

# Portland Dahlia Society Bulletin

September Virtual Meeting, September 8, 2020

**Club Website: [Portlanddahlia.com](http://Portlanddahlia.com)**

*Editor: Mike Riordan (503)256-0425 Contacts: Larry Smith [thebodysmith@hotmail.com](mailto:thebodysmith@hotmail.com), Jeanette Benson (503) 649-4118*

**Next meeting Tuesday, September 8th, 2020 @ 7:00 PM**

## PROGRAM FOR SEPTEMBER

Again, for our September meeting, your society is going virtual.

Mark Oldenkamp is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Portland Dahlia Society September Meeting  
Time: Sep 8, 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

I will attempt to have the meeting portal open 20-30 minutes prior to the official meeting start.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83999166851?pwd=U01XS3N2aHR0TEY3eksxVzZjK2t3Zz09>

Meeting ID: 839 9916 6851

Passcode: Dahlias1!

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Meeting ID: 839 9916 6851

Passcode: 279593751

Find your local

number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83999166851>

Mark Oldenkamp

[dahliafan57@gmail.com](mailto:dahliafan57@gmail.com)

## A VIRTUAL DAHIA SHOW

**By Larry Smith**

Since our annual show has been cancelled, the PDS will instead have a virtual dahlia show. In order to make this a success, we need photos of your favorite dahlias. They will be judged in various classes by a team of three judges who have no entries in the competition. There will be classes for arrangements, basket entries, and vases of dahlias as well as a class for first time novices who have never entered a dahlia show and a public class (for those who don't belong to a dahlia society). The winner of each class will receive \$10 and bragging rights. Once the judging is complete, Larry Smith will make a video program consisting of the photos with copyright free background music and load it onto YouTube. It will premiere at the October meeting and the link will later be sent to all PDS members, included in the PNDC Dahlia Times, added to the ADS website, shared on social media, and played on local community television channels. It will be great publicity and outreach for PDS and for dahlias. The judges will be looking for the quality of the bloom rather than the quality or artsy-ness of the photo....save the ones with a cute kid in it or a bee or frog on the bloom for the annual photo contest, which comes later in the year. All single bloom entries should be disbudded and have a set of leaves and can be shown either a show container or a vase. More detailed rules and guidelines are contained in an attachment what will come with this Bulletin. Deadline for accepting entries is be Saturday, Sept. 19th.

## MEETING THE PUBLIC AT THE TRIAL GARDEN

**By Ted J. Kennedy**

I spend quite a bit of time at the trial garden at Swan Island Dahlias. The plants need maintenance and of course the trial garden needs to be judged. There are lots of visitors to the gardens and they can be very interesting.

Tourists from out of town: After a while, you begin wonder what states do not provide visitors to the

gardens. Lots of people seem to be from Alaska and I believe there may be a shortage of flowers there and they just love the flowers. There are fewer people from states where dahlias do not grow well and Texas provides few visitors. I have noticed that Mid Westerners love to grow dahlias and I have talked to many of them over the years.

The photographers: If you want to just go ahead and work at the garden without interruption, the best people to have around you are the photographers. They are in their own little world and are constantly adjusting cameras, tripods and reflectors and what not and they hardly ever come up for air. It is my theory that they know almost nothing about dahlias and could care less about them. I bet if it were Swan Island Roses or Swan Island Mug Worts they would still be there in droves snapping pictures with their huge lenses. I asked one of the avid photographers how many pictures she had taken of the dahlias here over the years and she said 20,000. And she excused herself to take a few more.



Clearview Edie

The florists: Recently, more professional florists have visited while I was working. One really nice florist from Santa Barbara was very interested in the trial garden. I asked her what colors were popular for weddings and what dahlia colors she would use. I expected her to say that pinks and whites were popular with the occasional purple wedding and perhaps a Gothic one with almost black flowers. Wrong! She said that the popular color schemes nearly all include a tannish pink that is best represented by the dahlia Cafe' au Lait. I showed her a very nice light pink trial garden entry and she said it could only be used to mix in with the tan ones. I showed her a dark red flower expecting her to say that it was totally inappropriate for a wedding as it had brownish cast to it. Quite the contrary. She said that the brown overtones were outstanding and she would use lots of

them in her wedding work. She asked whether there are any brown dahlias as they would be very popular.

And I always seem to be asked some "interesting" questions. I have learned that explaining the "birds and the bees of dahlias" to most tourists can be very frustrating. It usually goes like this:

These are new dahlias bred by people from all over the USA.

Oh, I thought you grew dahlias from seeds.

No, we grow them from tubers.

Well, if you grow them tubers, how do you get new ones?

We collect seeds from the dahlias.

But you said they grow from tubers.

Yes, they do grow from tubers, but they do make seeds and potatoes make seeds too.

But I grow potatoes from cut up potatoes.

At this point, I usually change the subject to the weather.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

This is election year this fall. If anyone wants to be on the nominating committee, let Nan know. I'd like at least 2 - 3 volunteers. If anyone really wants to be an officer, let me know/committee know. We will need a new recording secretary for sure. All officers can continue on for another 2 year term if they are interested so the committee may have an easier job this year. Contact me or let me know.

Nan co-president [nhdragonflies@gmail.com](mailto:nhdragonflies@gmail.com)



Hollyhill Bewitched