

San Leandro

DAHLIA TIMES

Editor: Sue Gregori
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March 2019

Next Meeting: March 19th, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Karp Room, San Leandro Library

Dahlia folk,

Time is flying and our tuber sale will be coming soon. We have it scheduled for 9:00 til noon, April 27th at Root Park as usual. I haven't booked the date yet but they have said in the past that we are the only organization that books the park all year. The park is too small to do much at Root Park.

An update on some of our dahlia folks: George Whitworth has had an operation and he and his wife Joan have been in rehab. We will let you know as we hear more.

I understand that we decided that Spartacus and any Spartacus Sport will be the Fully Double choice for our Flower of the Show Challenge bloom this year. By executive decision, (since I have about 25 extra tubers) the Disc Bloom will be Kelsey Annie Joy, CO OR OR6/dp12. I believe that the Monterey Bay Dahlia Society is using Kelsey Annie Joy as their Disc Bloom for their show as well.

We want to let you know what our society is doing in the community. JoAnna and I did a dahlia talk to the Livermore Amador Valley Garden Club. There were about 80 members present and they were very interested in dahlias and many said they would attend our tuber sale. Curtis will be speaking at the San Leandro Garden Club as well as meet with some people that work with the husband of Louise Henriksen. It seems that Louise sends some of her prize winning dahlias with her husband and there are several interested in growing so Curtis agreed to do the speaking.

JoAnna and I are finally finishing up digging up our dahlias. I have never seen so many nice fat slugs. There haven't been too many snails or earwigs but I am sure they are out there. After rototilling, we will be putting down some Sluggo Plus to take care of these critters. Costco has some Sluggo Plus on sale now. Our cuttings are coming along slowly. We have about 200 right now but about half are our seedlings. Things have really started to grow since the sun has been coming out. It looks like more rain on Wednesday.

When picking our/ your tubers for planting, remember that we have the new micro size categories that we can enter. These new classes are to encourage growers to save some of the smaller cultivars that they have been throwing away. These smaller plants often grow well in containers. So many yards are so small that there is no room for many plants so the smaller plants might be ideal.

There will be a judging seminar hosted by the Monterey Bay Dahlia Society just before the show season. Stay tuned for date, time and place.

The San Francisco Home and Garden Show that was planned for March 20 thru March 24th at the Cow Palace has been changed. It will now be at the Cal Expo in Sacramento March 21-March 24th. Farther away and less days, so we will see how that works out.

See you at the meeting,
President John

Refreshments will be by provided:
Francesca Geertsma & Marilyn Fong

Next Month (April): Julie Nilsen & Andrew Baxter

San Leandro Dahlia Society Minutes

February 21, 2019, 7pm - San Leandro Library, Karp Room

Presiding --- Chris Dix

Present 18 members

President ---John Morton absent

Vice ---Chris Dix presiding

Minutes ---Motion made and passed to accept Jan Minutes

Treasurer--- Dennis Stone -Solvent, checks issued to bills submitted

Old Business --- Motion made in Jan. to table Flower of the Year selection until this meeting
Reminded by Chris that any selection should be available so sufficient cuttings/tubers and affordable. Some names included AC Ben, Gloriosa, Penhill Dark Monarch, Clearview Daniel and AC Pillow. Suggestion made to check what the other clubs were using as their selection. Roy mentions a possible Spartacus and Spartacus Sports for our double flower for this 2019. Sue Googled the name and found multiple sports. Motion made and passed after conversation that Spartacus and Spartacus Sports be used.

Old Business--

--Chris reported on the events of one day Pacific Southwest Conference held in SF this past weekend. All clubs gave reports. Among metals given out, Louise Henriksen received Charles Russell memorial for Lo Redeye and Tony awarded metal for AC Pillow.

--Curtis gave demonstration and info on growing seeds using a felt mat. Mat acts a wick for water placed in pan. Seeds then scattered on top and container kept in warm place/heating pad. When roots developed to approx., 2 inches, carefully transfer to small cup containing potting soil. Use of Black gold soil was mentioned by Sue as a "finer soil "product.

--Moist paper towels or newspaper are used by some growers for starting seeds.

Reminder by Chris was made to use bleach solution or peroxide to keep instruments clean and to avoid transfer of viruses.

Chris provided multi named tubers for our raffle. Follow up on idea for winners to grow and provide tubers for next year. Winners had to be present to receive one. There will be another chance to win at next meeting.

Meeting adjourned following refreshments 8:45.

Secretary ----Maren Giannini

