

San Leandro

DAHLIA TIMES

Editor: Barry Hart
BHart2@aol.com

April, 2017

Next Meeting: April 18, 7:00 PM

Karp Room, San Leandro Library

Dahlia folks,

Can it be almost the end of April already? I think the rains we have had has thrown our timing off. It feels as though it is still February. Well, April 29th will change all of that.

Our rooted plant/cutting sale will be the last Saturday of April at Root Park from 9:00 until 1:00. We will need everyones help. We need people to take the cash. We need people to twist arms of potential buyers. We need set up people and take down people. Each year I am so impressed by how this society bands together at this event and makes the big job a small easy one. If you have some boxes that would be good for tuber/4"pot shopping boxes please bring them. If you have pictures that would show dahlias they certainly help sell our product. I will bring some tubs to the April meeting so those that have labeled tubers can bring them separated by name to the sale. This will help speed up the process when you get there. Remember, this is our only fund raiser and it really is fun. New growers, if you have been listening in the meetings, you can answer 95% of the questions that the public will ask. There will also be seasoned growers there that can answer questions if you are unsure of an answer.

As I said at the last meeting, slugs will be a big problem this year. The rains have helped their population. Almost everything I pickup in the yard has a nasty slug under it. These slugs and snails as well love the tender starts when the dahlias first come out of the ground. Sluggo Plus or a similar slug control is pretty good as it isn't supposed to harm other animals. This will be an interesting year after all the rain. At the meetings, bring up things that you see in your yard that you haven't noticed before. It will help other growers to better understand what is going on in their yard.

See you at the meeting,
John

Refreshments will be provided by:

Andrew and Barry

Next month: No sign ups!!!

Minutes - March 21, 2017 Meeting

7:00 - Karp Room

Presiding: John Morton Members present: 19

John commented about his time spent helping with Dan's Dahlias last month in Seattle. Kristi Whitfield passed around samples of possible Court of Honor signs that would show growers name and flower name. She got a positive response.

Beverly Dahlsted did a Provide Education Opportunity talk to group of 18 about dahlias.

Old Business

Neglected to include certificates for Chad and Tom Baker at last meeting for candidate for judge. Quamrun was present to receive hers.

New Business

Curtis Maxwell stated he received info regarding outcome of virus tests done for 10 on 30 samples submitted. Tomato and mosaic virus were the most common.

John commented on Board Meeting held just prior to our regular meeting. They talked about possible federal/state taxes. They will seek answers through discussion with tax person Jeff Miner.

Judging class with Lew Paradise in near future. Place yet to be decided.

Leslie brought in several Dahlia books that could be purchased.

Treasurer report Dennis Stone: We are solvent. Approval given for bills submitted and checks were issued.

February meeting Minutes were approved.

Chris Dix did follow up seed growing from last meet. Curtis had his seed samples using his moisture/heat program. Kristi showed her sample using moistened paper towels in container placed with light from kitchen window. Sprouts appearing after just 2-3 days.

Soil prep important this month. Rototilling can provide good depth prior to use of compost. If chicken manure used, remember to allow time before actually planting since heat projected can harm cuttings. Sand will help loosen soil.

Our Annual Dahlia Sale at Root Park will be the last Saturday of April. Set up/put down 7:30 AM --2PM with actual sale usually 9:00 AM to Noon.

Birthday congrats to John and Roy!

Reminder: We will be hosting next years annual dahlia conference. It's likely to be a one day event. Start thinking about gifts!

Following refreshments and our raffle, the meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Minutes submitted by Maren Giannini

Program:

It's seedling time again!

At the March Meeting, Curtis showed us how he gets seeds to sprout.

At this meeting, he will have the little sprouts that came from those seeds.

We'll sell them to the members and they can continue to grow them so that they can participate in the Best and Worst seedling contest in a few months.

There will be case prizes at the contest... with the proceeds from the sale to go to the **best looking** winner and a **\$25.00** prize for the **worst looking**.

We'll talk about all this at the meeting.

Also...

There will be a surprise program...