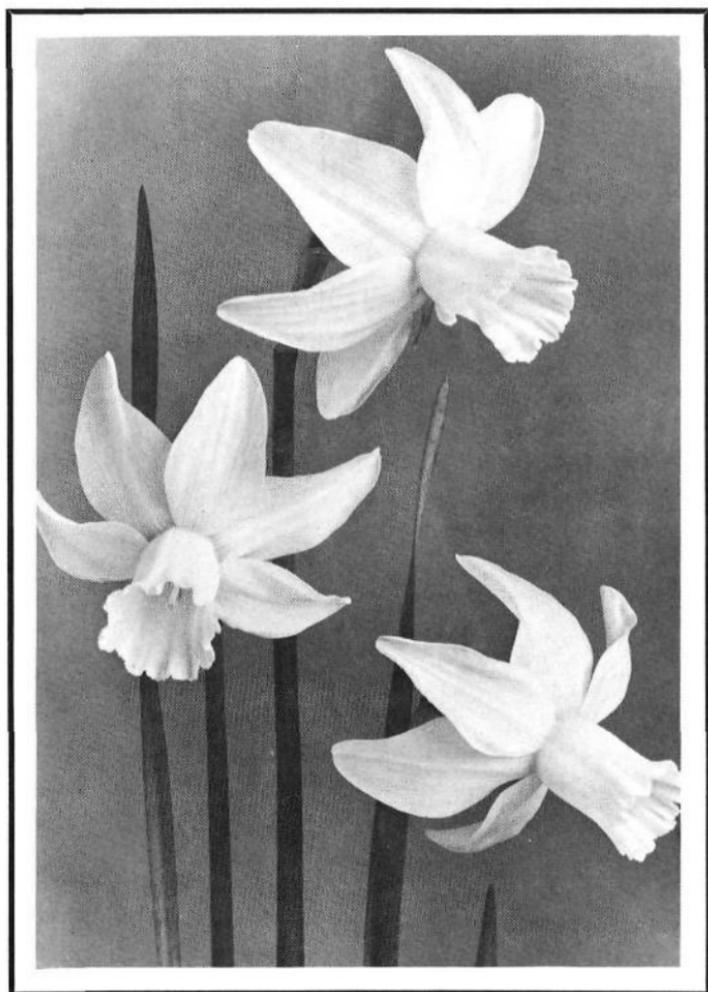


The

DAFFODIL

J
O
U
R
N
A
L



Quarterly Publication of the
AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, Inc.

Vol. III, No. 3

March, 1967

The DAFFODIL JOURNAL

Quarterly Publication of the American Daffodil Society, Inc.

Volume III

Number 3

MARCH, 1967

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

WILLIAM G. PANNILL, *President*

P. O. Box 31, Martinsville, Va. 24112

DR. TOM D. THROCKMORTON, *First Vice President*

1407 Woodland Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50309

MRS. JOHN CAPEN, *Second Vice President*

Kingsland Rd., Rt. 3, Box 215, Boonton, N. J. 07005

MRS. E. E. LAWLER, JR., *Secretary*

Box 327, Alexandria, Va. 22313

MRS. GROVER F. ROENNFELDT, *Treasurer*

1120 Craig Road, Creve Coeur, Mo. 63141

For the complete current roster of Officers, Directors and chairmen of committees reference should be made to the American Daffodil Society JOURNAL for June, 1966.

Executive Director — GEORGE S. LEE, Jr.

89 Chichester Road

New Canaan, Conn. 06840

All correspondence regarding memberships, change of address, receipt of publications, supplies, ADS records and other business matters should be addressed to the Executive Director.

THE DAFFODIL JOURNAL is published quarterly (March, June, September and December) by the American Daffodil Society, Inc., 89 Chichester Road, New Canaan, Conn. 06840. Application to mail at second-class rates is pending at New Canaan, Conn. Subscription price (including membership) is \$5.00 per year, \$12.50 for three years. Single copies of current or back numbers are \$1.00 to members, \$1.50 to non-members.

Editor

MRS. HOWARD B. BLOOMER, JR.

11111 Gunston Road

Lorton, Va. 22079

Chairman of Publications

WILLIS H. WHEELER

3171 North Quincy St.

Arlington, Va. 22207

Articles and photographs (glossy finish) on daffodil culture and related subjects are invited from members of the Society. Manuscripts should be typewritten double-spaced, and all material should be addressed to the Editor.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE APRIL 15, 1967.

SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

The Dues Year Is January 1 Through December 31

Individual Annual \$5 a year or \$12.50 for three years.

Family Annual \$7.50 per year for husband and wife,
or \$18.75 for three years, with one copy of the JOURNAL.

Individual Sustaining Member \$7.50 per year.

Individual Contributing Member \$10 or more per year.

Commercial Memberships are three times the foregoing amounts.

ON THE COVER

is Jenny, a 6a (Mitylene x *N. cyclamineus*) raised by C. F. Coleman of Cranbrook, Kent, England. It was introduced in 1943 and named for Mr. Coleman's mother. (Photo by J. E. Downward of Woodford Green, Essex, England.)

FOLLOWING PETER BARR IN HIS HUNT FOR DAFFODILS

By TOM D. THROCKMORTON, M.D., *Des Moines, Iowa*

“Sent José to the place, but the farmers would only let him dig up a few bulbs. (These proved to be smallish trumpets, white tinged-sulphur, of *Pallidus praecox* style). Along with Mr. Olay and his friend, went in search of *Narcissus* and found a few in a meadow, and collected a few more bulbs. Along the river Gafa, a small turn close to Oviedo, in a small coppice we found a lot of *Narcissus Ajax* out of bloom. Returned to a cider cellar and refreshed ourselves. In Oviedo we saw a public building where infants are taken in and reared. This was an old nunnery until, with others, it was suppressed. The baby is deposited from the outside in a round cage which is then turned around and a person inside receives it, when a wet-nurse takes it in charge and acts the part of mother. At 8:00 p.m. we all went and supped, and a very fine supper it was. Good fish and mutton well cooked, cheese, four sorts of Asturian and Leon wine: total charge 3 douros (15 pesetas.)”.

Thus wrote Peter Barr on April 26, 1887.

I have spent a fascinating summer re-living the experiences of a great plant hunter; I have read season-by-season descriptions of the gardens of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, and enjoyed their seedlings as they bloomed; I have worked for 20 years with the late W. O. Backhouse in developing his first red trumpet daffodil; I have broken the code the late George Johnstone applied to his seedlings, and I helped him care for the bombed-out families of southern England during World War II; and I have helped the late Mrs. Doris Long operate the Trenowith Valley Farms, a large commercial bulb operation in southern England, with ties to the Scilly Isles.

