



# Dahlia Times

SEPTEMBER 2024

# Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

Congratulations are in order for another great San Leandro Dahlia Society Show!

Everyone pitched in to make the show celebrating the 90 th year of our Dahlia Society spectacular. It is amazing to note that our society has been active locally since 1925 and was incorporated in 1934.

Here are some of the highlights; the incredible set up and cleanup crew, our new PA system, a wonderful photo op with a floral 90 topped with a heart -Quamrun is amazing, flower sales that the public loved-thanks to Patricia, Marilyn and Olivia, opportunities for judging practice with triples, a Friday evening feast of food for the exhibitors, brisk T-shirt sales, 8 new members enrolled, digital tallying perfection, four Junior exhibitors, the end of the show blooms repurposed to our local Senior Center and Kaiser and an incredible gourmet luncheon courtesy of Olivia Colt Lee's Salt and Honey catering company.

Kudos to all for the wonderful blooms on display, the member support for first time exhibitors, our beautiful award ribbons and to the San Leandro Public Library Director Brian Simmons and Mayor Juan Gonzalez's continued support of our dahlia shows.

Each and every one of us are the heart of the San Leandro Dahlia Society.

Regards,

Ellen



# Meeting minutes Tuesday August 20, 2024 (page 1)

Meeting started at 7:10pm

John Morton	Beverly Dahlstedt	Marilyn Fong	Kristi Whitfield
Quamrum Eldridge	Diane Bond	John Kawaguchi	Frances Kawaguchi
Craig Callihan	Chris Dix	Curtis Maxwell	Christina Estrada
Nancy Clancy	Peggy Murphy	Linda Bailey	Erica Wolter
Jeff Bennett	Leslie Servin	Janina Konopka	Danice Friend
Lana Starr	Whit Magor		
Michael Quartemont- new and others (technical difficulties)	Rich Veillegas – new		Faye Quesada- new

## Announcements

- Quamrum still has SLDS T Shirts \$28
- John has a bunch of free containers
- Make sure your containers are labeled.
- Ginger Porrill is leaving to move to Oregon and her position is open to fill.
- Minutes approved.
- Treasures report approved. Casa Peralta-Little brown church fund raiser. \$290 was raised and donated to them.

## Meeting minutes Tuesday August 20, 2024 (page 2)

- Chris handed out the awards for last months mini show.
- Show schedule discussed
- Central Coast Show  
Chris Dix several awards  
John and Frances Kawaguchi won best of Show plus other categories.
- SF Show - Quamrum Eldridge won in several categories. John and Frances Kawaguchi, Kristi Whitfield and Peggy Murphy won in several categories.
- Kristi Whitfield talked about her show data program that is now being used at all the Bay Area shows except Monterey.
- Show prep - times for show prep. New is a table for first timers. John gave a discussion about containers and library's time restrictions. Passed a list to get exhibitors number for new people.

### Garden Q & A

- Quamrum is going to do the photo display. Looking for volunteers/helpers.
- Ellen advised that everyone should bring extra blooms for both the photo opt display and to sell for fundraiser. Ideas for end of Show blooms.

Chris Dix does Q & A for showing and a demo for seed saving.

- Potluck was moved to Saturday 9/21 at Diane Bond's house. Starting at 4pm. Instead of trying to do it during the week.

Meeting ended at 9:05pm.

There will be no September 17th SLDS meeting. We will meet for a potluck

When: Saturday, September 21st at 4 p.m.

Bring your beverage of choice

Water and soft drinks will be provided by the SLDS

BBQ grill and pizza grill will be available

Plates, utensils, cups will be provided

Please bring to share

Last Name A-J:

Side dish or Salad

Last Name K-S:

Main Dish

Last Name T-Z:

Desserts



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The SLDS needs help in the following areas- please contact Ellen at [sldahliasociety@gmail.com](mailto:sldahliasociety@gmail.com) or 510 220-7665 to volunteer or for more information. Please step up.

## SLDS Secretary

Our secretary for the past few years, Ginger and our mascot Mo the cockatoo moved to Oregon this month to begin a new adventure. We need a Secretary/Minute taker to fill in the last three meetings of the year. This is a short-term position.

## Nominating Committee Chair and Members

At our October meeting we will be accepting nominations to create a slate for the 2025 year. Elections are held annually at the November meeting for the SLDS Officers and Board members. The Chair's role is to contact current officers and board members regarding their continued interest in serving as well as making nominations for vacancies. For more information on the responsibilities of each role, here is the link to the SLDS Constitution and By-Laws. <https://tinyurl.com/SLDS-2022-Constitution> or talk to one of the current officers to learn more about what they do.

