Medal Awards were Sharon Swaney for which she was awarded the ADS Gold Medal. Sharon is the ADS webmaster and has done a remarkable job with the content and navigability of the site. Congratulations, Sharon! Ron Miner received the ADS Presidential Life Membership Award for his dedication to the ADS in so many ways and for many years. The "Clean Stock Offense" Award was presented to Midwest Dahlia Conference members Ron Miner, Jim Chuey, Tony Evangelista along with WSU professor Hanu Pappu. This leadership continues to search for a solution to our dahlia virus dilemma. We all respect and encourage their continued efforts and ask that

everyone support this program. To follow up we would ask you to visit the ADS website at [dahlia.org](http://dahlia.org).

A fine man said to Randy at the Midwest Dahlia Conference Awards Banquet about James "Bud" Moore of the Southtown Dahlia Society saying, "When I was young, I came to the shows for the blooms, but when I was older, I came for the people!" As we all grow older, we realize the value in these wise words!

Now it's time to get your babies to sleep!

### **Pacific Northwest Conference**

Mark Oldenkamp reports they look forward to hosting the National Show in Portland on August 24-29, 2023. Portland is soliciting support from members of other conference societies. A lot of energy will go into this for the next year.

The conference will be working on updating its website and trying to invigorate the conference with some new leadership. The conference will likely publish an updated combined show schedule for 2023.

### **Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers**

Alli Richards says happy fall from the Pacific Northwest and the Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers. They are back to their rainy season after a long, dry summer. Even though they had an extremely wet spring and a slow start to the growing season, there was a great crop of blooms for the shows. This year saw an uptick in novice exhibitors. There were people that showed up with their blooms, got excellent help with the entries, were so happy with the club members that they joined the clubs right there on the spot. They often got blue and higher ribbons! It was so exciting to help them get hooked on showing their beloved blooms they've grown for years. Many shows had multiple novice exhibitors on the head table for both single and triple entries, so many fresh faces and new friends made. What a show season!

The show season wrapped up with their annual fall meeting in October. The awards for the Flower of the Year medals for exhibitors who won in that class at any of the FNWDG shows. Clearview Edie was the fully double bloom and Kelsey Dwarf, triple - was the open-centered bloom. One big item that was discussed was the new ADS *Bulletin*! Many of us brought ours to show off and celebrate the publication. We also have our 2023 workshop dates set. We are looking forward to the learning experiences and spring tuber auction. If you'd like to join the auction to either donate tubers or try your luck at having the winning bid, please contact me, we'd love to have you at the auction.

Our Dahlia Legacy Project continues to grow with more legend profiles being added. Our volunteers are linking their judging projects to the building of a profile. This is something we've been championing since the introduction of the DLP. The committee has released an updated interview guide that is more in line with creating a story of the legend. They have also created a guide to creating profiles to make the process clearer. Interviewing can be a team or individual effort depending on the needs. They realized it would be easier for someone to interview, someone to take notes, and someone to help with clarification or just another set of ears to hear the story. However, some legends might not feel comfortable with a team interview setting so one-on-one interviews are always an option. The goal is to tell a story of the legend, not just an outline. We have many people from club to regional reps that can help turn the interview into a story if

someone needs help. We even have the ADS *Bulletin* editor on our project to help with compiling an interview into a profile/story. What luck!

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **ADS Store**

Dan Baulig reports store sales continue to be strong. Holiday shipping rates are in effect. NEW STOCK of 3-Hole larger print Composite books \$17.00, makes a great Christmas gift.

### **Classification**

Lou Paradise and Karen Sanchez report they continue to meet weekly as the compiling of the 2023 CHD is well underway.

