



San Leandro

DAHLIA TIMES

Editor: Sue Gregori
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February 2020

**Next Meeting: February 18th, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro**

Dahlia Folks,

First I want to thank all of you for doing so much to help our society. Some people have been in jobs for a long time without a break and now several of new members have stepped up and taken positions.

The garden that Curtis has been nurturing with the help of new members will be moving. The Casa Peralta overseers have had plans for upgrading around the Casa and this is an area that will be changed. At our meeting Curtis will give a couple of suggestions of future planting areas. Nothing in concrete, just suggestions.

I am really getting excited about the dahlia conference coming up the 22nd and 23rd of February. I have heard there may be as many as 60 attendees. If you have any items that would make good raffle prizes, you can give them to me at the meeting or deliver them in person. Please make sure they are good items, not just things you want to rid yourself of. I have heard there are quite a few really good items to bid on as well as items that you can win in a raffle. Bring your money, buy tickets and take home some great memories as well as helping the Monterey Bay and John E. Stowell Societies break even on the event.

Kristi has been coming up with good topics for our meetings. We have been discussing items that we haven't gotten into for a couple of years and it is good to review and relearn dahlia information. Sue would really like to get some pictures of our meetings, gardens, blooms etc. for the newsletter.

This might be a good time to discuss the timing of our annual tuber/plant sale. We usually have the sale the last Saturday in April. Does this sound all right? Most of us plant from mid April to the beginning of May so we know what tubers we have to spare for the sale. This is our only fund raiser and pays for all we do.

Pray for rain,

Pres. John

**Refreshments will be provided by:
Lydia & JoAnna Hansen-Morton**

Next Month (March): Maren Giannini & Chris Dix

March's Meeting Program

STEM CUTTINGS

The full meeting program will be about how to propagate dahlias from stem cuttings. This is the time of year to start tubers in pots for cuttings. We have a few experienced root cutters in our group that are doing most of the propagation for the plants at our tuber and plant sales. Having more members able to do root cuttings will help us share new dahlia varieties and have a better selection for growers who come to our spring sale.



Following the group topic, we will break into 2 groups:

1. DAHLIA FORMS

Curtis Maxwell, will discuss dahlia forms. And he'll discuss what some of the terms and definitions from our ADS classification books mean. You might want to bring your 2020 ADS Handbook. This topic will be an overview and is good for just learning folks or those wanting a refresher.



2. 2020 New Introduction Slide Show

This will a presentation of the new dahlias...Are you looking for a new dahlia for your garden?

San Leandro Dahlia Society Minutes

January 21st 2019 at 7pm- S.L. Church of Christ hall

Presiding --- John Morton, President

Present – 20+ members

John Morton (John) called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance and is looking forward to a great 2020 ahead

John encouraged all of the attendees to attend the upcoming Pacific Southwest Dahlia Conference on Sat Feb 22nd at the Los Altos Lodge.

- This year's conference is sponsored the Monterey Bay and John Stowell Societies and John feels it promises to be a good one
- Price of the one day conference is \$65/person, which includes lunch and a dinner buffet
- Contact person for the conference is Kevin Larkin – 831-596-0323

The San Leandro Society will be sponsoring the Judging School this spring. The date and more information will follow in the month ahead

John spoke with excitement about other societies that are thriving – San Diego has a new President while the Central Coast Society out of San Luis Obispo is enjoying a growing membership

An open discussion for the 2020 Dahlia of the year took place. After our members gave their input, we voted and Clearview Daniel and Alpen Diamond were the winners. Both were clear favorites of the majority of members present

John reminded us that this is the time of year for search on Dahlia addict for a winning flower or a new variety to grow this spring

A lively discussion amongst the members followed about the "Winter Garden". Enhancing one's soil is prudent now. Cover crops provide much needed nutrients, including nitrogen for the season

- Curtis continues to have a lot happening in his Learning Garden at Casa Peralta. Currently he has cover crops thriving in his raised flower beds
- In the end of the discussion of our Winter Gardens, all agreed that compost, lots of it, should be added now
- Diane told us that a source of good, free compost is Zoo Poo from the Oakland Zoo. No appointment needed – just drive your car or truck to the zoo ready to pick up your compost, which is loaded by the Staff
- Another favorite is local horse manure available from the stables off Redwood Road near Skyline
- Soil testing could also help discover what might be lacking or have too much of. Kits are available at nurseries, Amazon or hardware stores

