



THE FEDERATION
of Northwest Dahlia Growers
Established 1984

Newsletter

Spring 2025

FEDERATION GOVERNING BOARD

OFFICERS

President	Wayne Lobaugh
Vice President	Alli Richards
Secretary	Terry Schroeder
Treasurer	Rosemary Freeman
Past President	Dick Parshall
At Large	Art Wuerth Art Chmura

AFFILIATED SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

Evergreen State	Wayne Lobaugh
Inland Empire	Bob Eagle
Kitsap County	Paul Kusche
North Central	Linda Holmes-Cook
Puget Sound	Kathleen Hargrave
South Sound	Jim Culp
Southwest Idaho	Chris Samuelson
Snohomish Cty	Christine Tareen
Vancouver	Wally Kurth
Washington St	Bob Schroeder
Whatcom Cty.	Steve Boley

ASSOCIATE SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES

Portland	Teresa Bergman
Victoria	Marguerite Casey-Wolnicki

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Classification	Al Kaas
Dahlia Annual	Paul Kusche
Education	Colin Walker
Innovation	Anne Maria Jacobson
Judges Evaluation	Betty Girard
Judges Training	Roger Walker
Membership	Paul Kusche
Newsletter	Terry Schroeder

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 22 - Spring workshop, Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main St, Bellevue
- April 28 to May 3 - DLP online tuber sale
- June 7 - Summer Board Meeting - Zoom
- June 21 - Summer Workshop, PUD Electric Building, Everett, 10 am to 3 pm
- July 26 - Judge's training, Mt. Vernon Senior Center, Mt. Vernon
- July 26 - Judge's training, Agnus dei Lutheran Church, Gig Harbor
- August 2 & 3 - KCDS Dahlia Show, Silverdale
- August 9 & 10 - ESDA Dahlia Show, Lacey
- August 16 & 17 - SCDS Dahlia Show, Everett
- August 16 & 17 - VICT Dahlia Show, Victoria, BC
- August 23 & 24 - PSDA/SDS Dahlia Show, Shoreline
- August 30 & 31 - VDS Dahlia Show, Vancouver, BC
- August 30 & 31 - WSDS Dahlia Show, Tacoma
- September 6 & 7 - IEDS Dahlia Show, Spokane
- September 6 & 7 - PDS Dahlia Show, Portland, OR
- September 6 & 7 - SSDS Dahlia Show, Olympia
- September 6 & 7 - WCDS Dahlia Show, Bellingham
- September 13 - SWIDS Dahlia Show, Boise, ID
- September 18 to 22 - **ADS National Show**, Chicago, IL Chicago Botanic Garden, hosted by the Central States Dahlia Society
- September 20 - VDS One-Day Dahlia Show, Surrey, BC
- September 27 & 28 - NCWDS Dahlia Show, Wenatchee
- October 4 & 5 - PDS Dahlia Show, Portland, OR



OFFICERS' REPORTS

President's Report

Wayne Lobaugh

This year is an election year for the FNWDG officers. Dick Parshall has been appointed as the nomination committee chair. At this time, the only vacancy he is aware of is the president. Let Dick or Wayne know if you don't plan to continue in your current capacity. Voting for officers will take place at the annual meeting in October 2025.

Vice President's Report

Alli Richards

Hello from VP Alli Richards. I hope you are all excited for the auction at the spring workshop as well as the DLP online sale. Today's weather was a blast of spring and I can't wait to start planting the garden.

The ADS has their spring planning meeting scheduled for March 28 to 30 in New Mexico. I plan to be there representing our FNWDG. Our goal is to continue moving forward on the strategic plan approved in 2024. There are numerous projects in the works for the ADS. The largest one right now, in my opinion, is working to revamp the storage and processing of memberships while allowing for improved communication opportunities. This will be a multiphase project. The cut flower committee has been working on their first set of standards to allow clubs to start having cut flower classes in our shows if we choose. More training and judging modules are being worked on for this. Innovative things are to come for 2025 and beyond for the ADS. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with anything ADS related please let me know or reply to the email from President Mark Oldenkamp asking for help.

