



PAM HOWDEN
Form: Waterlily



NEXT MEETING: October 13, 2009 at 7:30 PM on 9th Ave and Lincoln Ave.

PROGRAM - LAST GASP MINI-SHOW: Bring those final blooms you've been dying to show people. We all like to be familiar with as many dahlia cultivars as possible grown in as many ways as we are members of DSC. You may enter up to 2 entries in each of AA, A, B, BB, Min, BA, MBa, Pom, ST, WL, An, S, MS, Col, O, Pe, Nx, and NXO as well as x3 and x5. Please come as early as 6:30 to have your entries set up by 7:30. Reward\$ for firsts, seconds and thirds. Who will bring treats? Sharing your extra garden produce brings lots of smiles to your fellow DSCers and happy gurgles in their bellies. Who will come early to help put tables into a circle for group discussion on how to maximize the end of the season, strengthen tubers and even make late pot roots for early cuttings in the spring?



FLORIBUNDA FANTASTICA!:

Through clutch negotiations, Tinnee secured our venue for what might be our last Dahlia Show in the Fair Grounds Building. (more later) Chloe not only nailed Junior Sweepstakes, but nabbed Smallest Pom with Lismore Moonlight. With Best An, Powder Puff Polka AND Arulen Princess as well as New Introduction, Wyn's Dark Dancer, Devi amalgamated Novice Sweepstakes. Exhibiting 254 dahlias, Deborah accumulated Amateur Sweepstakes with Best AA, Kenora Clyde; MBA, Sir Richard; Paradise Intro, Scattered; Best SC, Clearview Arlene; x3 bicolored Jessica; x5 small, Shea's Rainbow; and Open x5, Rembrant. Kevin and Karen amassed Open Sweeps with Best Pom, Pop Willo and a massive x3 Large Sun-catcher. They were delighted to see Roy win Best x5 Large with Corralitos intro Bode in addition to Best LZ intro CG Nordic, Vernon Rose and Al Almand. Winning the Philadelphia medal for Best Flower of the Year,



Tinnee's welcome bouquet



Deborah's x3
The Phantom

Kenora Jubilee, Lou Lombardo congratulated Franck on his Best Novice Bloom, Barbary Gem. The Mortons triumphed with a floating Tahoma Porcelain. Laurence, Peg, and Barry took photo firsts, but DJ snapped Best Photo with his dahlias in front of the funeral home. Winning Best O, Juul's Star, and Best Peony, Brenda Sue, the Juuls added to their ribbon trove. Tinnee shined with Best Small, Mary's Jomanda; wl, Pam Howden; Largest, a honking Emory Paul; People's Choice, a magnificent Show 'n Tell; and Best open seedling for the ADS medal. Covered in glory, Lou bedecked the Court of Honor with among others: Single, Delta Red; O x3 Stillwater Plum; Nx, Hollyhill Spider Woman; Col, Teesbrook Redeye; St, Camano Pet; M, Weston Pirate; BB, Eden Barbarosa; B Chimacum Julia; A, Hollyhill Electra; x5 colors; x3 Small, Jomanda and Best Large in Show, a stunning Sterling Silver. Wow! DSC delighted in the number of participants and the number of winners sharring the \$1737 premiums along with 3 medals.