They wish to thank the SBE and TG directors and all the show reporters for their efforts. As always, complete and correct data is most appreciated and makes the annual CHD a valuable tool for all dahlia enthusiasts. They have the Stanley Johnson winner, who is a minor. He wanted to make sure it was okay to have her name in the book. The winner is Lake Hills Creamsicle, and the originator is Annie Walker. The winner of the Connell Award is Clearview Cameron, originated by Dick Parshall. It received many more awards over the last five years than any other bloom that was originated in 2017. There was discussion of photos for the cover of the CHD and whether to continue the photo contest for the cover of the CHD. If we discontinue the contest for the cover, Colin could use his photos. There was concern that people aren't aware of this contest. **Harry Risetto moved, and Ken Jensen seconded to eliminate the contest; it's an unnecessary expenditure right now, given the existence of the ADS photo contest. The motion failed with 8 in favor and 9 not in favor.** There was discussion of keeping the contest but eliminating the prize. **Lou Paradise moved, and Roger Walker seconded to continue the contest, eliminating the prize. The motion passed.** It was felt we should get information about the CHD cover contest out through social media as well as through the *Bulletin* and the ADS Reps. They have almost finished with the database for the CHD and would usually start working on the Cream of the Crop and Fab 50, which would be listed in the March *Bulletin*. Since there isn't a March *Bulletin* and it is unlikely to have it ready in time for the January *Bulletin*. It was decided to put it on the website and send an email to all members with a link to the website. It might be good to add links to the trial garden, seedling bench and show reports in this email. The CHD will be mailed on February 14.

Lou stated this is the end of his term on the board, and Karen Sanchez will be taking over. He will continue to be a member of the classification committee. He said he may attend board meetings if he was sent the link.

### **Cut Flower**

Jessica Becker provided a quick update. They've had a great couple of initial meetings with those on the committee. She is thankful for their willingness to participate, and the experience they have not only in the industry but with dahlias as a whole.

They are currently focusing on identifying characteristics of cut flowers which they'd eventually like to post on the ADS website along with resources specific to cut flowers. Their hope is to also include an article for the upcoming *Bulletin* that touches on the

need for the committee and how it differs from garden dahlias. Jess hopes they'll be able to educate not just those interested in growing cut flowers but also those who aren't familiar with cut flowers and how they differ from garden dahlias.

They are drafting a survey that will be sent to some of the industry leaders in the cut flower world (chosen by the committee) with the goal of making sure they've touched on the characteristics they look for and to see what value the ADS can provide to them. They are finalizing the survey they plan to send out. They hope to have a table at the national show about cut flowers.

### **Editor**

Linda reports the newly formatted ADS *Bulletin* landed in member mailboxes beginning October 1. Feedback from membership has been overwhelmingly positive. We are grateful to members, especially those who informed our decision through the completion and return of the ADS member questionnaire in 2021. The thoughtful feedback of more than 400 ADS members guided the board and editorial staff in developing and presenting *Bulletin* content that is relevant, informative, interesting, and even entertaining. Special kudos go to our new production manager, Colin Walker, for his layout skills and commitment to deadlines. These joint efforts facilitated our work with Consolidated Press so that the process felt relatively seamless from an editorial perspective. The January 2023 issue is in process as we speak, with a deadline of November 7. We are still waiting for quite a few of the Club Reports. Thank you for those who have sent photos to include with your reports - they are worth at least "a thousand words." The amount of content in the January issue is substantial - reporting on the 2022 Show Season and the ADS National Show, as well as news around new introductions, seedling scores and winning cultivars ensures this. Thank you to Sharon Swaney, Donna Lane, and Jessica Becker for their work on the show reporting for the website. FYI, we will be changing the password for online *Bulletin* access on or around July 1, 2023. The new password will be published in the June 2023 *Bulletin*. It's been a bit of a challenge to consolidate two *Bulletins* into one. Linda is waiting for six articles and has received about ten so far; it will take some creative editing and formatting to get everything in. She will work with Colin on length of articles. She is still waiting on several things and will continue to be flexible but need people to communicate with her.

Thank you for continuing to contribute to the *Bulletin* and for your support of our continuing evolution as a vital part of our capacity to communicate effectively with our members.

