



VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY

Promoting Dahlia Growing Since 1955

Show Bulletin 2011

VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW

September 3 & 4, 2011

PLEASE NOTE: The show will be in the old Floral Hall, same location as last year.

PROGRAM FOR THE SHOW

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

Staging and entries may be made 6:00 - 9:00 P.M.
If you need to stage later than 9 PM, contact the show chairpersons.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

Stage & entries may be made	6:30 - 9:00 a.m.
Placement	9:15 - 9:45 a.m.
Judges & Clerk's Meeting	9:45 - 10:00 a.m.
Judging begins	10:00 a.m.
Doors open to the public	1:00 p.m.
Show Closes	5:00 p.m.

A show luncheon will be served following judging for the Show Committee, Judges and Clerks.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

Doors open to the public	12:00 p.m.
Show closes to the public	3:30 p.m.

AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AFTER THE DOORS CLOSE

NOTE:

If you require cans in order to display your entries please call Jack Duncan at 604-420-9301.

FLORAL ARTS ENTRIES

Contact Jennifer Zuk (604) 294-0237
or Email rtzjg@telus.net before August 31, 2011.

REMOVAL OF ENTRIES

Exhibitors are requested to leave entries on the tables until after the Awards Presentation. Those entrants who cannot remove their entries are expected to make arrangements for someone to do so for them.

Vancouver Dahlia Society - Special Entries

DAHLIA OF THE YEAR - "Skipley Spot of Gold" M FD DP

JACKPOT CHALLENGE FLOWER - "Mrs W G Murray" BB SC RED

Pre-registration is required by Monday August 29, 2011 (please call Louise Stewart at 604-929-1503). Entry fee is \$5.00. Those eligible are encouraged to make as many entries as possible. All entry fees will be returned as prize money. All exhibitors will receive a ticket for each entry made, of which one will be drawn for a \$50.00 cash prize.

Open to All - Use White Tags Only

BOWL OF DAHLIAS - Class 263

VASE OF DAHLIAS - Class 264 Definition of a vase: A container taller than its width

PEOPLE'S CHOICE - Class 265

THREE POMS - Class 266 Three Varieties

VDS CHALLENGE FLOWER - Class 267 - Any waterlily

VANDAMENT LACINIATED CHALLENGE - Class 268

VARIEGATED DAHLIA - Class 269

BICOLOUR DAHLIA - Class 270

FLOATING WATERLILY - Class 271 A single waterlily, floating in a bowl that is wider than it is tall, in clear water, no greenery.

FIRST TIME EXHIBITOR - Class 272

TABLE CENTRE PIECE - Class 273 Open to anyone who hasn't exhibited more than three (3) times in any floral art exhibit including vases and/or bowls. Suitable for home display.

Look at our website under SHOW for more information on Section and Class #'s, rules and regulations.

Reminder from the VDS Show Awards Committee

The Show Committee is once again requesting donations for our annual show. As most of you know, we usually start canvassing for donations for the show around mid-July. We appreciate donations of cash, crafts, tools, art objects, vases, really almost anything you think a gardener might enjoy. If you would like to re-gift - that too is much appreciated - all we ask in this case is that it is a new object. The philosophy of these awards is that it (we hope) encourages our growers, including our new members, to show their dahlias at the show. It gives us a little fun after all our hard work. I think it might also attract our neighbours to the South and Vancouver Island to come and participate in our show. The more the merrier. I know our show isn't until September but if you would like us to pick up anything from you sooner, please give Richard Zuk a call at 604-294-0237 if you live in greater Vancouver and Maggie Cajar at 604-701-6978 if you live in the Fraser Valley. Donations can be mailed to Maggie Cajar at 46152 Gore Avenue, Chilliwack, BC V2P 1Z7. If you have any questions please feel free to call Maggie at 604-701-6978 or see her at the meetings. Thank you for your generosity.

..... Maggie Cajar and the Awards Committee

Calling All First Time Exhibitors

Have you ever wanted to show flowers but felt too intimidated to put your blooms on the bench with all those other competitors? Did you bring flowers to the parlour show last year and enjoyed a little friendly competition? This year there is a special category at the show for first time competitors! If you have never entered a dahlia show before, this is a great place to start. It is OK if you have entered our parlour show or a general garden show before. But, if you have never entered a dahlia show before, consider bringing a bloom or two and entering it in Special Entries, Class 272. If you don't have vases and foam - don't worry about it. Just bring your flower in some water to the show on Friday, September 2nd from 6-9 PM or Saturday, September 3 from 6:30 - 9:00 AM and someone will help you stage your flower and write out a tag. There is going to be a special prize for the winner! See You There!