The 2024 Officers and Board are:

Ellen Muir, President  
Chris Dix, Vice President  
Ginger Porrill, Secretary  
Dennis Stone, Treasurer

Board Members:  
Frances Kawaguchi  
Quamrun Eldridge  
John Morton



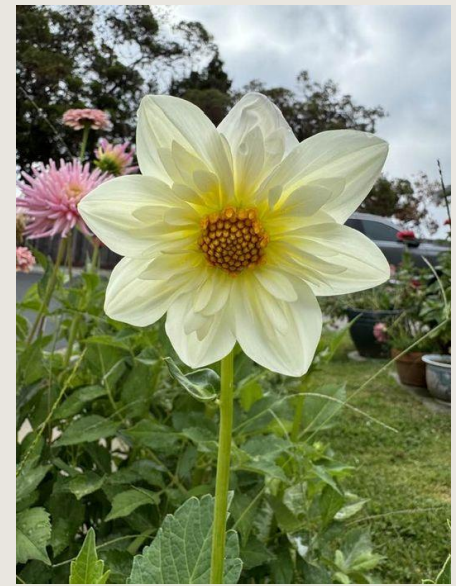
Photo G&Q Eldridge  
ADS National Show Wenatchee, WA

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED (continued)

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## Hybrid Meeting Mavens

The SLDS piloted hybrid meetings via Zoom in 2023 and early 2024 to enable members who were unable to attend in person to listen to the guest speakers and programs and participate. All that is needed is a smart phone, a laptop and a basic knowledge of Zoom. The society has a Zoom account and can provide a laptop and phone stand. Former “hybriders” will provide in person training. Optimally three volunteers are needed to share the work-one to manage the camera phone, one to monitor the chats room and online participants and a third for back up or to sub in. Many of you are familiar with the Zoom or a similar platform from the pandemic days and remote work.



# Congratulations and Thanks

Kudos to Kristi Whitfield for her fantastic work creating a digital system using Microsoft Excel to track the judging and scoring at each of the Pacific Southwest Conference shows. She provided online training the Wednesday before each show to volunteers and to orient the judges. Kristi gives credit to the team of digital clerks who accurately recorded the entries at the four shows. She was honored at the San Leandro Dahlia Society Show with a joint monetary gift from each of the societies and the Pacific SW Conference and a handmade vase embossed with dahlias.



## 2024 Show Results

This year's 90<sup>th</sup> San Leandro Dahlia Society Show was a dazzling display of skill, dedication, and breathtaking blooms, with participants from all walks of life taking home top honors for their exceptional dahlias. From the novice to the seasoned, each winner brought a unique touch to the competition, making this event a true celebration of beauty, perseverance, and floral artistry. Here's a look at the standout winners of the show.



# 2024 Show Results

## **Sweepstakes Winners**

### **Junior: Abby Southard**

The Junior Sweepstakes title was awarded to Abby Southard, a promising young horticulturist who earned 4 first place ribbons for entries in the Junior competition.

### **Novice: Frances & Jon Kawaguchi**

Frances and Jon Kawaguchi, competing in the Novice category, demonstrated remarkable success again in their 2<sup>nd</sup> Sweepstakes win. They won first place (and higher) for 17 different entries. They also won Best Novice Bloom for their entry of PHIL.

### **Amateur: Lou Paradise**

Lou Paradise topped the Amateur division once again, securing top honors through his expert techniques for growing dahlias. He won first place (and higher) for over 50 different entries.

### **Open to All: Judi Soderstrom**

Judi Soderstrom took home the highest honor in the Open to All Sweepstakes category. She won first place (and higher) for over 40 different entries. She also won for Largest Dahlia in the World with MAKI.

### **Arrangement Sweepstakes: Lana Starr**

Lana Starr distinguished herself in the Arrangement Sweepstakes, where her sophisticated sense of design and botanical arrangement stood out in her floral interpretation of “Muir Woods”.

# Sweepstakes Points

## How are sweepstakes points calculated?

Sweepstakes Awards are made to the exhibitors in Junior, Novice, Amateur & Open-to-All grower classifications who earn the most points in Sections A, B, C, J and I.

Points are awarded as follows:

Score three (3) points for each first award and one (1) point for each second award. Entries receiving a Best in Section higher award shall receive five (5) additional points.

