

Portland Dahlia Society Bulletin

September Meeting at Swan Island Dahlias, 995 NW 22nd Avenue; Canby, OR 97013

Club Website: Portanddahlia.com

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Next meeting Tuesday, September 11th, 2012 @ 4:00 PM

PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER

Our program for September will be a reprise of last year's highly rated gathering at Swan Island Dahlias. We realize that work schedules may limit some member's arrival times. It is perfectly acceptable to join in when ever your schedule or inclination allows.

We will start at 4:00 PM with a tour of the gardens and an opportunity to judge seedlings at our ADS sanctioned trial garden. This is an easy way for judges to fulfill their annual requirement for trial garden judging. Senior judges will be available to work in teams with those just starting out.

At about 5:30 we will have dinner. The Gitts family has generously agreed to provide beverages and there may be a dessert surprise. Please bring a pot-luck dish of your own to share along with a serving spoon. The Society will provide paper plates and plastic utensils.

Nicholas Gitts has agreed to be on hand to answer any dahlia related questions.

NATIONAL SHOW UPDATE

You will be pleased to hear that the Portland Dahlia Society sponsored 46th Annual National American Dahlia Society has been deemed by all a resounding success!

Please allow me to single out some participants who were "over the top" with their outstanding contributions.

First, behind the scenes, Bob and Cynthia Patterson were available to handle challenges as they arose. Problems we had not even thought about, they were able to resolve with skill and finesse.

We explored a new revenue source with the sale of cut flowers. Lisa Pridgen was in charge of this effort. Thanks to multiple buckets full of blooms from the gardens of Eric Toedtli and Mark and Laura Oldenkamp. Thanks also to Daniel Oldenkamp for all his help in cutting and

transporting blooms. Even though we had a serious fire at the Red Lion Thunderbird which inhibited the public participation on Sunday, we still sold out completely of cut flowers!

Our Publicity Chair, Larry Smith, was able to arrange for articles in the *Oregonian*, *Portland Tribune* and *Gresham Outlook*, as well as TV coverage with the local stations. I thought it slightly amusing that the same TV news reporter was assigned to the fire at the Thunderbird Red Lion and the National Dahlia Show. Sounded like a two-fer to me.

Laura Oldenkamp deserves special recognition for her flawless execution of the tours. Each tour was accompanied by a guide who provided informative talks concerning the points of interest during the trips to and from the destinations. The food arrangements were subject to rave reviews.

Thanks so much to the members that worked long and hard on the set up and tear down of the show. Special recognition goes to Eric Toedtli, Don Sailor, Gary Murphy and Ted Kennedy for their months long efforts on this project. Tiffany Boatwright as show site coordinator worked her magic in a stellar fashion!

Special thanks also to all the individuals, dahlia societies, and regional associations that sponsored awards and made significant monetary contributions to the success of our National Show Endeavor.

Thanks lastly to all the exhibitors whose blooms simply made the show.

Our Show Treasurer and show Registrar, Shirley Bankston was simply over the top with her outstanding contribution!