... Betty Girard, Show Committee



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY**

We are still in need of a number of volunteers. Some of the jobs are show set-up and clean-up, cut flower sales, membership, door, luncheon, judging and clerking.

Please contact Jennifer Zuk at 604-294-0237 if you would like to clerk or judge and Betty Girard at 604-431-8611 for any of the other volunteer opportunities.

2011 Show Season Dates

Whatcom County Dahlia Society Show - September 10 & 11, 2011 - for more information contact Cory Wynne at 360-384-3439

Fraser Valley Dahlia Society Show - September 17 & 18, 2011 - for more information contact Ralph Kuiper at 604-792-0252

CENTRE PIECES SUITABLE FOR HOME DISPLAY - Betty Girard

Who hasn't popped a few dahlias in a container, put them on their dining room or coffee table and made their home look warm and inviting? Even if you don't think of yourself as a florist, or even artistic, you have created a lovely display. This year we have a special class in our show for the inexperienced exhibitor to display those hidden abilities.

The show committee has created a special class for centre pieces suitable for home display. People who have not shown in the floral art, vases or bowls classes more than three times are invited to enter. Your display can be elaborate or simple, formal or casual. There is going to be a generous prize for the winner.

The inspiration for this class came from the lovely centre pieces people have brought for our annual parlour show and the enjoyment that club members have had voting for the best one.

Floral foam (Oasis) will be available for \$1 per block at the August meeting. Although not necessary, some people like to use foam in their centrepiece base to secure their flowers.



WHAT MAKES A GOOD DAHLIA EXHIBIT - Jennifer Zuk

A quality dahlia exhibit is fresh looking, with clear, clean, bright, even colour, is at the peak of its development and true to type. The centre should be symmetrical, circular, centered over the stem and tight, with more to come. The bloom should have good depth and be circular, symmetrical and with no gaps. The back should be full with no evidence of withered or soft petals. Petals should be crisp, firm and thick and the bloom should be of adequate size and depth for its classification. The stem should be strong, straight and in proportion to the size of the bloom. There should be foliage, preferably a pair of identical, crisp, fresh leaves. The bloom should be at an angle of 45 degrees to the stem, facing squarely between the first pair of leaves. In multiple entries, all blooms should be uniform in colour, size and form.

Vancouver Dahlia Society 2010 Show Committee

Co-Chair Persons	Richard & Jennifer Zuk	604-294-0237
	Betty Girard	604-431-8611
Awards	Maggie Cajar	604-522-6258
Treasury	Carole Rollie	
Show Records	Tina McNabb	604-572-8981
	Jennifer Zuk	604-294-0237
Placement	Judges place the Section they are judging	
Judges & Clerks	Tina McNabb & Jennifer Zuk	
Food Services (Luncheon)	Sue Croft	604-879-0135
	Dorothy Malkin	604-261-8914
Information Table & Membership	Julian Buckle	604-543-7554
	Norm Sharp	604-589-0463
Sale of Cut Flowers	Vera Williamson	604-574-5791
Ribbons	Wally Kurth	604-536-6878
Arrangements	Jennifer Zuk	604-294-0237
Basket and Bowls	Jennifer Zuk	604-294-0237
Classification	Any Senior Judge	
Publicity	Evelyn Crawford	604-437-8395

What's in a can? - Betty Girard

Over the years, Vancouver Dahlia Society exhibitors have displayed their entries in a variety of containers. For the last 25 or so years, it has been in black cans filled with the chipped styrofoam called wab. The American Dahlia Society has been selling plastic vases for the last few years and we are seeing more entries in those vases each year. This year they have made a smaller vase available, and the VDS show committee has purchased several for exhibitors to try.

In years gone by, many dahlias were displayed in simple glass vases, perhaps even old milk bottles with a small block of wood or some wet newspapers wrapped around the stem to secure the entry. Even today, some country fairs still accept entries in glass vases and bottles. Exhibitors in England almost exclusively use Oasis blocks that have been cut to fit. The problem with Oasis is that you get just one opportunity to get the stem in right, because once that initial hole has been made it is almost impossible to pull the stem out and reinsert it without ruining the block. At one time Vancouver Dahlia Society exhibitors showed their blooms in green plastic 2 piece containers called bikinis. As far as I know, those vases are still commonly used at shows on Vancouver Island.

One of the most interesting ways of securing dahlias is using a pinfrog, also known as a kenzan, in the base of a shallow bowl. When I attended the National Show in California in 2002 I was amazed to see even the biggest triple entries staged this way. They looked so flimsy, but in fact, each entry was very secure, even when judges were moving them around during evaluation.

