

VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY

Promoting Dahlia Growing Since 1955

Bulletin 2

March - April 2010



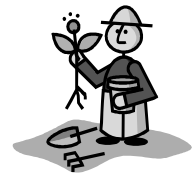
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE * NORM SHARP

Now that you have your garden all planned for this growing year, it's time to wake up those little jewels, (big ones to), with a little warmth to "eye them up". All those extra eyed tubers that do not fit into your plans can mean extra cash for you to purchase fertilizers, other tubers, etc. when sold at our annual **Tuber Sale** this April 3rd & 4th at VanDusen Gardens. This is a great way to help your Society at the same time to help yourself, as one half of the money raised goes to pay for the Society's many expenses. The sale is open to the general public starting at 1 P.M. Saturday, April 3rd so encourage your friends and neighbours to come and shop. For further information regarding the selling of tubers contact Vera Williamson at (604) 574-5791 or Wally Kurth at (604) 536-6878.

Our speaker for the March General Meeting will be Del Knowlton, of Art's Nursery, he will talk on all aspects of growing dahlias. So come with your questions and note pad, there will be a lot to learn by all.

On behalf of everyone, we wish Tina McNabb a speedy recovery.

See you all on March 17th @ 7:30 P.M.



Our Website is
www.vancouverdahlia.com

Next Meetings:

March 17, 2010

April 21, 2010

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MESSAGE FROM TINA MCNABB

As some of you already know, Tina McNabb is in Vancouver General Hospital at the time of this bulletin. She called me today, February 28, 2010 to give me an update on her condition. Tina had a spinal cord stroke and at this time is not able to walk. She says she is feeling good and on the mend and awaiting a transfer to G.H. Strong for more intensive rehabilitation.

... Robin Blackmore

The VDS meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, except January, November and December in the Floral Hall at the VanDusen Botanical Garden at 7:30 p.m.

A funny thing happened on the way home from a dahlia show.....

Last summer, many VDS members had the pleasure of attending the ADS national show in Snohomish. It was a dahlia packed weekend, and many members attended the tours, seminars and luncheon and banquet as well as the show.

But as often happens, one of the highlights of the weekend wasn't planned at all. While I was judging on Saturday morning, my husband Frank and Walt Wynne struck up a conversation outside the show hall. As they chatted about their gardens, Walt generously invited us to stop at the Wynne garden on our way home.

I have had the pleasure of seeing their garden before, but my husband had no idea that the humble man he was talking with tends to one of the most talked about dahlia gardens in the world, with over 6500 plants growing in a tucked away corner of Ferndale with awesome views of Mount Baker from every row. Are you sure about us visiting? I asked Cory – after all they had just hosted busloads of guests as part of the ADS tours.

I deliberately kept the magnitude and beauty of this garden a secret from my husband so that I could watch his jaw drop as we walked down the little lane to the dahlia patch. And jaw-dropping it was. He was speechless as he surveyed the garden. The entire garden has only large and giant dahlias with rows of Wynne introductions, seed parents, and seedlings. As I tripped from row to row looking to see what future introductions are coming – Frank just stood still and speechless. I don't think he will ever say my 80 plants or so are too many again!

Of course I wanted them all, but I was particularly drawn to a 2010 introduction called Wyn's Sleepyhead (A ID Y). This dahlia got its name because of its habit of going to "sleep" at dusk. Some dahlias will do this; the petals curl up and the flower gets smaller at dusk, only to open back up even better the next day. As interesting as the flowers were, we were also asking lots of questions about the irrigation system in the garden. Walt has this down to a science, with rows of T tape irrigating each row from a series of stopcocks at the beginning of the garden. Cory says people are always amazed that they care for the entire garden without any outside help, and it is ingenious systems such as the irrigation that help them out.

The VDS annual show will be showcasing the Wynne introductions as the Challenge Flower for 2010 is any Wynne introduction. You know which ones they are by the prefix "Wyn's". If you haven't had the pleasure of growing a Wynne dahlia, consider picking one up at the tuber sale. You won't be disappointed!

..... Betty Girard



WYNNE'S DAHLIAS
waltdahlias@yahoo.com



DAHLIA TUBER SALE NEWS ** Vera Williamson and Tina McNabb

Information for Sellers

The Tuber Price List is now available from Vera Williamson for all sellers. You may pick it up at the March General Meeting or call Vera at 604-574-5791 if you require it sooner. **The pricing stated on this "List" for tubers will be the only acceptable selling prices at our sale.** All sellers must have a number (get one from Vera Williamson). Your number remains the same from year to year.

Benefits of selling through the club sales:

- Recycle extra tubers you might otherwise throw out
- To earn money to buy new stock
- To help the society earn money (1/2 selling price goes to the club)
- To get your own tubers ready early
- Sellers will be able to purchase tubers at 9:30

After our sale, we will need tubers for subsequent sales. All proceeds will go to the VDS. These extra sales will (*we hope!*) pay for some of our rentals plus any other expenses directly pertaining to our tuber sales. After our sale on Sunday there will be boxes under the tables marked "Donation Tubers" for your unsold tubers.