You see, through the thoughtful kindness of Matthew Zandbergen of Sassenheim, Holland, I have had access to the garden or travel journals of these people. How delightful it has been to peer into the minds of these daffodil lovers; to wonder, worry, fret, plan, and succeed with them. And to read between the lines: how descriptive is the single word “Burnt”, when written large in pencil across the description of a small clone of seedling daffodils.

I would like to share some of these experiences with you and I believe you, too, will find them of interest. There is no stage like daily life, no actor like a confirmed gardener, and no plot quite like addiction to daffodils.

On this occasion let me bring to you excerpts from two Journals of

Peter Barr, as he sought and collected daffodils in Portugal and Spain. These diaries were written in 1887 and 1892, well beyond Barr's sixtieth year. What kind of a man was he? A bearded figure with a strong personality and a broad Scottish accent that almost shaped the words as he penned them. Born in 1826, he founded Barr and Sugden in Covent Garden in 1861. Almost 50 years later he remembered Covent Garden as "a place where a few old women brought some marigolds and grandmother's flowers for sale".

His deepening interest in daffodils and spring gardening led to the nick-name "Daffodil King". Others, either in close friendship or distant jealousy, called him "Peter the Great". After rescuing the daffodil from obscurity, Peter Barr hunted the flower into its very birthplace, where he collected, categorized, and catalogued. An anecdote published in an *RHS Daffodil and Tulip Year Book* draws the broad outlines of this almost legendary figure: "On one occasion Peter Barr was traveling in Spain and stayed the night at an inn; there was only one room available, in which there were two beds, and he found he was to be charged for this as a double bed in spite of his protests; the Scottish nature no doubt came out when he spent half the night in one bed, and half in the other." Excerpts from his diaries, on which I have exerted some editorial prerogative, fill in the details of a plant hunter eighty years ago.

As Peter Barr wrote:

"Went on board the S.S. Carthage and was in the Channel by evening.

"In the Bay of Biscay. In bed all day, feeling ill but not sick! Most passengers ill. Gained a little strength and was able to take an airing". (Ed. — I know just what he means.)

"By steamer to the 'Green Island' of Moors, a Spanish fortification. The oranges here are very unlike those we get in London, almost melting in one's mouth and quite sweet. One of the remarkable houses I entered had a double row of columns, clean and whitewashed; no furniture, the family squatting on the floor around a fire in the corner. The houses are beautifully cleaned and whitewashed. One wonders how these people live. The men, in groups, were playing cards under the castle wall. The boys and girls followed the visitors, while the women-folk appeared to be doing nothing — yet the houses were all clean, inside and out; all doors open and inviting inspection. Outside the town was the Bull Ring.

"Left Gibraltar for Tangiers. An east wind had been blowing and the apes had been seen on the N.W. side of the rock. Above this point, the barracks are situated. The large guns were in practice this day. The steamer to Tangiers is small but strong, doing duty as passenger boat or tug as circumstances required. Visited the marketplace,

abounding in donkeys, mules, and camels. Also huts in which the owners squatted, to rest for the night. After seeing the town, went out on a mule with Hadi Rifi and Mr. McLean on a botanical run. Saw white Tazzeta Narcissus out of flower. Rain came on, and for a time very violent, and it was very cold. On the abatement of the storm, we returned to the hotel.

"The Moors are mostly white, especially those who are indoors most of the time; others more exposed are tanned with sun and perhaps dirt. Women go about with their children fastened above their hips. They move much bent forward. Mr. McLean says the Moor is an immoral man and can put his wife away at any time. Should they come together again, a strange man must cohabit for one night with the woman, before she returns to her husband.

"Took boat to Cadiz and had a look around. Started for Jerez; saw the 'Twelve Apostles' (large sherry casks each containing the same quantity of sherry, 6,500 liters in all). And a very fine brown sherry. I also saw the Jubilee Cask of sherry made especially for Queen Victoria.

GEORGE LEE BECOMES FIRST EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ADS

The position of Executive Director of the American Daffodil Society, created by the Board of Directors at its October meeting last year, has been filled by George S. Lee, Jr., of New Canaan, Conn.

Mr. Lee, a charter member and past-president of the ADS, is a keen horticulturist of varied interests, and retired a couple of years ago from the Railway Express Agency's office in New York City.

The Board created the job of Executive Director in view of the steady increase in clerical details and correspondence which has accompanied the growth of the Society. As the first to fill the position, Mr. Lee will handle the keeping of membership records, mailing of publications and general notices to members, and all correspondence involving memberships, supplies, records, and business matters. Much detail formerly handled by the officers of the ADS will be centralized in the office of the Executive Director, with the purpose of giving individual members better service in their contacts with the organization. The director's salary has been set at \$100 per month.

Under Mr. Lee, the ADS executive office will be located in his home at 89 Chichester Road, New Canaan, Conn. 06840.

The brand she drinks, like Queen Isabella, is a blended sherry. Reached Seville the same night. Weather fine!

"Took train to El Cerro; was met by Alexander MacNabb, who conveyed me to the mines by special train. In loading up the copper, much of the carrying is done by women. One was pointed out to me who could carry about 18 tons a day and then spend the evening in dancing. In the valley of the mines, where sulphur fumes had not destroyed the vegetation, I saw growing yellow *Narcissus Corbularia*, the first I had met with.

"Started for Aguamonte, by train to Gibraltar; and was conveyed from the station to the town by omnibus, and then by coach with five light-aged horses with the usual old trappings and rope reins. The ride was a most pleasant one, cultivated fields bordering either side of the road. I saw many large cemented basins used for treading out the corn by oxes, instead of threshing it out as we do. So that here the operation may be seen as practiced in Palestine 2,000 years ago. Further along the road *Narcissus Corbularia* in the margin of cultivated land, sometimes intermingled with blue *Iris*. But the grand sight was the yellow *Corbularia* in a Pine wood; a mass of gold as far as the eye could reach. On the whole, the ride was one of the most agreeable I have had in a stage coach in Spain.

"Had a good look at the church and cathedral at Tejo. The Bishop was on his throne wearing his golden cap and surrounded with priests. The priest to give the sermon, after ascending the pulpit, first prayed bareheaded; then put on his cap and commenced his sermon which he gave *ex tempore* with a good flow of language. In the midst of the sermon he stopped for some time to leisurely spit and blow his nose. A feature of the churches in Tejo are the blue and white tiles depicting scriptural subjects. Have seen no *Narcissi* in Portugal except one or two between Villa Real and Tejo.

"Spent the whole day driving about in a coach to see more of Lisbon but not with marked success; indeed, I might call it a Don Quixote day. I saw what I did not ask to see, and did not see what I wanted to. Moral: know the language of the country you visit and have a guide who knows the language of the country and yours.

