

Fraser Valley Dahlia Society

Newsletter

46172 Clare Ave., Chilliwack, BC, V2P6N1

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Since 1997

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Meetings: Held on the 4th Tuesday of the month March through October,
At 7.30 PM, Central Heights Church,
1661, McCallum Road. Abbotsford
Enter at rear of church at Gym entrance.

Meeting 7:30 PM, October25, 2011

Refreshments: Casey Jansen and Larry Moore

Program: Digging Storing and Dividing our Dahlia Tubers

Question and answer period.

Presidents Message - October 2011

Two of the founding members of the Fraser Valley Dahlia Society will be leaving us to pursue other interests. Ralph and Arlyne Kuiper were major personalities in forming and grooming our society. Years of devotion and dedication to the growth of the Fraser Valley Dahlia Society have proved to be well worth their efforts. I can't begin to imagine the time spent, the miles driven, or the times that the dahlia society was put on top of the list of things to do. For this reason, many people in the Fraser Valley have come to enjoy the beauty of growing and showing dahlias. They should be very proud of their accomplishments. We cannot thank them enough. Ralph and Arlyne will become honorary lifetime members and will always be welcome at any functions of the Fraser Valley Dahlia Society. I hope Ralph will agree to speak at some of our future meetings, as his knowledge of dahlias and gardening practices in general is limitless. We all know what they say "once a dahlia nut, always a dahlia nut". Ralph I know you love AA size dahlias, and I hope you catch many AA size fish!

The weekend of our show, it rained so hard in our area that I almost cried as I watched bloom after bloom spoil. I, like the rest of you, still managed to find blooms to show. Considering the weather plan Mother nature decided to throw our way I think we showed her we are ready for anything she is ready to give. It is a good thing we have a tent for people who wish to stage their blooms early Saturday morning. That would be mostly the showers from the Island. I cannot thank the Islanders enough for the cleanup they did. This really helped. Thanks again. We also had excellent co operation from the maintenance staff of George Preston Rec. Centre. They seemed to know what we needed and made sure we got it. Even the parents of the kids that use the centre seemed to be getting use to us being there. I saw many young kids and there parents coming to see our show.

Another funny thing to hear is when visitors say "you grow these in greenhouses don't you??" and they are shocked to hear our answer of no. The next question is "will you have pictures of these blooms at your tuber sale?" We say yes and they like that. Pictures are good.

President's Message continued

A great thing at our show this year was Pat Glennie's huge display of dahlias that said "You Can Touch These" and all blooms were named. Please Pat do this again next year as it was definitely a hit.

we had 20 arrangements this year and all were well worth taking time to look at. I still cannot figure out how they do it. Our lunch again was top notch. I cannot say enough about the women who put this together, especially Cheryl Howard, for our judges and clerks on Saturday and still provide enough to keep everyone happy on Sunday. Thanks to every one who helped make our show the success it always seems to be. Only you can make it happen- and you do.

This year in our first time Exhibitor section and our junior section, a young girl from Rosedale entered and took home head table ribbons and a little bit of cash. She is very knowledgeable about dahlias and I am sure many other things. This 9 year old would like to join our society and learn more about growing , showing and having fun with dahlias. Wow- isn't that what it is all about.

Doug Youngson

Our Clubs annual elections where held at the September meeting. Your Executive for 2012 will be as followed :

President	Doug Youngson
Vice - President	Paul Howard
Secretary	Diana Youngson
Treasurer	Pat Ianson
Directors	Sylvia Devitt Cheryl Howard Wally Kurth Larry Moore Tina McNabb Norm Sharp
Past President	Ross Wright
News letter	Wally Kurth
Webmaster	Ralph Kuiper ?

Membership renewal forms are included with this newsletter please fill out the form. It makes it much easier for our treasurer.

Anyone having pictures of our last show, we can put on our website? Credit will be given to the photographer.

Show results are on our website www.fraservalleydahliasociety.com

This is my last newsletter, as Wally Kurth is taking over this job in the New Year.

As for me, I will be making plans for my new found free time. Happy digging of your dahlias. Please remember to use a short bladed knife when cutting and dividing your tubers. Wear heavy rubber gloves or better yet go to a fishing supply store and buy a fillet glove. It will save a trip to emergency room and no need to clean up a trail of blood. Have a first aid kit close by, just in case.

Remember your work is not done until at least one dahlia is growing in everyone's yard.

Warm Regards Editor Ralph Kuiper