Have a wonderful 2025 and see you at the sales, shows, and workshops!

Treasurer's Report

Rosemary Freeman

At the end of December 2024, there was a total of \$34,947.28 in checking and savings, including the National show fund of \$13,879.03 and DLP fund of \$2,875.76.

As of February 15, 2025, we have \$37,405.85 in checking and savings. Of that, there is \$2,109.36 in the Dahlia Legacy Project fund, and \$13,895.04 in the National Show Fund.

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AFFILIATED & ASSOCIATED CLUB REPORTS

Evergreen State Dahlia Assn *Wayne Lobaugh*

They will have their show at the same location as last year. The judges training will not be able to be held at Gloria dei Lutheran Church in Olympia so they have been looking for a new location and have found one in Gig Harbor.

Inland Empire Dahlia Society *Claudia Biggs*

The Inland Empire Dahlia Society is off and running for 2025. They are looking forward to their three tuber sales this spring and their interstate fair show in September. They are having their first annual IEDS seedling challenge contest, from double and single parents. They will be germinated and potted around late March and available for members to take home on two dates, our tuber auction in April or our May meeting. There will be prizes for the prettiest and the ugliest seedling. It should be lots of fun and educational, too. Bob Eagle will be their Federation Rep going forward.

Kitsap County Dahlia Society *Paul Kusche*

KCDS will have their online tuber sale for the public on April 21 starting at noon. .

North Central WA Dahlia Society

Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook

NCWDS had a small pop-up dahlia photo show at Pybus on February 7 with 40 photos taken by society members. The goal was to raise everyone's spirits on the cold, dark days of winter and they accomplished that. On April 15, they will have Dahlias 101 to the community through Pybus University. They will have tuber sales on the last Saturday in April and the second Saturday in May. Their member tuber auction will be March 20. They are excited about their arrangement class, "OK Boomer;" be sure to check it out.

Portland Dahlia Society *Teresa Bergman*

PSDA's meeting and show location, Oaks Park Dance Pavilion is being remodeled so they are meeting at Master Park Hall. Their first meeting at Oaks Park will be July 8. April 8, from 6 pm to 9 pm is their member only in person auction and tuber sale. On April 19 & 20 is the member only online starting at 9 am. May 3 & 4 is their online public sale starting at 9 am. May 13 is their last members only auction tuber sale for pot tubers. October 6 & 7 will be their show. Their flower of the year will be Hollyhill Gordon, B-ID-L, in memory of Gordon Jackman. They continue to host Dahlia Talk on the last Tuesday of the month

from 7 pm to 9 pm. In February, Ted Kennedy will do a presentation on fertilizer followed by a discussion of seedlings. .

Puget Sound Dahlia Association

Kathleen Hargrave

PSDA has completed the *Dahlias of Today*, which was mailed to PSDA members on February 14. Societies or individuals can purchase copies by going to the [PSDA online store](#). Their challenge flower for their 2025 show will be Sandia Bertha for a \$10 entry fee with four places where money can be won. Their tuber pack party will be February 20 at Bellevue Botanical Garden, with dinner provided. At the tuber pack, they will be revealing their photo contest winners and will be posting the winning photos on their new website the following week. Their member-only tuber sale will be March 20 at Bellevue Botanic Garden from 6 pm to 8:30 pm. On March 21 & 22, they will have their public sale from 10 am to 2 pm. PSDA has a new logo, has new merchandise available and is encouraging members to take on more active roles.

Snohomish Cty Dahlia Scty

Christine Taren

SCDS has chosen Bull's Blood to be their challenge flower for 2025. On April 10th they will have their club tuber sale and auction. On April 12th they will have their public sale and on April 26th their plant and tuber sale at Stocker Farms.

South Sound Dahlia Society *Jim Culp*

The SSSDS tuber sale will be April 26, 9:30 am to 1:30 pm, at the Olympia Center, downtown Olympia. The SSSDS show is scheduled for the weekend after Labor Day, as mandated by Lewie Bloom for 45 years. This year the show will be September 5 and 6 at the Capital Mall. Their challenge flower is Chilson's Pride.