"Went some distance from Coimbra; to the south-east is a Pine wood in which grows *Narcissus Triandrus Concolor* var. Moller: clear, full yellow. Gathered about 250 and would have collected more but did not find the place until afternoon, so that only one hour could be devoted to collecting. The ride was most pleasant and extended to the Town. Opposite the Moorish castle was a chapel with some women about, one crawling on her knees doing penance. Mrs. Tait watched her progress with much interest and declared the knees must have been protected, as

she rose and descended with a great bundle on her head and walked as if her knees suffered no inconvenience.

"Left Oporto and reached Tuy in the afternoon. On entering one church I was arrested and had to go to the Alcade to obtain permission to go about town and visit churches. For the churches, he said, I must see the Dean. So, to him I went and obtained a permit. A peseta to the policeman secured him as a firm friend during our stay in town.

"Left Tuy for Lugo and stayed at Monforte for lunch. All along the line were yellow *Narc. bulbocodium* in the meadows. After leaving Monforte, about three miles on the right, saw one meadow with trumpet *Narcissi* and yellow *bulbocodium*. Returned back to Lugo.

"Made a visit to the churches, after passing an examination by the Governor of the town to make sure we were not anarchists. The cathedral is very fine; and impressive are the city walls from which fine views are to be had of the surrounding country. The town is still lighted by petroleum.

"John Mesa, the old gardener, and I went to Corrales, a rough place. Where we stayed the floor boards had never been swept or washed. John Mesa and I slept in one bed, the sheets of which were as white as snow, and the pillow cases bordered with lace. We returned to Coruna without doing any business.

"John Mesa, I, and Angelo (Ed. — The triandrus Angel's Tears was named for him) went to San Pedro de Nos Carballo. In a field on the right a few bulbs were found, but lower down on the right of the field any quantity were growing on cultivated land. This gets turned over each year and no doubt the bulbs will disappear in a few years. It is a variety of *Johnstoni*.

"Went on horseback to Trubia. The horse had four legs, but three of them were lame. That is, the two front legs had bad knee caps and the left hind leg seemed to have lumbago, so that the action was somewhat peculiar: a motion forward, backward, and sideways all at one time, so that I never knew whether I should fall off or go over the horse's head or tail. Fortunately I managed to stick on and so escaped biting the dust. After great exertions, we covered four miles in three hours. I noticed that I was an object of interest to all on the road, but did not know why. I had left the choice to Angel (my boy) and when I got to Trubia I understood the reason. I then saw the horse into a meadow. In the evening I trusted to my own legs and walked back to Torrelavega in less time than the horses had taken. Angel declared that his pace had improved since morning. Thus, another lesson was learned: Namely, to carefully examine a horse, donkey, or mule before mounting, thus escaping doing a bit of Don Quixote for the amusement of other people.

"Left Coruna for Santiago de Compostella at 12 noon in a conveyance drawn by eleven horses and mules: some two and others three abreast.

"Mr. Tait states that the potash contained in the gorse maintains the fertility of the land in Portugal, as it had done for centuries without rotation of crops. Seeing that *Narcissus Ajax* grows with the gorse, potash must be the food it uses. Where the soil is shallow, the bulbs bury themselves down, more or less, and are firm and large. When near the surface, they are soft, probably due to a lack of moisture at the roots.

"The *Narc. Corbularia* growing near the railway station have among them many of an orange colour, very fine, growing in sand or in sandy-loam, the richest coloured ones being among young pines.

"Left Oporto for Orense and reached Valencia do Minho between 3 and 4 o'clock P.M.; from thence to Tuy where luggage was examined. The train then proceeded to Calvario in Spain, where we waited three hours for a train to Orense which we reached about 10 p.m. The noise in the house was so great we could not get any sleep until after 12 o'clock. When the men and women had gone to bed, two cats commenced the fun and kept it up well through the night. Up at 6:30 a.m. and had a look at the river Minho, and decided to work for the day.

"The Rio Los Ponjos empties into the Minho. We followed this river up for some distance to the Rio de la Chimanea and found a large clump of *Narc. Ajax*; either bicolor or *Johnstoni*, which we at once bagged and made a vigorous search for more. The roots were growing 9 inches deep in a strong yellow loam in an oak wood, which gave shade in the summer.

"Packed bulbs for London: Boxes 1 and 2 contain bulbs from Santa Maria and Reza, about 2,500. Boxes 3 and 4 contain about 1,600 *Narc. Ajax* from the River Calvos, 700 *Ajax* from Allariz and 300 *Ajax* from Venta de Soto Penedo.

"Found two priests and about twenty nuns conducting a service. I enjoyed the day and returned home with our donkey.

"Left Ponferrada for Leon. Passed through tunnels into a fairly fertile compana; then through waste land with hills in the distance, covered with snow. Our guards were composed of a little man and a tall handsome powerfully built fellow, looking a typical brigand. Just before reaching Torio station, saw few white *Triandrus* on the right, growing on hard slate formation.

"Left Leon for Oviedo Santibanez. There, saw an old woman with house slippers and sabots, raising her about three inches off the ground. Immediately after leaving the station, saw a black-brown eagle. The meadows were now full of yellow *Corbularia*. The Asturian

Mountains have snow on them. We run alongside the river Orbiga for a short distance and pass an old aqueduct for carrying water over the river. We pass many villages with houses all crowded together. The mountain is called Nocedo, covered with snow in patches. The mountain scenery is now grand and snow is seen almost down to the railway line. A cloud of eagles appear like a flock of crows. Snow now everywhere, with clear air and bright sunshine. Villamanan . . . a group of villages with meadows of yellow *Corbularia*. The hillsides covered with black sheep, (white quite the exception). A further steep incline and we entered upon a bank and meadows covered with yellow *Corbularia*. Busdongo station, 11:50 a.m. The box where refreshments are sold called 'cantina'.

"At the hotel they baked my shoes in the oven and destroyed them.

"Went to Senor Ramoni's house and collected a few *Narcissi*, but it came on to rain and we had to leave off. The rest of the day was spent in saying goodbyes and purchasing a pair of wooden shoes.

"Today the landlord accompanied us by road and we visited the tunnels, one after another, but could not find the *Corbularia* and so returned to our lodgings to meet my numerous creditors who had collected *N. Corbularia* and crocuses. In the meantime José and the man went to look for more *N. Minimus*, and returned with a few in full flower. We returned to Leon and spent the Sunday visiting and seeing a procession taking the 'Mother of God' (a figure under a canopy of silver) home to her village, some miles distant. She had been brought to Leon to pray for rain, as there had been a great drought. Her visit was well timed, as on her arrival rain came and lasted for 9 days and she got the credit for it. Her church was crowded with worshippers, from morning to night! Her return was accompanied with large demonstrations, music, flags, etc. While at Leon, the Marques de Cervese was my guide and showed me much, providing also many introductions to bishops, priests, governor of the province, minister general of the forces, and many other illustrious persons.