### **Finance**

Harry Risetto reports the good news is we have a lot of assets, and the bad news is we are operating in a deficit. However, we are not insolvent nor anywhere near insolvent.

1. The operating results to date indicate that we will run an operating deficit in 2022, principally due to publication costs. Brad and his team will recommend actions to address this issue.
2. The Society's assets are substantially in excess of liabilities. The ADS is solvent and is likely to remain so into the future.
3. In order to support programs and initiate new ones the operating statistics need to generate an annual surplus.

4. The Annual contribution envelope should be inserted in the October Bulletin

### **Garden Dahlias**

Alan Fisher reports he hopes and expects to be working with the cut flower committee going forward, because the positions are so closely related. Brad stated there is a distinction between the garden and cut flower. Cut flowers are more of a commercial endeavor and garden dahlias is intended more for the hobbyist growing dahlias. Alan and Jess have been communicating; he wants to stay abreast of any newsletters or stories the cut flower committee is working on.

### **Image Library**

Heather Ramsay reports the image library is eagerly awaiting the trial garden and seedling bench results, then she will start putting together the new introductions program. She has reached out to some hybridizers and hopes to be able to add a few more new introductions from private growers.

### **Insurance**

Mel Epstein reports the subscription and payment for General Liability Insurance for individual societies will have an online option this coming year. Sharon is completing the set up for launch early in January 2023. The current policy expires March 14, 2023, but societies will be able to resubscribe before that date. They will not be able to get COIs until the new policy is in force in March 2023. The disclosure statement, insurance confirmation, and a fillable PDF for COI requests will be sent by email to each society after their 2023 subscription is received. There will be no insurance notices in the *Bulletin* and all communications regarding insurance will be through Groupvine to ADS reps, and in the "Member's Section" of the Website.

The 10 Canadian societies are not eligible for insurance under the current US policy. They have either purchased an annual General Liability Policy from a Canadian insurance company at a significant premium, purchased single event coverage, or have no coverage at all. In September the insurance chair had a discussion with Ken Jensen and Debbie Hatt of the Alberta Dahlia and Gladiolus Society and it was recommended that this winter the chair take a poll through the reps of the ten Canadian societies. The goal would be to determine if there is interest in sharing an annual General Liability Policy issued by a Canadian underwriter. Assuming there is some interest, Debbie Hatt who is a Canadian insurance agent, would initially explore the possibility that a Club General Liability Policy could be obtained in Canada. If such a policy is found it could be bound through one of the Canadian societies with the other interested Canadian societies sharing in the premium and the coverage.

### **Judging Accreditation**

Bob Schroeder reports the update to the *Guideline to Judging Dahlias* has been completed, printed, and distributed to all 2022 ADS members. Response to the manual with the addition of color photos has been extremely positive. Special thanks to members of the judging guidelines committee for giving their time with this project. The curriculum committee is close to completing the sixteen training modules which will be posted on the ADS website for all members to view. Bob shared one example of the curriculum that the committee developed and will send out the three curriculums to the board. This is only a suggested outline of training for what should be taught in each



level of judging. **Alli Richards moved, and Ron Miner seconded to approve posting the judging modules on the ADS website in January, once they are finalized.** An article will be in the January *Bulletin* regarding the modules. It was suggested to put a copyright symbol © on each module.

In response to a question about the number of years our current supply of pins will last, Bob reports the supply should last a minimum of three years.

### **Membership**

Elva Sellens reports as of 7/15/22, we have 160 new U.S. memberships (144 individual and 16 household memberships). Of this new membership, only 72 have selected the extended membership option. More than half, 42, of these 72 extended memberships have come from our website and do not belong to a dahlia society. She has received some negative feedback from several membership chairs that the \$45 extended membership option combined with local society dues are too costly for new members.

We have 6 new Canadian memberships (5 individual and 1 household membership). Two of these new memberships has selected the extended membership and two selected the digital membership option.