Southwest Idaho Dahlia Society

Chris Samuelson

Southwest Idaho Dahlia Society has added a photography section to their show. Their challenge flower is River's Yellow Snow. Their online tuber sale will be April 28.



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OFFICER'S REPORTS

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Past President Dick Parshall

Dick Parshall has been appointed chair for the nomination committee. At this time, the only position that is known to be vacant is the president. If you know of someone you think would be good or if you would be interested, let Dick know via email or phone. He also will be looking for other committee members to be involved. Voting will take place at the annual meeting in the fall and will take office in January 2026.

At Large Report Art Chmura

The dahlia display at the WA State Fair did well in 2024. The judges who judged there reported there were a lot of entries in all categories.

At Large Report Art Wuerth

Art will again do the invitations to judges and clerks for all Federation shows in late June or early July.



Spring Workshop
Will be held on
March 22, 2025
Bellevue Botanical Garden
12001 Main Street, Bellevue

CLUB REPORTS

(Continued from page 3)

Vancouver Dahlia Society Wally Kurth

Peter Krueger continues to be the VDS president. Their tuber sale will be April 6th starting at 10 am at Van Dusen Gardens. Their annual two-day show will be August 30 and 31 at Van Dusen Gardens. They will have a second one-day show in South Surrey on September 20 at West Coast Gardens. Their meetings continue to be at the Unitarian Church in Vancouver.

Victoria Dahlia Society Marguerite Casey-Wolnicki

Hello from Victoria, Vancouver Island, Canada !! As I write this we are preparing for our first general meeting, February 6th. We meet regularly the first Thursday of each month from February to November. We are starting to plan for our Learning Garden, many thanks to Emily and her garden committee. The on-line sales seem to get earlier and earlier each year and unicorns are hotly sought after!! We are excited to plant our Learning Garden the end of April with all our treasured dahlia tubers. On April 12th, Eileen will lead the charge for our annual tuber, plant and cutting sale. We will hold a "members only" sale before we open it to the general public. This event is very popular with long line-ups of people waiting to purchase tubers of dahlias they saw at last year's dahlia show. At the end of July we will hold our annual club BBQ, led by Thomas and his crew. Always so lucky to have it at the beautiful Starling Lane Vineyard, many thanks to Jackie and John. Exciting news, this year we will be hosting the PNDC 2025 Conference Show. Connie and her team have started preparing for this wonderful event to be held at the Prospect Lake Community Hall on August 16 & 17th followed by our annual garden tour on the 18th. More information and details will be sent out in the next few months in preparation for our USA judges and visitors. Check us out at <https://victoriadahliasociety.org/> or www.instagram.com/victoriadahliasociety/
 Victoria Dahlia Society Flowers of the Year for 2025 - Single Clearview Jonas (A SC LB)
 Triple – Kelsey Annie Joy (CO OR/DP)

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Classification Committee *Al Kaas*

Wayne Lobaugh reminded all that if you want something reclassified for the northwest supplement, it should go to the ADS classification committee first. If they find the classification is correct, then it can be sent to Al to determine whether it should be added to the northwest supplement. Contact Al at hunteral98815@gmail.com

Education *Colin Walker*

The spring workshop will be held at Bellevue Botanical Garden on March 22. In addition to an expert on soil and other programs, the annual tuber auction will be held that day. Bring cash, checkbook, or credit cards to purchase the tubers you want. The PSDA tuber sale will be held onsite that day as well.

The summer workshop will be held on June 21 from 10 am to 3 pm in north Everett at PUD's electric building on California.