"Collected *Narcissus* on tiny island in water (*N. Cyclamineus*) and slept on a bed of Indian Corn leaves at Senora Diez's being waited upon by her daughters, Aurora, and Felecia. Collected what appeared to be *Narc. Cyclamineus* and the girls confirmed this when I showed them a painting. They may be said to grow in water, and in England could safely be cultivated in semi-marsh land where in the summer they could be fairly dry. I found them growing in tree clumps, moss, etc., but the bulbs themselves were in loam. The brook where they are most abundant is near Diez's house.

"Started on horseback 5 a.m. and remained on its back as far as I could go. When the horse was done up, Posset and I started on foot

over the snow and reached the mountain ridge country between Spain and France. On descending had splendid views of valleys and mountain peaks. Further down we were challenged by soldiers who wished to know who I was. In the distance was a posse of soldiers awaiting our approach, so we got a public and military reception at Burgete. It had been reported that Torelle, a famous bandit, was about to enter Spain and I was suspected of being the man. The Commandant saluted and we entered the house to refresh ourselves. Shortly afterward the Commandant joined us, and Posset and he had a long discussion. We then had dinner, rested for some time, and then resumed our journey. I on a mule. The St. Lena Cascade and the Cascade de la Chella very grand. Leaving the village of Tolosa at our right, we reached a small hut and found a through of whey of which we drank freely. We then proceeded over a rough bridle path and it was astonishing how the mules ascended the stoney way and sharp inclines, and crossed rivers knee-deep among large boulders. The scenery in the Val D'Arras is grander and more wild than I have yet seen. The formation reminded one of the cathedrals and castles of Crystal.

"Up at 4 a.m. from our resting place under a ledge of rock. Had a little wine and bread and ascended to the Narcissus quarters. After a long and arduous trudge we came to the spot and found it cleared of Narcissi, 12,000 having been taken 2 days before. It appears that Celestin, Posset, and Pierre had had a commission. Very few remained, and these will be collected. At the base of Mount Perdu and Soum se Ramond, we found Narcissus Moschatus at 8 p.m. (Ed. — At this time P. B. was age 62.)

"N. Poeticus was in bloom, but N. Nobilis generally over, even at higher altitudes. At last, rain came down heavily and we beat a retreat, all getting very wet. We made for a Cabana where we sheltered and lit a fire. We explored the valleys, on the way down. A hunter informed us that there were Narcissus in the Pic d'Orhy valley, 8 hours distant.

"Started on horse about 6:30 a.m. from Lecumberri and ascended to about 1,600 meters with Raphael. I gathered a few Narcissi on the Spanish side and doubt not it abounds down the eastern slope in Spain.

"Left Bayonne for England; Bordeaux was all illuminated to commemorate the anniversary of the Republic.

"Sailed for England and arrived at London Docks on Monday morning, July 18, 1887, having been absent from home for five months."

Thus, Peter Barr, the Daffodil King, returned to his empire. And who would ginsay him the title then . . . or even now.

PHILADELPHIA AWAITS YOU

By NANCY TIMMS, *Chairman of Hospitality for 1967*

Welcome to Philadelphia, "Penn's Greene Country Towne"! We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the twelfth ADS Convention which will be held from Thursday, April 20, through Saturday, April 22, with a judging school for those interested on Sunday, the 23rd.

Convention headquarters will be at the Marriott Motor Hotel only minutes from the City Line exit of the Schuylkill Expressway; shuttle buses run frequently from the Philadelphia International Airport, and those coming by train can get a taxi from the Thirteenth Street Station to the Marriott. Bus 144 runs from the motel to the heart of the city, ending its run at Independence Hall and the historical Society Hill area: this trip is a mere twenty minutes. If you anticipate shopping or sightseeing do come very early, as we have any number of activities starting with the flower show which will be staged right in the motel. There is ample parking adjacent to the exhibition room, which should encourage all of you to bring as many of your very best blooms as possible.

Friday and Saturday will be devoted to visiting gardens, with lunch one day at the quaint Peddler's Village near New Hope. Stimulating programs have been planned for the evenings after our social hour and dinner, and we do hope that some of you will bring a few of your best and most interesting slides.

Harry Randall, a member of the *Daffodil and Tulip Year Book* committee of the Royal Horticultural Society, will be the speaker at the banquet Saturday evening. Mr. Randall is an enthusiastic amateur gardener who is especially interested in daffodils, iris and hemerocallis. He has served as president of the British Iris Society and has attended several of the conventions of the American Iris Society. This will be his first American Daffodil Society meeting.

Copies of the show schedule can be obtained from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, 325 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19106.

WHERE TO GO IN 1968

The 1968 ADS Convention will be held April 4, 5 and 6, 1968 in Portland, Oregon. The Sheraton-Motor Inn will be the headquarters for our meetings and preliminary plans call for an all-day visit and box lunch at Daffodil Haven, to see Grant Mitsch's beautiful new varieties and seedlings.

CHICHESTER ROAD CHECK-OFF

From the Typewriter of GEORGE S. LEE, JR., Executive Director

Due to dwindling stock and inability to secure additional copies, the offer of a free copy of the *Daffodil Handbook* to new members will be withdrawn effective April 1. New memberships bearing a postmark prior to that date will receive their copies. Any on hand after that will be available, preference being given to new members, at the regular price of \$3.50 in paper or \$4.50 bound in green cloth.

* * *

Possessors of the 1965 edition of the *Classified List and International Register of Daffodil Names* should note in their copies the official changes in classification:

Old	New	
3b	3c	Nevoise (Roblin, A. O.) Roblin, A. O., 1950
2b	1b	Rima (Mitsch, G. E.) Mitsch, G. E., 1954
6a	6b	Roger (Gray, A.) Gray, A., 1952

* * *

The rates for advertising in the JOURNAL were revised at a recent meeting of the Publications Committee. The back cover will be sold only as a full page at \$75.00 Other prices are:

Full inside page	\$50.00
One-half page	30.00
One-fourth page	20.00

* * *

When Walter Stagg of Broadleigh Gardens purchased the retail business of Alec Gray, he also acquired the remaining small stock of Gray's *Miniature Daffodils*. There is no prospect the book will be reprinted, and because his supply will satisfy the local demand for only the next two or three years, Mr. Stagg has been reluctant to part with any substantial number of copies. However, he has agreed to let us have a dozen copies which we will allot on a first-come-first-served basis. The price is \$3.00 postpaid. Only one to a customer, please.