### Novice Sweepstakes Top 3

Frances & Jon Kawaguchi	140
Ellen Muir & Cris Whyte	105
Quamrun & Gary Eldridge	94

### Amateur Sweepstakes Top 3

Lou Paradise	378
Heather Jamieson	195
Iris Wallace	134

### Open to All Sweepstakes Top 3

Judi Soderstrom	211
Lou Paradise	208
Deborah Dietz	152

# 2024 Show Results

## **Best Blooms of the Show**

The following blooms were singled out for their exceptional quality, precision in form, and vibrant colors.

### **Best Bloom of the Show: SB'S KA'S CHOICE by Iris Wallace**

Iris Wallace's SB'S KA'S CHOICE was named Best Bloom of the Show, Best Small Bloom, and Best Pom. Its flawless symmetry, vibrant color, and impeccable structure made it a standout among over 650 entries. Iris also won Largest Most Perfect Bloom for HOLLYHILL ELECTRA.

### **Best Large Bloom: EDNA C by Tinnee Lee**

The Best Large Bloom was awarded to Tinnee Lee for her stunning yellow, EDNA C. This bloom impressed the judges with its robust size, lovely form, and buttery yellow color.

### **Best Disc Bloom: MIDNIGHT STAR by Heather Jamieson**

Heather Jamieson's colorful and showy MIDNIGHT STAR garnered the Best Disc Bloom and Best Orchid awards.

# 2024 Show Results

## Court of Honor Winners — Fully Double

The following fully double entries were recognized for their superior quality and adherence to the criteria of their respective classes.

- **Best AA: AGGIE WHITE by Judi Soderstrom**
- **Best A: HOLLYHILL ELECTRA by Lou Paradise**
- **Best B: JUST MARRIED by Chris Dix**
- **Best BB: SKIP TO MY LOU by Lou Paradise**
- **Best Min: PINK PARADISE by Lou Paradise**
- **Best Micro Min: IRISH GNOME by Frances & Jon Kawaguchi**
- **Best Ball: MARY'S JOMANDA by Chris Dix**
- **Best Min Ball: CHIMACUM DAVI by Becky Adams**
- **Best Novelty Double: VISTA MINNIE by Heather Jamieson**
- **Best Micro Novelty Double: LAKE HILLS CREAMSICLE by Judi Soderstrom**

# 2024 Show Results

## Court of Honor Winners — Open Centers

This year's show also celebrated the unique beauty of the open center blooms, highlighting the diverse range of forms within the dahlia species.

- **Best Collarette: POOH by Deva Lowenthal**
- **Best Micro Collarette: LAKE HILLS PHRED by Frances & Jon Kawaguchi**
- **Best Orchette: VERRONE'S MORNING STAR by Lou Paradise**
- **Best Single: 22-9602 by Lou Paradise**
- **Best Mignon Single: STILLWATER PLUM by Lou Paradise**

# 2024 Show Results

## Court of Honor Winners — Multiples

The multiple bloom displays offered an opportunity for exhibitors to showcase the consistency of their beautiful blooms.

- **Best 3 Fully Double Large: KA'S PAPA JOHN by Heather Jamieson**
- **Best 3 Fully Double Small: EDEN SUNDAY STEVE by Lou Paradise**
- **Best 3 Disc Centered: VERRONE'S MORNING STAR by Tinnee Lee**
- **Best 5 Fully Double Large: MAKS VOLCANO by Quamrun & Gary Eldridge**
- **Best 5 Fully Double Small: EDEN SOFIE by Lou Paradise**
- **Best 5 Disc Center: STILLWATER PLUM by Lou Paradise**

## 2024 Show Results

### **Winners in a few other categories:**

Jon Ko cleaned up across all the photo categories. People's Choice winner was Becky Adams with crowd-favorite KETCHUP & MUSTARD. Chris Dix impressed everyone with his IRISH GLOW in the Smallest Most Perfect Pom category, and the best Old Fashioned Bouquet was entered by Peggy Murphy.

### **A Tradition of Excellence**

As the dahlia show came to a close, it was clear that this year's exhibitors had raised the bar for future competitions. From novices like Frances and Jon Kawaguchi to seasoned champions like Judi Soderstrom and Lou Paradise, each competitor contributed to the vibrant and diverse world of dahlia cultivation. As these stunning flowers continue to bloom in gardens and competitions, we look forward to seeing what the next generation of dahlia enthusiasts will bring to the tables.