Innovation *Anne Maria Jacobson*

There have been donations coming in that reflect a commitment to the DLP. Instagram is going great; we are letting the whole social media world know about the Federation – our hybridizers, our trial garden, our clubs. We will hit 1,000 followers soon, which will be acknowledged with a prize. We will have a once-in-a-decade fundraising tuber sale on April 28th. The focus is to get our local societies and local hybridizers to contribute to this effort as this is supporting all of the clubs and hybridizers. With the funds from this tuber sale, they plan to activate their search feature and be able to link and highlight articles from past issues of *Dahlias of Today*.

There is an interest as to how the Federation may be able to support the cut flower growers. People are interested in how we share more information about cut flowers and how do we more intentionally engage cut flowers. Could there be a section in the trial garden, could there be a section in shows? What is the difference between a cut flower and an exhibition bloom? Are there any ideas on how the Federation can support the cut flower trade for dahlias. Wayne Lobaugh stated one thing cut flower growers are asking about is how to run their businesses and we might be able to have someone speak at one of our workshops. The ADS is putting together information about having a dahlia market bunch category for shows.

Anne Maria received a request from a family member of Alvin Thomas Harris who was a hybridizer who was active in Puyallup. He started in the 1970s and grew dahlias through 2010 and passed away in 2021. His family would like to know the dahlias he introduced and if there is any way to get hold of any. If anyone has information about Mr. Harris, let Anne Maria know.

Judges Evaluation *Betty Girard*

For the 2024 season, Betty had twelve persons who did not send in their judging reports; she would like to decrease that number to none. There has been a lot of confusion in the number of seedlings to be judged and the difference between judging in a trial garden or on the seedling bench. There are requirements both for judges who are advancing as well as judges maintaining their status as an accredited or senior judge. There were some changes made to these requirements at the winter board meeting. They will be included in the 2025 Dahlia Annual as well as discussed at the judges training classes in July. Please read over the requirements and feel free to ask questions if you aren't sure what the requirement is for your level of judging.

Judges Training *Roger Walker*

Federation 2025 judges training classes will be in different locations this year. The north classes will be held at the Mt. Vernon Senior Center in Mt. Vernon. The north classes will be taught by Wally Kurth and Alli Richards – candidate, Brad and Rosemary Freeman and Betty Girard – accredited, Roger Walker and Annie Walker – senior. The south classes will be held at Agnus dei Lutheran Church in Gig Harbor. The south classes will be taught by Wayne Lobaugh and Rae Ann Lobaugh – candidate, Karen Sanchez, and Art Chmura – accredited, Colin Walker – senior. Both classes will be held on July 26. Al Kaas will be teaching in Boise, ID on July 19.

Membership *Paul Kusche*

We have a total of 351 members to date, up 20 from a year ago. In October 2024, we ended with 358. Of the 351 members we have, there are 66 new members and 82 memberships that have not been renewed.

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AFFILIATED & ASSOCIATED CLUB REPORTS

(Continued from page 4)

WA State Dahlia Society Bob Schroeder

They have a new venue for their show, Waller Road Grange in Tacoma. They have new officers with Lynn Sperring as president, Eli Olson as 1st VP, Pete Hayward as 2nd VP, Stephanie Pratt as secretary and Pete Hayward as treasurer. Their first tuber sale is at Portland Avenue Nursery on March 22.

There is still space in the trial garden. Please encourage members to put entries in the trial garden. We would hate to lose the garden due to consistently having a low number of entries. At this time, there are reservations for thirty-five entries and they would like to see at least forty to fifty entries.

Whatcom Cty Dahlia Scty Steve Boley

Whatcom County Dahlia Society will hold their tuber sales and show at Bloedel Donovan Park. Last year, they had a table show for novice exhibitors or those who had never shown. The biggest winner was a junior exhibitor, Penny Lingbloom.



Picture by Allison Lingbloom,
WCDS
Class 5 - 3rd Place
2024 ADS Photo Contest

COMMITTEE REPORTS

(Continued from page 5)

Federation Annual Paul Kusche

The 2025 *Dahlia Annual* is at the printer; this year it will be about 138 pages and will be ready for pick up at the spring workshop.

Newsletter Terry Schroeder

The next deadline for information for the newsletter will be **May 31** so the summer newsletter can be completed by June 5.