### **U.S. Membership**

We have had a busy year for new memberships this year. Currently there are 2,248 memberships – 1,678 individual members and 570 household membership (x 2=1,140) for a total of 2,818 members. We have 57 participating societies and 5 affiliated societies. Combined with the Canadian and other foreign members, we have a total of 3,042 members at this point in time. Please note that each year about half of the new members will not renew so our membership figures will decrease in the new 2023 membership year.

### **Canadian Membership**

We have 158 Canadian memberships – 110 individual and 48 household memberships (x2= 96) for a total of 206 members. There are 9 participating Canadian societies.

### **Other Foreign**

We have eighteen foreign memberships. We received a new digital membership in September. Eleven of these eighteen foreign memberships are now being sent a digital copy.

### **National Exhibition**

Brad reports we continue to have a vacancy in the national exhibition chair. There have been some rumblings of societies interested in possibly hosting a national show and we will need to see if any of these come to fruition. We still need a chair to actively work with societies to get them to host national shows.

### **New Society Coordinator**

Rosemary Freeman reports new Societies are slow to emerge, but she plans to contact a few of the most recent inquiries and see how they are progressing.

She tries to include contact information for the closest Regional Vice President to offer answers to any questions they may have. Being from the Pacific Northwest, she knows how to advise interested individuals in how things are done here but across the United States some aspects are carried out differently. And yet, we all get along and are always learning from each other.

She encourages them to check out our website in detail for information on growing, showing, hybridizing, and judging. The ability to access the Classified Handbook of Dahlias online, or on a phone is really handy. The members only section is invaluable with the past searchable Bulletins going back to 1930.

Starting a new society is like starting a new business...it takes time and effort. We try to help the process.

### **Photography**

Debbie Pavich reports the deadline for the photo contest is December 15th .

Photos can be submitted to [photocontest@dahlia.org](mailto:photocontest@dahlia.org)

Please mention the contest to your home society at your next meeting . A big thank you to Anna Kandra for posting reminders on the social media pages and Sharon Swaney for keeping the ADS website up to date.

### **Policy**

Ron Miner states there is nothing new to report for policy.

### **Publicity/Public Relations**

Larry Smith reports things have picked up a bit in the publicity department. It has been well taken that a committee shouldn't be one person doing all the work and Larry Smith has reached out to a few people from different areas of the country to join the publicity committee. That would provide better opportunities for coverage in all regions. So far, one person has shown interest, so let Larry know if you are aware of any others who may be interested.

Just after this year's national show in Reston, VA, Larry was interviewed by the editor of Annapolis Home Magazine. She was working on a dahlia article for her column called, "The High Heeled Gardener" and it will soon be released. Heather Ramsay assisted by providing some photo images of cultivars requested by the editor. Please spread the word to contact Larry if you know of publications in your area that you are familiar with and forward to him possible story ideas. For example, Larry is working with Sharon Swaney's hometown newspaper to publicize her 2022 ADS Gold Medal honor.

Larry will once again work with Deborah Pavich to produce video of ADS photo contest entries to share with members once the judging has been completed. Larry will send out press releases for the trial garden and seedling bench evaluation awards as soon as the information is out. We should get this information out on social media; Larry will work with Anna to accomplish this. Local societies that have members who have won any awards can get assistance from Larry to get the information publicized in their local media publications.

Keep in mind that if any societies want ideas on how to publicize their shows, meetings, or events, Larry is willing to consult.

## **Research and Education**

Ron Miner reports there was a surprise in that the dahlia mosaic virus evolved to the point the old test was not able to detect it. They are now able to test it and are going back and redoing those tests from scratch; it will be delayed at least another month.