* * *

Many of our members collect daffodil literature and as part of an expanding service to our members, the Executive Director plans to pick up out-of-print items as they come on the market and hold them for our members. These will nearly always be single copies, but if you are disappointed by a prior claimant, your order will be kept on file and you will be given refusal of the next copy to arrive. We are

asking dealers here and abroad to quote us on all daffodil publications which come their way and hope to satisfy all demands sooner or later. This is a service rather than an enterprise, and prices quoted will be only slightly above those which we must pay. Aside from Gray's book, the following are on hand at the moment:

RHS *Daffodil Year Book*. 1914. Quite rare. \$5.00.

RHS *Daffodil and Tulip Year Book*. 1947. \$3.50.

Daffodils, Narcissus, and How to Grow Them. A. M. Kirby. 1907. First American Book on daffodils. \$3.00.

The Romance of Daffodils. William C. Brumbach. 1959. Privately printed. \$2.00.

* * *

Practices of the Post Office Department are becoming increasingly rigid in regard to the addressing of bulk mail under second and third class permits. All such mail must now carry the zip code number and be bundled in three categories according to zip code sequence. Mail carrying what the local office considers to be an inadequate address is returned even when the local office knows the complete address and marks it on the returned copy. Thus a copy was recently returned because it failed to show "Rte. 2." Another was returned although the street address was correctly given but when, in fact, the member was receiving mail at a post office box. These difficulties cost time, money, and delay. Members are urged to assure themselves that their address is complete and contains no irrelevancies. "Lone Oak Farm" is no longer an acceptable substitute for "Rte. 3, Box 104."

DEBUTS FOR DAFFODILS

- March 15, 16 — Second Alabama Show at the Canterbury Methodist Church, Birmingham; information: Mrs. Raymond Roof, 2015 Lone Oak Rd., Paducah, Ky. 42001.
- March 16, 17 — House and Garden Club Show at the Macon Garden Center, 730 College St., Macon, Ga.; information: Mrs. T. D. Futch, Jr., 653 Wimbash Rd., Macon.
- March 18, 19 — Southern California Eleventh Annual Show in Descanso Gardens, La Canada; information: George H. Scott, 806 San Simeon Rd., Arcadia, Calif. 91006.
- March 18, 19 — Texas Daffodil Society and Dallas Council of Garden Clubs Show at the Dallas Garden Center, Dallas, Tex.; information: Mrs. Vernon E. Autry, 4360 Livingston St., Dallas 75205.
- March 23 — Mississippi State Show in Tunica; information: Mrs. Raymond Roof, 2015 Lone Oak Rd., Paducah, Ky. 42001.
- March 24 — Arkansas State Show by the Arkansas Daffodil Society in Hot Springs; information: Mrs. Jesse Cox, Rt. 3, Lakeside Dr., Hot Springs 71901.
- March 30, 31 — Georgia State by the Georgia Daffodil Society, the Atlanta Garden Center and affiliated clubs at Rich's Auditorium, Atlanta; information: Mrs. Charlotte Bagley, Box 4539, Atlanta.
- April 1, 2 — Tennessee State sponsored by the Memphis Garden Club at the Goldsmith Civic Garden Center, Audubon Park, Memphis; information: Mrs. James E. Stark, 387 Roseland Pl., Memphis 38111.
- April 1, 2 — Tidewater Virginia Fifth Show at Bethel School, Hampton, Va.; information: Miss Sarah Terry, 79 Oakville Rd., Hampton 23369.
- April 4, 5 — Lookout Mountain Show at Lookout Mountain Fairyland Club, Tenn.; information: Mrs. William S. McGinness, 108 Morrison St., Lookout Mountain, Tenn. 37350.
- April 6, 7 — Whispering Pines Garden Club Council at the Cobb County Center, Smyrna, Ga.; information: Mrs. R. E. McDaniel, 409 Wooddale, Smyrna.
- April 8, 9 — The Tennessee Regional Show in Nashville; information: Mrs. Raymond Roof, 2015 Lone Oak Rd., Paducah, Ky. 42001.
- April 8, 9 — Huntington Council of Garden Clubs 24th Show at the

Huntington Galleries, Huntington, W. Va.; information: Mrs. Larry Schavul, 55 S. Altamont Rd., Huntington 25701.

April 9,10 — Oklahoma State Show at Muskogee; information: Mrs. S. H. Keaton, 2427 Elgin Ave., Muskogee 74401.

April 14 — Kentucky Daffodil Show at Shelby County High School, Shelbyville; information: Mrs. Linnie Shaw, Pleasureville, Ky. 40057.

April 14 — The Mountain River Garden Club at the Covington Woman's Club, Covington, Va.; information: Mrs. Chester F. Kruszyna, Rt. 1, Box 332, Covington 24426.

April 15, 16 — Eighteenth National Capital Show by the Washington Daffodil Society at Woodward and Lothrop, Wheaton Plaza Shopping Center, Wheaton, Md.; information: Mrs. H. W. Harris, 414 Franklin St., Alexandria, Va. 22314.

April 19, 20 — Maryland Daffodil Society's 44th Show at the Baltimore Museum of Art; information: Mrs. Quentin E. Erlandson, 9 Burnbrae Rd., Baltimore 21204.

April 20, 21 — Northeast Regional Show sponsored by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society at Marriott Motor Hotel, City Ave. off Schuylkill Expressway, Philadelphia, Pa.; information: Mrs. F. Evelyn Hett, 325 Walnut St., Philadelphia 19106.

April 24 — Garden Club of Mamaroneck at St. Thomas's Church, Post Rd., Mamaroneck, N. Y.; information: Mrs. Richmond S. Barton, 616 Walton Ave., Mamaroneck 10543.

April 25, 26 — Chambersburg Garden Club 32nd Show at the Recreation Center, South Third St., Chambersburg, Pa.; information: Mrs. W. E. Culp, 639 Philadelphia Ave., Chambersburg 17201.

April 26 — The Woman's Club of Downingtown Show at the Club House, 121 Manor Ave., Downingtown, Pa.; information: Mrs. Joseph P. Kahler, Corner Ketch Farm, Rt. 1, Downingtown.

April 26 — Harford County, Maryland Seventh Show; information: Mrs. Frederick J. Viele, Rt. 2, Box 343, Havre de Grace, Md. 21078.

April 28 — Long Island Daffodil Show at St. Mark's Church Parish House, Montauk Highway, Islip, N. Y.; information: Mrs. Charles D. Webster, St. Mark's Lane, Islip, N. Y. 11751.

April 28, 29 — Atlanta Flower Show Association at Lenox Square

Auditorium; information: Mrs. E. Reginald Hancock, 3137 Arden Rd., N.W., Atlanta, Ga.

April 29, 30 — Midwest Regional Show and Meeting, Garden Center of Greater Cleveland, Ohio; information: Wells Knierim, 31090 Providence Rd., Cleveland 44124.