Trial Garden Terry Schroeder

There is still space in the Pacific NW Trial Garden in Tacoma for the 2025 season. Let Terry know the number of varieties you would like to enter in the trial garden for 2025.



Pacific Northwest Trial Garden
Point Defiance Park, Tacoma
Picture by Don Filand

OTHER INFORMATION

Honorary Judges

Dick Williams and Mike Paulus are now honorary senior judges.

2024 National Show

The 2024 national show held in Wenatchee, WA was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this show possible. More people attended the show than was expected. When it was decided for the Federation to host the national show in Wenatchee, there was concern that there would be some from out of the area who wouldn't want to travel to Wenatchee but that wasn't the case.

Judging Requirements

The knowledge and use of the current ADS scorecards is imperative for all accredited and senior judges. Therefore, accredited, and senior judges must judge a minimum of eight dahlias at a trial garden or in an ADS bench evaluation competition every other year. Accredited or senior judges who are unable to meet any of the options outlined should contact the Federation judging chair. In extraordinary circumstances when ADS judging in shows or trial gardens is not practical, the requirements may be met as follows.

Option 1) A garden of a society member may be used for garden scoring experience under the supervision of a senior judge. Two or more cultivars of the same variety, grown side by side can be scored using the current ADS scorecard providing there are six to eight blooms. The scorecards must be signed by the supervising senior judge and then submitted to the federation judging chair.

Option 2) Using the current ADS scorecard, cultivars set up as seedling entries at an ADS affiliated show, training class, or seminar can be judged under the supervision of a senior judge. The scorecards must be signed by the supervising senior judge and then submitted to the federation judging chair.

Clerks

Clerks who do not intend to move into judging will be identified as Clerk-P in the *Dahlia Annual*.

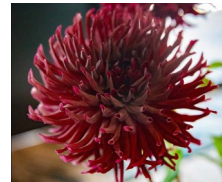
2025 National Show

For the 2025 national show, you can reserve your hotel room now at the Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel in Northbrook, IL. Rooms are \$115 plus tax per night. [Book using the group rate](#) for the 2025 ADS National Show. Learn more about the hotel (part of the Marriott family) and its amenities [here](#). Here is a link for information on the 2025 national show. [2025 National Show](#)

Dahlia of the Year

The Dahlia of the Year for 2027 was chosen to be Bull's Blood, originated by Walt Jacenko.

For 2025, the Dahlia of the Year is Skipley TNT Ball and for 2026 it is Sandia Bertha.



Bull's Blood
Federation Dahlia
of the Year, 2027



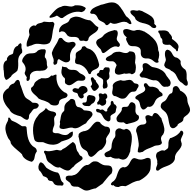
Skipley TNT Ball
Federation Dahlia
of the Year, 2025



Sandia Bertha
Federation Dahlia
of the Year, 2026

Cut Flowers

The ADS has made a cut flower class for showing, called a Cut Flower Bunch. They have put out a score sheet and the purpose for it. By May, they hope to have a power point that can be used for training. It is optional for any society that would like to add it to their show schedule. There is information on the ADS website, which will be updated soon. Wayne Lobaugh is on the cut flower committee and is willing to help any society that would like to include it in their show. See ADS information here, [Dahlias as Cut Flowers](#)



Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers

Newsletter

Spring 2025



Federation Website: www.nwdahlia.org

Federation Objectives

1. *To provide an organization of dahlia societies and common goals for Northwest dahlia hobbyists who grow and exhibit dahlias.*
2. *To provide leadership in dahlia culture and improve, through experiments and research, the quality of exhibition, garden, and cut flower cultivators.*
3. *To educate and train dahlia judges through field experiences and workshops.*
4. *To support a trial garden with financial assistance and expertise.*
5. *To promote inter-society communication by proposing solutions for common problems.*
6. *To provide yearly publications dedicated to the latest advances in dahlia culture and dahlia news around the world.*
7. *To encourage the free exchange of new ideas and methods concerning dahlias and support such innovation as merited.*