## **Genome Sequencing**

Kristine Albrecht reports the dahlia genome project is moving forward quickly on all fronts. Our current progress is that Zach has isolated high molecular weight DNA from Edna C clones growing in our greenhouse, and that DNA is now in the PacBio HiFi genome sequencing queue at the HudsonAlpha Genome Sequencing Center. We are sequencing 10 flow cells worth of PacBio HiFi, which should produce nearly 300 gigabases of high-quality DNA sequence. We also have an additional data type in the sequencing queue, Dovetail Omni-C data, which will allow us to pull the dahlia genome into full length chromosomes. We are currently in a “waiting” phase while this data gets sequenced, but all QC metrics currently look good, and we do not anticipate major problems.

Zach Meharg is working full-time on the dahlia genome. We have funded two years of his masters program and have four more years of his program to fund, about \$25,000 per year. We have raised money for sequencing, which is in the genome account, about \$30,000 and \$20,000 for sequencing the 600 leaf samples taken at the national show in Ohio in 2021. We do need to raise another \$72,000. In talking with major donors, she believes they will donate \$36,000 and then ADS would need to raise another \$12,000 per year for the next three years. Kristine will be making a presentation to the executive committee and will be putting out a request for donations in the next few months. Zach has applied for a couple grants, but Kristine is not aware of whether he has received any. Grant funding is difficult; cash crops are more often funded. Dr. Papu has also been working with Dr. Harkess on an NSF grant. They hope the combination of the two universities improves the probability. Several years ago, Dr. Papu and Dr. Walbot submitted a NSF grant and it was not funded.

## **Seedling Bench Evaluation**

Roger Walker reports All ADS bench evaluation reports that were received, audited and tabulated. The varying classifications were reconciled with trial garden reports and final classifications were determined. Complete results will be posted on the ADS website and published in the January ADS *Bulletin*. It is ok to publish the results. The winners of the Dudley Award for the seedling bench were:

1. Medium (B) is Kimberly originated by Don Kasanic
2. Small (BB) is Ruthli originated by Iris Wallace
3. Miniature (M) is Newaukum Fun originated by Wayne Lobaugh.

The winner of the Gullikson Award for the seedling bench was Kelsey Bramble by Colin Walker.

The trial garden Hart awards are:

1. Giant/Large (A/AA) is Grandpa's Gift originated by Nicholas Gitts
2. Medium (B) is Allen's Diablo originated by Allen Manuel
3. Small (BB) is Connie's Dohuahua by Connie Young-Davis

4. Miniature (M) is Allen's Alley Cat by Allen Manuel
5. Stellar/Novelty Fully Double (ST/NX) is Clearview Pataha by Richard Parshall
6. Waterlily (WL) is Hollyhill Leticia by Ted Kennedy

The Gullikson Award for the trial garden was Kelsey Neahkahnne by Colin Walker.

On a happy note, every club submitting results used the updated ADS scorecards.

### **Special Awards**

Jerry Landerholm states first, Special Awards would like to again congratulate all who received the various ADS medals and awards during the past year. We feel confident that all recipients were deserving. A new award was presented in 2022, called the ADS "Clean Stock Offense" award. This award is intended to bring recognition to those people who have actively supported the ADS's efforts to control undesirable virus activity in our dahlia gardens. Four of these awards were presented in 2022, and already several other people have been recommended to receive this award.

The next order of business for Special Awards is dependent on receiving the 2022 reports from the Seedling Bench, Trial Garden, and Classification Committees. When all that settles out, medals can be engraved, and congratulatory letters written.

Special Awards is one of the committee functions that is fun, and the Chair is appreciative to have this opportunity. May everyone have a safe, healthy, and productive year ahead.

### **Social Media**

ADS social media - November 2022

Current stats:

Facebook followers: 5,004

Facebook group members: 7,495

Instagram followers: 8,057

We'll be promoting the upcoming photo contest deadline and other end of year information. If there's additional information you'd like to see posted, please feel welcome to send it to Anna.

### **Trial Garden**

Marilyn Walton reports the trial garden report is ready to appear on the website and sent to Linda for the January *Bulletin*. She is waiting for the "all clear" from Lou and Karen.