May 4-5 — Sixth Annual Show by the Connecticut Horticultural Society at Elizabeth Park Pond House, Hartford; information: Connecticut Horticultural Society, 199 Griswold Rd., Wethersfield 06109.

HYBRIDIZERS' FORUM

Narcissus cantabricus as Parent.

In the September 1966 JOURNAL Willis Wheeler reported excellent success from a cross of Rubra x *N. cantabricus* subsp. *monophyllus*. Last March I made a cross of *N. fernandesii* x *N. cantabricus* var. *petunioides* and had similar success. I did not record the number of seeds, but remember there were three pods, which planted a large pot. Before making the cross I germinated the pollen of *N. cantabricus* and found it to be 99% viable. The grains germinated in two hours and tubes were entwined about each other very quickly. I presume this had something to do with the fine seed set and germination both on the medium and on *N. fernandesii*. —HELEN K. LINK

Notes from Georgia.

The best rate of germination from any of my crosses has been from Dutch Master x Spellbinder. Four crosses produced 81 seed; 78 came up the first year, 73 the second, and 68 little bulbs were planted out in 1965. The first bloom is anxiously awaited in 1967. What they may lack in refinement should be made up in vigor.

In stripping the spent flowers from a stem of Silver Chimes, one little head was stubborn about turning loose, so I left it just to see why it wanted to hang on. It developed a small seed pod that matured normally and produced one seed. I wish I knew which flower that bee had just visited!

One stem with two equally good flowers has appeared in a clump of Chinese White each year since 1961. I tagged that stem last season and have planted the bulb to itself to see if it is a sport or just a freak. I have crossed it with Green Island both ways and have 16 bulbs that should bloom in 1967. —MILDRED H. SIMMS

GROWING DAFFODILS IN THE ARID SOUTHWEST

By ROSALIE DOOLITTLE, *Albuquerque, N. M.*

The daffodil is the easiest of all flowers to grow in the arid Southwest, and even when used for landscaping, as I do, there are no problems. The pests and diseases described in various articles have never invaded my garden, but it is important to prepare the soil to meet the needs of daffodils, or any other flower for that matter. In my sixteen-year-old garden I have clumps such as *N. poeticus recurvus*, Redbird, Kansas and Actaea that have never been separated and produce as many as 60 or 70 blooms per clump. Romaine, Mount Hood, Shot Silk and Thalia will have 30 to 40 blooms after years in the same spot.

In selecting locations for daffodils here, it is best to choose a spot that will be out of the path of strong winds and where they will receive some shade during hot summer months. Shrubs and flowering fruit trees are excellent companion plants. The flowering trees do not have extensive root systems to interfere with the bulbs and when pruned to lighten shade patterns they will keep soil cool. Peonies also are ideal to plant with daffodils, as in this area the soil preparation and feeding is similar for each.

Because our soil is highly alkaline, with the pH ranging from 7 to 10, and is completely devoid of humus, it is important to remake the soil. Our mesa area may be very sandy, often with an underlay of caliche, while in the valleys, too often, there is heavy adobe. This adobe is the type of soil I have in my own garden. It is the material used by the Spanish and Indians to make brick, and many homes are still built by this method.

For preparation of both sandy and adobe soils, the treatment may be the same, except with the adobe it is advisable to add a coarse builders' sand to insure drainage. A large deep hole is important for both soils. When there is caliche, I advise putting a half cup of ammonium sulfate into the hole and irrigating it for several weeks before attempting to plant, as the caliche will inhibit drainage and the alkali will permeate the good soil used for planting.

The ideal method to prepare soil is to apply a couple of inches of farmyard manure and three to five pounds each of agricultural sulphur and superphosphate to each 100 square feet, then irrigate and keep damp for at least a month prior to planting. When bulbs are planted in established beds I remove the soil from a dozen holes for bulbs. These will be dug at least 18 inches wide and 24 inches deep. The top

soil is put in one pile and the subsoil in another (which is kept to layer with green material for compost). To the top soil I add one-half sand and a couple of spades of peat moss, compost and manure. (I know manure is not approved by experts.) This is mixed with a quart each of superphosphate and "Rosalie Doolittle's Rose Brew," which is sold in the area. It is my formula, and was worked out to meet our soil needs. The base is cottonseed meal with additions of soil sulphur, magnesium sulphate, ammonium sulphate, iron sulphate, superphosphate and urea in appropriate proportions to reduce the pH and supply missing soil nutrients. This results in an analysis of 7-4-0 with 3 per cent iron. (We have plenty of potash in our soils.) Phosphorus is lacking and this is why extra superphosphate is added for planting mixes.

After thorough blending, enough of the soil mixture is put in each hole to allow the bulb depth to be three times its diameter. Sand is always put under and over the bulb so that no fertilizer or organic material will touch it. When planting is complete, I irrigate deeply. It is unusual if our annual rainfall is over eight inches, and too often it is less, with the bulk of it falling in a few rains. Irrigation must be constant — every five to seven days and more right before bloom when spring winds dry the soil rapidly. With continued irrigation, nutrients are leached away so we must fertilize more than in other areas. In the fall extra superphosphate is used on established plantings. When spring comes, manure is applied to all flower beds. After bloom my "Witches Brew" is fed to all bulbs, lilacs and peonies. (This is similar to the "Rose Brew" except the base is Milorganite.)

Daffodils are planted after the first light frost or when the leaves start to fall, generally around mid-October. I seldom "rest" bulbs when separating, but transplant them as I do any plant. It is much easier to find a spot for them in my crowded garden just before the tops die. I always allow time for the fertilizer to be assimilated before digging bulbs. Those that I cannot use are dried and put in net potato sacks and given away in the fall.

I am more interested in growing daffodils for landscape value than for specimen blooms. However, I am sure mine are equal to those I have seen elsewhere. I can find only one fault with daffodils, and that is the unsightliness of the fading foliage. When it is too bad, I tie it up in a sheaf. Before parties or tours through my garden, I have resorted to shearing them off about half way. Several times visitors remarked, "In your writing and lectures you say not to braid or cut", to which the reply is, "Do as I say and not as I do!" Since I have seen no difference in subsequent years from this treatment and even though I know that plants need foliage for maturation, I sometimes wonder if advice against

cutting and braiding is another gardeners' fallacy. I have had the same experience with iris.

Hobby gardeners seem to care little about landscape effects and too often have poorly designed gardens. In my many years of gardening, I find other plants are important to the beauty of a garden to give color and interest at all seasons. Daffodil season would not be nearly so lovely in my garden if it were not for grape hyacinths, creeping phlox Blue Ridge, tulips, early roses, flowering shrubs and trees, together with fine expanses of lawn.