Any container must hold blooms securely, and importantly, not detract from the exhibit itself. There is more to choosing and preparing a container than it seems at first glance. The container must be in proportion to the bloom. A container that is too large overwhelms the bloom, too small and the exhibit becomes tippy. The picture of the orange and yellow collarette is an example of this; the can is far too small for the entry. Compare that picture to the group of flowers at the same show, in cans that suit the entries. If you are collecting cans, remember to gather a variety of sizes. Tomato juice cans are getting hard to find, but are an excellent size for many blooms. Large coffee cans are excellent for triple entries. Be careful not to have any sharp edges from opening the can, as that can be a nasty surprise when you are stuffing the can with wab. I recommend that you use a rust resistant paint such as Tremclad, in flat black to paint the cans. Also if you spray the cans both inside and out, they tend to last longer before rusting out. When using wab, a common mistake is packing it too loosely in the container. The wab must be packed down tightly, or the stem will not be steady in the vase.

Margaret Snell has said that picking the right can is like picking the right picture frame for a picture. The can is part of the overall display. There will be lots of cans of varying sizes and wab ready for use starting at 6 p.m. on Friday September 2nd. Consider bringing a few blooms and creating that beautifully framed entry with the right can for the flower.

And a final comment, take a second to brush any extra wab or water off the can before you put your entry on the bench, for a final polished look. Good luck with your entries!



Dahlias in simple glass vases



Dahlias in a Kenzan



Can too small



Cans that suit the entries

Tenth Annual VDS Pot-Luck Dinner and Parlour Show

We are anticipating another great turn out for our Pot-Luck dinner. Everyone will agree that it is a wonderful time to socialize. We will have a Beginner's Luck section, a Novice section, a Seedling Contest section and the second annual Photo Contest in this years Parlour Show. Accredited and Senior judges will judge the entries. These judges will be asked to bring 3-4 flowers each so that the rest of the group can judge the judges' flowers like we did last year.

POT-LUCK DINNER * Sue Croft

Bring your food and staged flowers at 6:00 pm. There will be a brief meeting prior to dinner. Dinner will start at 6:45 pm. Members will be contacted by phone or email prior to the pot-luck. They are requested to bring an appetizer, salad or dessert to feed five. Two or three people may wish to bring in one larger dish. The club will provide meat (**turkey and roast beef**) buns and condiments, as well as, cold and hot drinks.

PLEASE NOTE: See Page 8 for details of the 2nd annual 50/50 draw with a twist. Come and have an enjoyable, informative evening. If you have any questions, please call Sue Croft at 604-879-0135.

PARLOUR SHOW * Jennifer Zuk

There won't be any limit on the number of blooms that beginners and novices can enter in the parlour show. Any member can enter the seedling contest and they will be limited to 3 seedlings. The seed can come from any source, eg. collected by the grower.

...Continued on Page 8

Parlour Show - Continued from Page 7**Beginner's Luck Section (First and Second time showers only)**

If you showed only at our recent show, then you still qualify for this beginner's section. Bring your blooms to the show at 5:45 pm in any container for transportation. Club members will be on hand to help you stage your blooms in club containers and help you write **white** tags. A set of leaves is desirable so please try to disbud your flowers early.

Novice Section

If you have shown your flowers more than twice, then you are in this section. This includes our big show as well as our September Parlour Show, so if you've shown at last year's parlour show and the show at the beginning of September, then put your flowers in this category. Please bring your blooms staged and labeled with **pink** tags. If you don't have black containers or tags please come at 5:45 pm to stage your entries.

Judges Section

Please bring 3-4 staged blooms labeled with **yellow** tags. Place your blooms on the Judge the Judges table.

Seedlings

If possible, please stage entries and fill out any colour tag at home.

Announcing the 3rd Annual VDS Photo Contest

Judging will take place at the Pot Luck Dinner and Parlour Show. Please see Page 5 of the July/August bulletin for the rules and regulations.

Bring your own vase or bowl of dahlias. These can be mixed or just one variety of dahlia with any type of greenery. Be creative. These will be judged by popular vote. All the entries will be used for table centerpieces.

Ribbons and prizes will be awarded in all sections and there will be a Best in Show award. An award will also be given to the judge with the best flower.

2nd Annual 50/50 Draw with a twist:

Our 50/50 draw is going to be a little different at the September meeting.

Take note of how many flowers will be at the show this year because there will be a chance to guess and win the 50/50. You may make as many guesses as you would like and the person who comes the closest to the total will win the 50/50. Each guess is a dollar and tickets will be available throughout the evening of our Parlour Show. Last year we had 48 members present at the Pot Luck and the winner was Gordie Stach.

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR - Robin Blackmore

This year the September bulletin will be published after the Pot Luck Dinner which will be held on September 21, 2011. Hope to see you there!