Now is the time to survey your stored tubers – check for any signs of too much/too little moisture

Kristi and Curtis finished up the meeting with a first class demonstration of cleaning and sharpening our hand clippers and tools. Kudos to Kristi and Curtis

Thank you to all who brought the delicious snacks and teas. All were enjoyed by the members

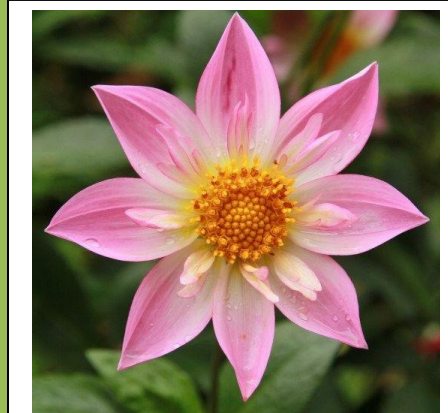
Meeting closed at 8:45 pm. Next meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2020

Secretary ----Peggy Murphy

San Leandro Dahlia Society's Flowers of the year for our 2020 show



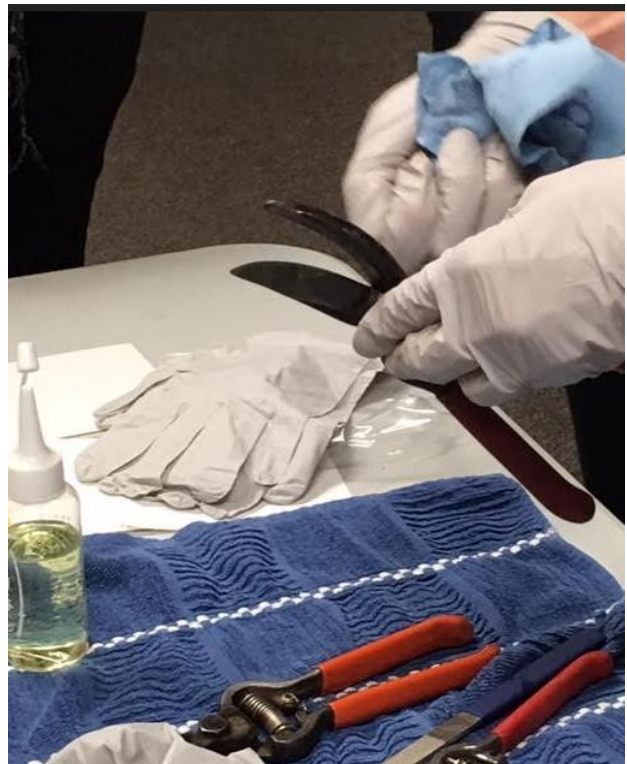
Clearview Daniel, #6002, BA Y



Alpen Diamond, #9010, CO LB

January Meeting Pictures -

Clippers and Pruners Sharpening & care. What tools and Techniques by Chris and Curtis



2020 Calendar

FEBRUARY

18th - San Leandro Dahlia Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro

22nd - Pacific Southwest Dahlia Conference and Annually Meeting, Los Gatos Lodge, 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

MARCH

16th - San Leandro Dahlia Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro

APRIL

4th – Monterey Dahlia Society Tuber & plant sale, 9-11am at Deer Park Shopping Center in Aptos near the Red Apple Cafe.

21st - San Leandro Dahlia Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro

25th - San Leandro Dahlia Society Tuber & Plant Sale, Root Park, 1033 E 14th St , San Leandro, 8-12? TBA

MAY

18th - San Leandro Dahlia Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro

JUNE

23rd - San Leandro Dahlia Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro

JULY

21st - San Leandro Dahlia Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro

AUGUST

17th - San Leandro Dahlia Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro

22nd & 23rd - Monterey Dahlia Show, Saturday 11am-5pm, Sunday 10am-4pm Museum of Art and History, 704 Front Street, Downtown Santa Cruz

SEPTEMBER

21st - San Leandro Dahlia Meeting, 7:00 – 9:00 PM, Church of Christ, 601 MacArthur, San Leandro