One side of my garden has a border with roses in the background, clematis against a wall and Pink Weeper crab on the other end of the bed. The outer border is of strawberries, and behind these are fine iris. Intermingled with the roses are daffodils, delphinium, lilies, peonies, sweet rocket (*hesperis*), phlox and feverfew. The iris hide the daffodil foliage following bloom, and the bare roses that are not in lush growth because of pruning. When the iris are about gone, peonies take the spotlight along with a beautiful climbing rose, City of York. After the first cycle of roses, delphinium and lilies fill the gap until the second cycle of roses gives color until frost. All these plants thrive on the same watering schedule and fertilizer.

Since daffodils have become one of my hobby flowers, I am sorry I did not chart new cultivars as I have been unable to identify many that I grow. Labels get lost or broken (or gathered by neighboring children). From order lists I have counted over 125 varieties and have never failed with any except *Canaliculatus*. I have not tried many miniatures so cannot comment on these. King Alfred has been in my gardens for many years without troubles, and I still consider it excellent for mass color display. I have too many favorites but am partial to cyclamineus hybrids and the reverse bi-colors. Outstanding in the garden this year were Snow Dream, Broughshane, Cantatrice, Thalia, Honeybird, Galway, Bonneville, Bushtit, Peeping Tom, Redstart, Rose of Tralee, Mabel Taylor, Chinese White, Spellbinder, Nampa, Luna Moth, Frigid, Vireo, Statue, Coronado, Rococo, Pink Rim, Aranjuez, Paracutin, Trevithian, *N. jonquilla*, Grullemans' Giant, Liberty Bells, Lunar Rainbow, Satin Queen, Glen Fire, White Monarch, Honey Bells, La Riente, Hunter's Moon, Abalone, Golden Crown and Blarney's Daughter. In fact, in all my years of gardening, there has never been a better year for daffodils.

FLIGHT OF THE ROBINS

By DR. GLENN DOOLEY, *Bowling Green, Ky.*

It is this time of the year that daffodils are at the height of their bloom. The Directors, in their Robin, have discussed ways and means in which the Robins can better serve the ADS membership. There are Robins of a general nature, and some are for regions; there are miniature daffodil Robins, others for hybridizers, and there are those for men. We are now proposing a new Robin. This one will deal with daffodil literature for old as well as new varieties. It will also deal with the history of our favorite flower. Perhaps the literature will reveal interesting bits of information.

* * *

The daffodil is not immune from insect pests. The narcissus fly is most active at this time of the year and without a doubt, infestations are likely to occur in plants in many areas. A check should be made from time to time in a planting. Mrs. John Bozievich discussed ways and means for the control of this fly; she recommended dusting the base of the plants with a six percent chlordane dust.

* * *

Mrs. Frances Armstrong of Covington, Va., has given her method for the care of the daffodil beds during the summer months. She likes to make them attractive with such plants as marigolds, calendulas, seed dahlias, red geraniums, snapdragons, and other summer annuals. By bordering such beds with plants like pygmy marigold and white alyssum they become quite attractive. She is also fortunate in getting shredded bark to use as a mulch. It can be pointed out here that the daffodil bulbs will survive the summer much better in a cool soil. This mulch and plant cover is excellent.

* * *

There is much thought given to the climatic boundaries of the daffodil. Miss Ethel Martin of Lawrence and Mrs. Grace Parks of Ottumwa, Kans., gave some of their experiences. Both report dryness in their respective areas. It is pointed out here that the daffodil will profit tremendously by receiving sufficient water to mature the bulbs. Mrs. Parks plans to try deeper plantings. Incidentally, mulches will give additional benefits.

Other climatic boundaries came in for some attention. Dr. William Hamilton of Ithaca, N. Y., gave a thorough report on his climate. Temperatures will often drop to -20°F. Usually there is a snow cover-

ing from 15 inches to drifts of 12 feet. Dr. Hamilton mulches his beds with pine needles. This mulch does much to protect the blooms from getting muddy when the rains come.

Dr. Tom D. Throckmorton of Des Moines, Iowa, has given a careful account of his winter. He has seen green tips in February. These took the zero cold with a snow cover. He plants the bulbs some six inches deep at the base. He also plants them as much as 12 inches deep. His latest effort is to plant the bulbs in a bluegrass sod. This sod is lifted and the bulbs planted, then the sod is replaced. He reported that his best daffodils came from this sod planting.

* * *

It is interesting to observe how others have succeeded with sod planting. Harry Tuggle of Martinsville, Va., reported growing Ceylon successfully in a heavy red clay, under an oak tree, in a heavy Bermuda grass sod, and all sorts of places. In the fusarium-infected soils there were bulb losses. He also reported that Shah, 7*b*, and Ulster Prince, 1*a*, gave better blooms in lawn sod than in a prepared garden.

Halbert Cunningham of Crawford, Miss., had good luck growing daffodils in Bermuda grass sod. Halbert continues to complain about the terrific Mississippi winters. He does not like the two-below-zero temperatures and the one-and-a-half-inch snow. However, this cold must have been the correct tonic for his daffodils, as he reported a very fine season last spring, with larger blooms and stronger stems. Daydream gave a wonderful account of itself. He disposed of his surplus blooms by adorning the suite of offices at the Mississippi State University.

* * *

Word was received that IBM George had a bad case of the colic, or was it indigestion? It seems that George could not digest very well the new mass of daffodil data. The good Dr. Throckmorton came to George's aid. He performed the necessary operation and gave George a new tonic. All is well now. George is digesting the new mass of daffodil data from Holland and the information from earlier English sources. The Data Bank print-outs carry a tremendous amount of information. It is a good buy for daffodil growers. Get a copy!

* * *

George Lee of New Canaan, Conn., is making an effort to locate varieties brought out by Mrs. Foote of Grand Rapids, Mich. He has found True Charm, and located a couple of other varieties. Perhaps some reader may be helpful on other varieties.

YOUR MANY CHOICES IN ARRANGING DAFFODILS

By DOROTHY C. KILLMASTER, *Alexandria, Va.*

Having become involved in a sort of quid pro quo transaction, I find myself writing an article on arranging daffodils. Up to now, daffodils have been flowers one happily arranged in their season without giving the matter much thought, so this article, I hope, will be instructive for all concerned.

In the first place, daffodils are arranged according to the same basic rules of design needed for any other type of arrangement, and like most flowers they have their individual idiosyncrasies. In the case of the daffodil, the stiff straight stem is probably the hardest to cope with: what to do? Just practice until you learn to make them do what you want them to. It is possible to run a wire up through the stem and in that way make it do your bidding, and you often see it done, but my personal opinion is that it is an unattractive way to deal with a beautiful flower. Of course, in abstract designs anything goes, and the exhibitor and arranger can do as she pleases, but this article will deal with realistic arrangements, both traditional and contemporary.

