

2019 Officers

Co-Presidents:
Roger & Colin Walker

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Rosemary Freeman
(not President Elect)

Secretary:
Don Coombs

Treasurer:
Brad Freeman

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Colin McMullin
Lani Talbot
Anne Maria Jacobson
Dave Blackmer

NW Federation**Rep**

Anne Maria Jacobson



Photo of one of last year's February Work Parties. This year they are on Saturdays from 9-12 and from 12-3.

You get one free tuber for each shift, and early admission to our *member sale* March 21. Save the dates:

February 2
February 9
February 16
February 23 (if needed)

The work parties are a lot of fun. Come join us at one of the above dates .

PSDA Newsletter

January 10 , 2019

"Grow Dahlias"

Julie & Art Chmura, Editors

www.pugetsounddahlias.org

Thursday January 17—PSDA Meeting

Location: Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main St
Bellevue, WA 98005

Time: 7:00 pm—chit chat and nibbles
7:30 pm—Regular PSDA November meeting begins

Program: Colin Walker takes pictures of virtually every new variety being exhibited on the ADS bench and in the Tacoma Trial Garden. He will present pictures of the best new Northwest varieties being introduced in 2019. Bring a pencil and take notes.

Culture: Brad Freeman and Roger Walker will talk about getting ready to take dahlia cuttings. Yes, you can grow dahlias from cuttings as well as from tubers. Cuttings are started "on the bench" about the first of February. We will show you how to get started—and discuss why we take cuttings.

Challenge Flower: Each year we choose one bloom to be the "challenge flower" at our show. A \$10 entry fee is required to enter the class, but all funds are distributed as prizes. This year's challenge flower is Carmen Bunky, a beautiful dark pink waterlily introduced by John and Carmen Sullivan. We encourage you to grow this flower and enter the competition. More information will be available in future bulletins. And if you don't have stock of Carmen Bunky, plants will be available at the meeting.

Tuber Sale: If you have tubers for the PSDA tuber sale you can bring them to the PSDA meeting on the 1/17, or the 2/17 meeting in Kenmore or to the 'Tuber Palace' on designated days.

Dahlias in January

If you are like most of us, you have your Dahlia Tubers sleeping in storage. If you have not yet checked them in storage, you should since there may be some tubers that have developed rot which can spread to the good ones.

While checking, you can pull out tubers that you have surplus and donate them to the PSDA tuber sale, our main source of club funding. It is easy to do. If you saved them as clumps, you should check to make sure they are not shriveling up. The winter has been mild, so those left in the garden should be ok if you have protected them from the rainwater. Pick a dry day and check one or two, divide them and donate some to the sale.

Treats for January 17th

Those of you with names from A—M are up for treats. Bring enough for 20-25 people. Cookies, candy, cake, etc. or Pizza anybody?



Obituary—Ruth Surber

We were notified recently about the passing of one of the club's long time members, Ruth Surber.

Ruth and her husband Bob were the driving force behind many innovations still used by PSDA. They also mentored many of our current members.

Ruth offered her home to many board meetings as well as storing tubers in her basement.

She will be missed.

Have you Paid your PSDA 2019 Dues?

President's Message

We have turned the corner and the days are getting longer; our thoughts can finally turn to growing dahlias again. Roger just hauled out the plywood for the propagating shelves and is ready to hang the shop lights and get cuttings started. Granddaughters Annie and Aria will help with the assembly.

We hope you plan to sell your spare tubers to PSDA this year for our annual tuber sale. If you have never done this, please consider it. You can help out your club while making a few bucks to offset the cost of those new tubers you plan to purchase. It is a win/win. The Tuber information data with all the details is attached to this newsletter. Please plan to help with the fun-filled tuber packing "parties" held at the world famous 'Tuber Palace' in Bothell.

Your trusty co-presidents are up to their ears in *Dahlias of Today 2019*. Roger has edited every article and Colin is busy with layout. This will be a great issue, chockful of wonderful color photography and useful articles. It is heading off to the printer now and will be available at the February meeting. Copies of the new issue are included free with your PSDA membership.

We'll see you at the January meeting at Bellevue Botanical Garden.

Colin and Roger Walker



NW Flower & Garden Festival February 20—24

The Northwest Flower & Garden Festival takes place in Seattle at the WA State Convention Center. PSDA will have an educational booth on each of the five days and needs volunteers to man the booth in 3 hour shifts.

You get free admission (regular admission is \$24 at the door) and spend a delightful three hours talking to people about your favorite flower. This year Martin would like to invite dahlia lovers from all Federation member groups to participate in staffing the show.

There is more information on seminars, exhibits and shopping at www.gardenshow.com. This event is always a great way to break up a dull gray winter. Let the sights and floral designs awaken your gardening instincts.

Instructions on booth staffing are provided. No selling is involved; as an educational booth we can only solicit memberships in the PSDA.

Persons interested in volunteering should contact Martin Kral (206-546-9692 or email buessi@msn.com)

Please Note: Worldlink Internet Services is donating name hosting for Puget Sound Dahlia Association. Worldlink offers the following discounts to our members: Dialup Internet Access at \$15 per month, DSL at 15% off, all other Worldlink services at 10% off. Visit www.w-link.net or call 1-888-361-4638 for more information.