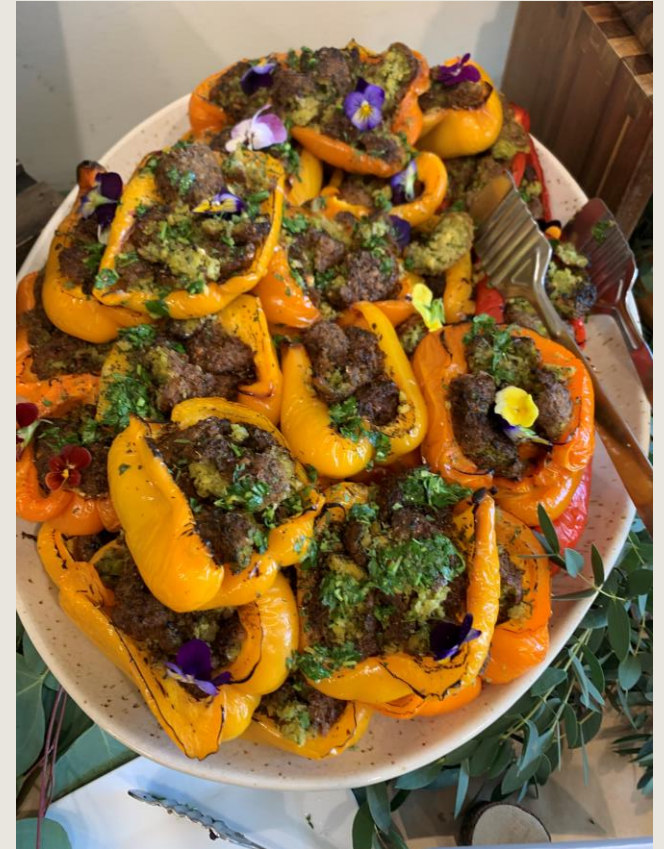
# And now- some images from the show





**Let's get out there and judge**

Thank you so very much to Olivia and the crew at Salt and Honey Catering for the delicious lunch



## Bloomquist Jean Flower of the Year

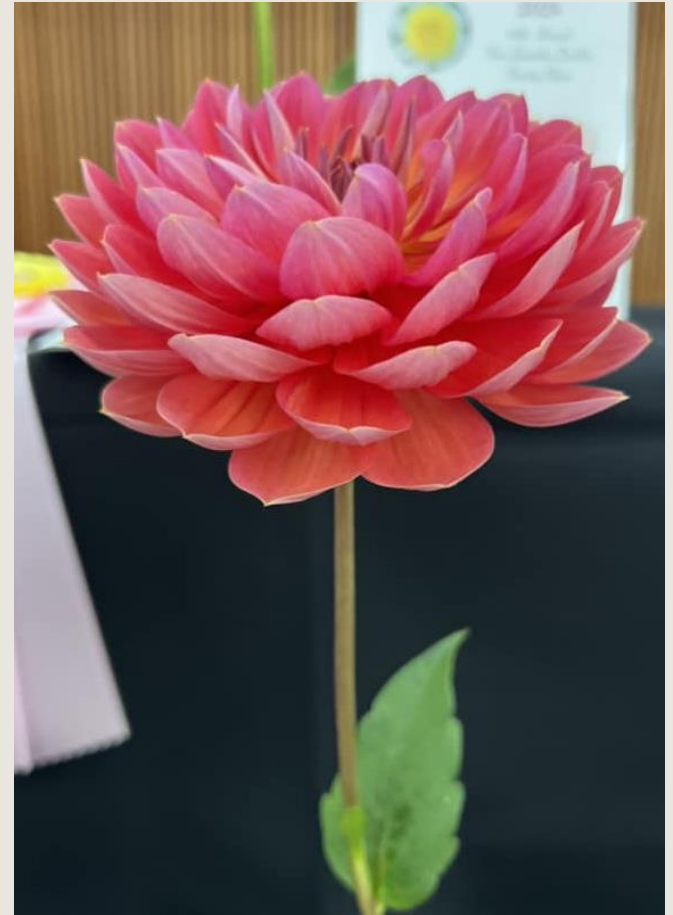


# Quamrun and Gary's award winning basket





Photos courtesy of  
Jeff Bennett



Photos courtesy of  
Jeff Bennett

# Awards!



## A few of our next generation



And then the SLDS crew went on a road trip  
More on the American Dahlia Society Show in Wenatchee, WA in October



**Show us your garden**  
**Beverly Dahlstadt**



**Show us your garden**  
**Lana Starr**