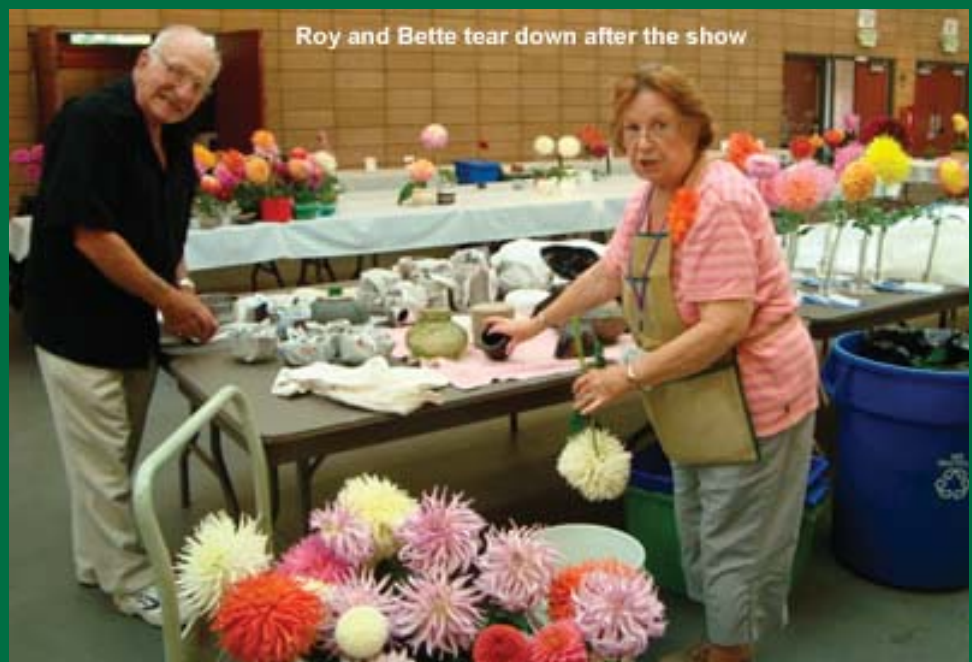
FLORIBUNDA FANTASTICA (continued):

Thanks to the crew who arrived early on Friday to set up over 100 tables and to the sainted who dispatched the show on Sunday so we were out before 6 PM as Guy and Orlando trucked back the photo panels to Sharon Meadows Studios. Special thanks to John Morton for helping line up the judges and clerks teams; to Peg for setting up the lunch; to Frank for shooting photos right up to show deadline; and to Erik for coming straight from the airport to clean up. Not only did Pat donate her birthday Godiva Chokolates to those staging all night, but this Princess amongst Princesses, donated back her pri\$e check. Pat laughed about the publicity she arranged with the neighborhood newspapers who intervied the Juuls at the "Delta Dell." Delta Dell, what's that flower you've got on.....As they say in show biz, any publicity is good publicity.



[\[Click here to see the San Francisco Dahlia Show 2009 Court of Honor results.\]](#)

[\[For more Dahlia Show 2009 pictures click here.\]](#)



ARTIC PICNIC:

As the riddle goes: how do you make God laugh? Make plans. Indeed, we purposely changed our picnic from the potentially cooler days in August to the almost guaranteed great days of September. Almost guaranteed. On the bright side.....as Shelly said, "It could be hailing." The thunder and lightning storm from the night before cleared out the air and cleaned off the dahlia leaves. The overcast aided lovely photos. We did not run out of cold drinks. Erik, Soc, John, and Beth set up tables, secured African table cloths with surgery clamps, and laid out several hams, yummy salads including a scrumptious potato salad with dill, and wheelbarrows full of iced down sodas. The inimitable Gigi



the Clown brought a face painting comrade and a balloon twister who even produced a dalmation creation for the firefighters. Bill brought Scrabble and Pat showed them the meaning of "Bingo" several times. Dick's Lotus stirred the imagination of boys of all ages including Orlando's. Did he rev up when Dick gave him the keys

for a spin! Erik and Deborah led several docent tours of the latest dahlias. Our webmaster, Mike, brought his family to celebrate his son's 26th birthday. Kristin Bowman, the volunteer coordinator for Parks and Rec, took a bouquet of dahlias to the Mayor and supervisors who were re-inaugurating the horseshoe pitches. We thought the hummer/limmo were these superluminaries to grace our picnic, but instead it was the first of several weddings decorating our Dahlia Dell.

[\[Click here to peruse more picnic pics\]](#)



PEAK SEASON PULCRITUDE:

Over 100 flowers vied for the title but only DJ's Anglea Dodi won Best In Show. Franck and Marcia scored firsts with their Bishop fo Landau and Reddy; Frank's NXO, Jack's Kelly, a wee orchidette, triumphed. Bill displayed another lovely and HUGE Nick Sr. Tinnee and Deborah duked it out with Deborah's Sir Richard, Porcelain, and Starring triumphing while Tinnee's Embrace, Westin Spanish Dancer and her Bishop of Aukland scored blue. While Lou and Guy deliberated, Mike and Martha shared their newest success: Hoist, a systemic fungicide from Prokoz. Hoist, obtained at Romeo's in Half Moon Bay, is "a systemic, protectant and curative fungicide for the control of specific diseasesincluding apples, stonefruit and grapes." Mike said it did miracles on his 400 dahlias at only at only .6 ounce per 1000 square feet. Wow! The directions warn not to apply during heavy rain storms, tornadoes or hurricanes. Duh?! DJ and Rose experimented by spraying baking soda with a horticultural oil or even dishwashing soap and report excellent "green" results against mildew. UC Extention at Half Moon Bay are working on a product for diabrotica, the green/black ladybug-esque wretches that munch the white tips off bicolors and wreak havoc with potential prize winners. To kill "Diabolica" DJ suggests Sevin. Growing no more yellow or white dahlias, Mike says he just squishes any diabrotica he finds and tries



to remember not to lick his fingers.....In warmer climes spider mites are becoming a problem. Maverick or horticultural oil or prophylactic Bayer's Tree and Shrub tend to stem these pests. Guy proposed BT (bacteria thurengis) Safer, or Spinosad for Light Brown Apple Moth which has settled in to San Francisco much too comfortably. Barbara labled all this mutual self-help "group therapy."



GENEROSITY OF FRIENDS:

Special thanks to Therese who designated DSC as the recipient of donations in memory of her mother, Estela Natinada, "Pia." Tinnee and Baker Bill shared garden-ripe tomatoes of many stripes with fellow City Dwellers. Joann and Ron baked German chocolate brownies and Lee brought chocolate wafers. (You just can't go wrong with chocolate anything!) Even though Pat could not attend, she sent healthy edamames and scrumptious florentines. Baker Bill contributed a chocolate birthday cake with which we wished Dean Barns a happy 90th. We all hope to be growing 350 plants like he does when we achieve 90 years old. How utterly wonderful of Ron, Joann and Leo to faithfully set up our treats each month and especially to clean up after our revels at the end of each meeting. Please take a moment next time to tell them your personal thanks.



IN MEMORIAM:

Sara Sweetwood was memorialized with many dahlias especially her favorite orange ones. For years a volunteer at the Dahlia Dell, later Sara would come sit amidst the flowers after chemo "because it was the most beautiful place" she could be.



OCTOBER OCCUPATIONS:

As the sun begins to dwindle, so will the size of your blooms. Many more will have open centers as your dahlias try for their last chance at breeding and immortality. Many hybridizers cut off all the blooms from their disc dahlias immediately after the show season so that their seed production will all come from fully double varieties. Now is the time to thin out all the lower “branches” and spindly stalks, leaving just a few strong ones left. These will produce the best final flowers. I will give mine one more cocktail using the new Hoist fungicide, Spinosad for LBAM and other crawlle biters, and a final blast of Super Bloom. You will notice that your dahlias need less water. Cut back; wait for your plants to signal they need more water. Check one last time for the right name on your labels. I write pertinent facts on my labels: grow again; leave in for next year, give to DSC, grows extra tall, or makes a wide bush. Anything not good enough for our sale should be dug up NOW and tossed. I still have a few dahlias in milk cartons with which I will replace disappointing dahlias hoping to get tubers before December. Now is the time to make last chance pot roots. Take one of the stems off the bottom of a prized plant, one of the ones you were going to throw away anyway. Pop it in a 4”x4” pot and see what happens. Last chance to visit other gardens or throw a tea (or tequila) party in yours. Bring blooms to our Last Gasp mini show!

Yours in Dirt,

Deborah

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Originally Organized
In 1917
In San Francisco

Dahlia was adopted as the
Official Flower of San Francisco
On October 4, 1926
By its Board of Supervisor

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