

Gordon Leroux
2015 Inductee
Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers Hall of Fame

The Snohomish County Dahlia Society nominates Gordon Leroux for inclusion into the Federation Hall of Fame. The selection of Gordie as a member is long overdue. Gordie was a scion of dahlia growing in the Pacific Northwest for over twenty-five years, and much of that time was during the formative years of the Federation. He was a competitive exhibitor, a world renowned hybridizer, an enthusiastic teacher, and a strong leader within our hobby.

As an exhibitor, Gordie was hard to beat. His blooms were consistently head table quality and he garnered numerous Best-in-Show awards. He is nearly unsurpassed throughout the world as a hybridizer. The Kenora moniker is famous worldwide and is still highly regarded among growers. Gordie loved to share his knowledge and help fledgling novices expand their dahlia-growing capabilities. He was certainly one of our most important mentors. His most important advice was to always chose quality over quantity when introducing new varieties.

Finally, as a leader Gordie was instrumental in revitalizing the Snohomish County Dahlia Society in the late 70s and early 80s, acting as president for a number of years. Though he didn't take an active role in the Federation leadership during its early years because of poor health, he and Jeannie opened their home for many Federation board meetings. Gordie's impact on Northwest dahlia growing was truly remarkable and many of us were influenced by his legacy.