For all Dahlia Club Members:

As a member of our club you may purchase tubers earlier than the public:

Saturday morning - 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Members not on the volunteer list may not enter the hall until 10:00 a.m. sharp.

If you decide to shop at this time, you must wear a name tag or pick up a name tag from Pat Ianson (or designated helpers).

APRIL 3, 2010

8:00 - 9:30	Put up tables, place tubers
9:30 - 10:00	Sellers only Sale
10:00 – 11:30	Club members only may buy
12:00 – 12:30	Straighten out sales tables, complete members sales
12:30 - 1:00	Lunch (Bring your own)
1:00 - 4:00	Public Sale
4:00 - 5:00	Clean up by all members

APRIL 4, 2010

12:30 – 1:00	Preparation for crowd
1:00 – 4:00	Public Sale
4:00 – 5:00	Clean up by all members

For Details:
 Vera Williamson at 604-574-5791
 Wally Kurth at 604-536-6878

Add these varieties to your Tuber Sale Shopping List

VDS Challenge Flower for 2009 - Any Wynne
Orgination

Jackpot Flower for 2009 - Just Peachy

2010 Federation Flower of the Year - Vista Lindsey

2011 Federation Flower of the Year - Skipley Spot of
Gold



**VDS TUBER
AUCTION**

Up for auction again this year are those "special" dahlia tubers. Auction date is April 21 at the general meeting.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS WHO ARE SELLING TUBERS

Tina McNabb has requested all members who are selling tubers this year to please give her a list of all the varieties you are selling. These lists help her to set up the picture boards ahead of time and to find new pictures if they are needed.

TUBER SALE PHOTOS ** Tina McNabb

Did everyone remember to take photos of the dahlia varieties you are selling this year? The club would appreciate any extra photos you may have or I can make copies from actual photos or from a CD or Memory Card. Remember the varieties with photos sell better than those without.

BOOKS

A GUIDE TO GROWING DAHLIAS

Guides will be available for sale at all future general meetings.

DAHLIAS OF TODAY

Limited amounts of these books will be available at future general meetings.

50/50 Draw

Tickets will be available when you sign in **before the start of the meeting** from Robin Blackmore.

Tickets are 1 for a Looney, 3 for a Tooney and 10 for \$5.00.



We had 24 members at our February meeting and no 50/50 Draw was held.

VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY CONTACTS

President	Norm Sharp	604-589-0463	sharpz@shaw.ca
Vice-President	Peter Krueger	604-241-4995	peterkrueger53@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Carole Rollie	604-572-3941	crollie@telus.net
Membership	Betty Girard	604-431-8611	vdsmembership@telus.net

For the complete list of the VDS contacts, please see our website at www.vancouverdahlia.society.com

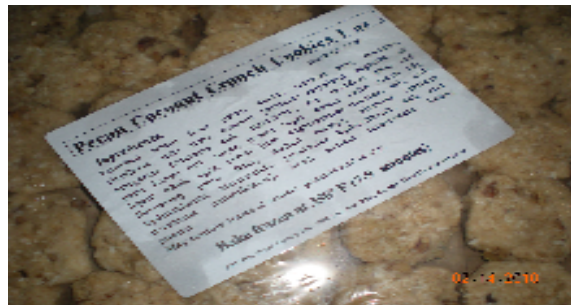
MEMBERSHIP CARDS

If you receive your March/April bulletin by regular mail your 2010 membership card will be included in this mailing. If you receive your bulletin by email your membership card will be available at the March meeting. If you do not plan to attend the March meeting, please contact Betty Girard at vdsmembership@telus.net and it will be mailed to you. If you do not pick up your card at the March meeting it will be mailed to you the following week.

VDS FUND RAISER

Unexpected guests? No time to bake? We have a solution for you. Frozen cookies that go from the freezer to your table in less than 10 minutes.

The VDS would like to hold a Fund Raiser featuring 14 varieties of **"Gourmet Cookies."** Each flat contains 50 - 1 ounce cookies that you keep in the freezer until baking time. This way you can bake as many as you require. Each flat of cookies is \$11.00 of which the VDS receives \$3.00 per flat. We would like your opinion on this fund raiser. If you want to voice your opinion, for or against, please email Robin Blackmore at ydseditor@shaw.ca or phone at 604-435-2530. Results and perhaps sign up forms will be at the March meeting. As you can see from the second picture all ingredients are on each flat. If YOU have any ideas about a possible fund raiser please let Robin know by email or telephone.



Refreshment Reminder

March Meeting

Sandwiches: Evelyn Crawford
 Sweets: Susan Birchmore
 Fruit/Veggies: Wally Kurth & Peter Krueger

April Meeting

Sandwiches: Arlene Brodie
 Sweets: Dorothy Malkin
 Fruit/Veggies: