



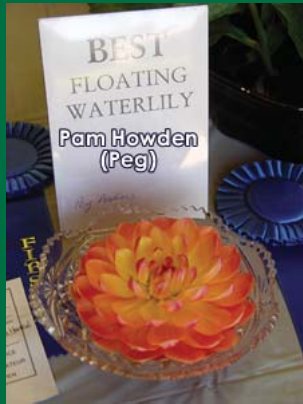
PAM HOWDEN
Form: Waterlily



NEXT MEETING: September 8, 2009 at 7:30 PM on 9th Ave and Lincoln Ave.
PROGRAM: MINI SHOW: 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? Do you have extra garden produce to share? Buckets?



VOLUMES OF COLOR AT THE SAN LEANDRO LIBRARY:



What splendid flowers for the first day of August! New grower, Justinian Caire amassed Novice Sweepstakes. Our Peg landed on the head table with a remarkably symmetrical floating Pam Howden. Did the judges put Devora's Wild West on the Head Table because they loved her cowboy hat vase????

They also awarded Devi Best x3 Flower of the Year, Bode. Frank displayed several superior Hollyhill Spider Women. Sixteen year-old Morgan won a handy \$40 for his Old Fashioned Bouquet while "running" entries for Curtis and Roy. Besides winning most of the photo awards, DJ nabbed Best First Year Seedling with a dark magenta collarette. Delighting in scoring "the weirdest" dahlia, Curtis also triumphed with Best BA, Cornel and WL, Pam Howden.



Honor real estate with Best x3 Bi's, Skip to My Lou; Paradise Intro, Prometheus; and peony, Longwood Dainty.

Congrats to Dennis Stone for the loveliest ST, Starring; an, Alpen Pearl; and Mba Tahoma Eli. Deborah claimed Court of



How do the Juuls always win the Smallest, with Willo Surprise??? Their Matt Too won x5 and their Northland Primrose took x3 Small. Gerda nailed Best Basket. Single-handedly Guy built all the floral arrangements.



Earning both Best MS and Best Open Centered with Stillwater Plum, John and Joanna also struck blue with Col, Alpen Diamond and Nx, Valley Porcupine, whose involute petals resembled barley buds!



To accumulate Open Sweepstakes, Kevin and Karen scored with Largest, Emory Paul; Flower of the year, Bode; Best Large,



Edna C; and a wonderful bubble gum pink WL x5 Carmen Bunky. (Must have it next year!) Our Lou Paradise buried himself with ribbons: BB Dark Horse; P, Hallmark; Min, Pink Paradise; Bi Color with a new seedling; O, Marie Schnugg; variegated, Shea's Rainbow; Third Year Seedling; and x5 colors.

SAN LEANDRO continued:



Roy Stier should now be called Mr. Big—so many BIG, Beautiful, spectacular, breathtaking blooms including 5 monstrous Zorros. Magnificent Roy and Bette's Amateur Sweepstakes included: AA, Zorro;

A, Spartacus; nxo Betty Boop (of course!); Flower of the Year, Bode; BOTH Best x3 AND x5 Colwood Hope; and gilding his dahlia triumph, People's Choice with yet another gargantuan Spartacus. Wow!



TOO COOL TO DROOL FOR:

Speaking of humongous, Kevin and Karen displayed the biggest waterlilies I've ever seen, Lirio Dorado. Their Suncatcher certainly proved an eye catcher. Adding to my covet list are their Night Hawk and Jet Fire and a new swirly seedling.



Look closely at this picture of 3 Jessicas. Can you tell which was grown in a hot San Jose climate? Which in a foggy San Francisco zone and which in a moderate in-between area? (L-R, mid, hot, sf)



John Morton displayed a flashy x3 peony, Stillwater Razberry as well as a charming collarette, Alpen Diamond. Besides new seedlings, Lou afforded our first sighting of Hollyhill

Noting differences in growing conditions was even more apparent with the bevy of Bodes in Flower of the Year category. Remember, short of flying a shade cloth canopy, you can erect mini shelters



Black Widow, darkly lethal. Always smitten with flashy flowers, Dn3 Creekside Volcanoes. Explosive.



by installing an umbrella over a great bloom to hold it in better shape for an upcoming show.



HERE COMES DA JUDGE:

On August 8th John and JoAnna Morton once again were the perfect hosts for the judging seminar. Thirty-one people were in attendance, ranging from senior judges to first timers. Everyone was there to learn and share their knowledge.

Lou Paradise single-handedly conducted the day's activities and covered the steps one needs to take in order to become a judge as well as explaining various aspects of dahlia blooms and how they are classified.

Lou walked from one end to the other of the class as he would make his points by either carrying a bloom or petal from a bloom. He reviewed several terms that are important to properly classify a dahlia. Do they: *Revolute* (roll backward along their length) or *involute* (curve upward toward the face of the bloom). Are they: *Incurved* (curves at the tip and along its partial length toward a bloom's center) or *recurve* (curves away from the center along its length toward the stem).



The petals are the proof of the pudding.

The concluding element was when two groups were formed and seedlings were staged and scored. This put what we had learned into action and gave everyone a greater respect for judging as there is more to it than meets the eye. No doubt those who

were already accredited or senior judges found the seminar to be a terrific review of information and materials.



Story and photos by DJ



NOVICES CHALLENGE DINGWALL JUDGES:

Congratulations to all the novices who mastered the new 4-digit ADS classification numbering system and staged excellent dahlias. Ron and Joann awarded many blue and red ribbons across the 18 categories and Tinnee doled out pri\$e\$. Ultimately, from amongst many contenders, Lou's stunning stellar, Camano Pet, prevailed to cash in on Best in Show. Well done!



photos for Novice Only Mini Show by Guichan

PARK PICNIC:

Erik announced that the annual Dahlia Society of California Potluck Picnic will be Saturday, September 12, from 1-5 PM. Morning volunteers to help in the garden, set up the tables, pin on the table cloths, set aside parking spaces with orange cones, and hang signs would be Oh SO welcome after 9 AM. Likewise, we would appreciate happy revelers to help take down our party after 5 PM. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends and relatives to come see growing dahlias, choose their favorites to buy at the tuber sale next spring, meet bloomerati from other societies, and mingle. Please bring a dish to share with the multitudes. We may try a seedling judging session, as well. This is a KID FRIENDLY event with a clown, a face painter, and fire-fighters with a REAL fire truck enlivening our gala.

SUMPTUOUS SEPTEMBER:

This is as good as it gets so share the beauty: Throw a garden viewing party, invite yourselves to other gardens, bring blooms to our mini show, lavish dahlias on libraries, hospitals, post offices, banks, and any place you think needs cheering up. In the garden, give all your beauties one more dose of fertilizer. A bit of spinosad would keep the caterpillar depredation to a minimum. Has mildew begun to powder your leaves with unwanted white stuff? A drastic measure to get another 2 months blooms is to strip off ALL the mildewed leaves. Spray with a fungicide every 5 days until you have sprayed four times. Promise that next year you will begin spraying with fungicide BEFORE you ever see mildew! A prophylactic approach to mildew, snails, earwigs, caterpillars or spider mites makes for far less severe problems. Check your bloom against the ADS Classification Book name and colors. This is the last chance to identify for sure which cultivars you are growing. If you are unsure, bring a bloom to our September meeting and ask the experts. Continue to clean out the bottoms of your clumps to limit your stalks to one or two for the large and 2-4 MAX for the small. Some of these lower shoots can be sprouted in 4"x4" containers and stored as pot roots for next season. Continue dahlia bondage; a sudden gust could disgust you. Take some pictures to remind yourself in the mud months what the names look like. Look around for a few pix for the ADS Photo Contest—all of which must be submitted in digital form this year. Take notes about the heights and widths of the cultivars you plan to replant next season so you know how to maximize their "happiness."

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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