Several of the gardens have new folks doing the paperwork. There are some areas that must improve for their reports next year. One garden had to do the entire report a second time as it was not acceptable as reported to me. She received photos from just two of the gardens. Those photos really help to determine classification especially when the reports are all very different. One entry was entered from different gardens as a MB, BA, M-FD and BB-FD. With the help from Roger with the SBE reports we were able to sort it out.

Every year there are glitches in naming and those glitches this year held us up while trying to contact originators for new names. It's too bad we can't insist that originators

read the rules for trial gardens. I can wish that directors catch these things but after 20 years running one of the larger trial gardens, I can understand how things can slip by.

Weather did impact several of the gardens. Heat, cold, wet, dry and wind all played a part. The directors did a wonderful job of getting as many entries scored as possible. We had what seemed like a large many DNS from most of the gardens. Perhaps I should write something for the bulletin that is aimed at newer originators who need to understand that their entries will be judged for exhibition and not just a pretty flower.

Overall, this was another great year of introductions. Hopefully the weather will get better everywhere, and we can continue to make everything work.

### **Website**

Sharon Swaney reports the bad news is she is being buried in data, the good news is we are getting a good response of show reports for the online show report (replacement to the December supplement). This effort is taking an extreme amount of editing; thanks to Donna Lane for all her help. The report is going to tell an interesting story. Like all good stories you will laugh, cry, and find hope. We have only received photos from about 1/3 of the societies...but enough to liven up the report a bit. She is using only one or two pics with each report (if available) but will make all the photos entered into a photo gallery that will review the show season in pictures.

The ADS awards to people info are posted on the site. Thanks, Alan Fisher, for the pictures of the presentations at the national show and thanks Anita Richie for pictures at the presentations held at the Midwest conference show.

The winners list from the National Show have been posted and Sharon has posted a link to the National Capital site for some more info but hope to get more pictures from the show.

Mel Epstein and she have prepared and tested the insurance information and new online purchase feature to be released in January. Mel's thoroughness in providing the information made it easy for me to update the site. Thanks Mel.

Bob Schroeder, the judging training module team and she have continued testing for a planned release of the modules just after the first of the year. It is really exciting to have this quality of information added to the site and hope that it will be an example to others of the type of true value-added information that can be on the site.

## OLD BUSINESS

### List of Annual Submittal Deadlines

Brad stated it would be very helpful for all committees to send their deadlines for submittal of information to Brad so that the information can be placed in one document and posted on the website so that all are aware of the deadlines.

### National Show Chair

Brad Freeman reported we are still looking for a National Show Chairperson.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Regional Vice Presidents

Brad Freeman reported there are two new prospective regional vice presidents that the board needs to vote on. **Bob Schroeder moved and Charles Miehme seconded to approve Robert Fackovec as regional vice president for North Atlantic Dahlia Conference and Marcie Holt for Southern States Dahlia Conference. The motion passed.**

### ADS Logo

Brad Freeman stated that he was approached about the ADS offering some swag products, such shirts, cups, etc. If we do that, we should incorporate the ADS logo. The logo hasn't been updated since 2008 so maybe it's time to do an update of the ADS logo. The idea is to host a logo contest to design a concept for the logo. It will be advertised through the website and in the *Bulletin*. The board will vote on the winner of the concept design. After we have a winner and take that concept and provide it to a professional to make it into a corporate logo that could be used digitally and in print. After that it would be nice to have an online storefront where persons could purchase items with the logo on it.

The next board meeting will be March 26, 2023.

The date of the spring planning meeting is June 9 to 11, 2023 in Denver, Colorado.

**Sharon Swaney moved, and Ron Miner seconded to adjourn the meeting.** The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 pm Pacific Standard Time.

Respectively Submitted,

Terry Schroeder  
ADS Secretary

Posted 3/30/2023