Daffodils are beautiful in mass arrangements used with other spring flowers — in fact nothing is lovelier or more expressive of the season. In doing a mass arrangement, the arranger must remember the importance of the third dimension; a flat tight mass with all the flowers facing front cannot have the beauty and interest of an arrangement that stresses the beauty and form of the individual flowers by showing them from all angles. Don't arrange them all on the same plane; work them in and out, front and back. In other words, don't forget that the arrangement should have depth.

Remember, too, not to spot the different kinds of flowers through the arrangement in a pin cushion effect; try grouping them according to color, for example, to give rhythm and linear pattern to overall design; an airy silhouette is also desirable unless doing a period arrangement that calls for a closely bunched design.

Many arrangers, particularly in flower shows, will do a large mass arrangement in a container that does not hold enough water to take care of so many flowers; this means that on the second day of a two-day flower show visitors see an unattractive bunch of dead or dying flowers. This really is not fair to the people who come to see the show, and it is not necessary either; just use a container that will hold plenty of water.

Perhaps a word should be said here about containers. Container collecting is a fascinating hobby, and it is a good idea, when you see something you like and that you can afford, to go ahead and buy it, even if you have no immediate use for it. It is very difficult to go out at the last minute and find the right container for what you have in mind. Except for some period arrangements, unornamented pieces in neutral colors are best, and they should be in good basic shapes, bowls, urns, cylinders, low flat bowls, etc. Another important item is needle holders; they should be as large and as heavy as possible, and by remembering this, you can save a lot of wear and tear on the nerves, particularly when exhibiting in a flower show.

Next comes the line arrangement, for which we can thank the Japanese. In the old classic style both daffodils and narcissus are grown specifically for arrangements, and the clump, consisting of leaves and flowers is cut underground below the transparent sheath, the leaves are then carefully removed from the sheath, regrouped with the flower in a naturalistic fashion and then replaced in the sheath. The arrangement is made strictly according to the ancient rules and it has great beauty and simplicity, but it is difficult to do and requires much skill and practice. However, not all Japanese arrangements using daffodils are so complicated; in the Moribana style, naturalistic and arranged in a low container, the leaves are used separately and placed freely around the flower stems, either with or without other plant material. This is a brief resume indeed of an interesting and beautiful method for arranging daffodils. Real Japanese flower arranging requires long study, but with the growing number of Ikebana International chapters throughout the country, many more people should take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about this fascinating and satisfying method of arranging flowers.

Not all line arrangements are Japanese, of course, and when a line arrangement is called for in a flower show schedule, in most cases only one or two arrangements in the class will be a true line, the others will be a massed line. In a line arrangement, the plant material is kept to a minimum; try to concentrate on the bare outline, with emphasis on the spaces between the material. Daffodils and their foliage are particularly good for line arrangements; they can be used with branches or anything else you desire that will give your arrangement distinction. Just remember, keep it simple and keep it open; no masses of flowers or foliage.

Next comes the massed line, or line mass. This is a combination of both line and mass, with emphasis on line for the basic structure, and here again, depth is very important and the arrangement should have

a definite rhythm. A massed line arrangement has a focal area, but try to avoid a bulls-eye effect by integrating your other material with it, giving the eye a chance to travel through the whole composition.

In using daffodils in any type arrangement, always emphasize the beauty of the flower; don't jam them all in together, but let each one speak to the beholder as a proud individual worthy of everyone's attention.

All this is just a bare outline of an interesting and complicated art form. The true flower arranger works from within, trying to achieve a work of art that is impermanent but which she hopes will be satisfying to herself and to the beholder. It must be her thought, her idea and her feeling that brings it into being; just copying an arrangement out of a book isn't the answer. Perhaps it would be pleasing, but it would lack the spark of originality that makes an arrangement stand out and be noticed. Plenty of practice will bring the aptitude that will enable you to handle daffodils or any other plant material in a manner that will make you think "at last I've got it".

JUDGING SCHOOLS ANNOUNCED

April 15 — School II, Shelbyville, Ky.; information:

Mrs. Ben Allen Thomas, Chenoweth Farm,
Shelbyville, Ky. 40065.

April 16 — School III, Dayton, Ohio; information:

Mrs. Harry Wilkie, 96 Main St.,
Bellbrook, Ohio 45305.

April 23 — School I, Philadelphia, Pa.; to be held in
conjunction with the Annual Convention; information:

Mrs. Richmond S. Barton, 616 Walton Ave.,
Mamaroneck, N. Y. 10543.

THE THOMPSON PRIZE FOR NEW DOUBLE WHITES

By ROBERTA C. WATROUS, *Chairman, Breeding and Selection*

Entries are solicited this year for the 1969 interim award in the search for a new double white daffodil, to resemble *Narcissus poeticus* Flore Pleno, commonly known as Albus Plenus Odoratus, but to have a better blooming habit.

The Thompson Prize was established by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Thompson of Willoughby, Ohio, who gave \$600 for this purpose in 1963. The money has been invested and the income is to be used to offer, at three-year intervals, interim awards of approximately \$50 for the most outstanding white or mostly white double daffodil offered in competition. If, after a period of 15 years or less, the officers and judges of the American Daffodil Society decide that one of the new varieties offered in competition has met the specified conditions, the \$600 will be given as a prize to the originator of the variety.

Cultivars offered in competition must be seedlings under number, or varieties not registered or in commerce before 1962. They need not be American originations.

Contestants must notify the chairman of the ADS Breeding and Selection Committee of their intention to compete for the interim award by August 15, 1967, and must send three bulbs of the cultivar offered by September 15, 1967. Contestants must be the originators of the cultivars offered, or holders of the entire stock of the cultivars. They must be members in good standing of the American Daffodil Society.

The chairman of the ADS Breeding and Selection Committee, or a substitute designated by the President of ADS, will arrange for the bulbs to be grown and judged in three different areas for two years in succession. At the end of each blooming season, ratings will be submitted and at the end of the second blooming season all ratings will be evaluated by a special panel appointed by the President of ADS, and the winning cultivar, if any, designated by this panel. Cultivars under test will be identified only by numbers assigned at the time the bulbs are distributed for testing and judging.

Because of the special emphasis on freedom of bloom and fragrance in this competition, the usual point scoring allocation will be modified to give weight to these elements.

All bulbs remain the property of the contestants and will be returned at the end of the testing period, but the committee will not be responsible for damage or losses due to natural causes or accidents.

A REVIEW OF CONTROLS FOR WEEDS AMONG DAFFODILS

By DR. FREEMAN A. WEISS, *Charleston, S. C.*

The daffodil, as we all know, is a sturdy plant fully capable of displaying its beauty and charm in a wide range of environment. And, as in the whole expanse and depth of nature, the daffodil lives and thrives among competitors and aggressors. Perhaps this is a factor in Lord Aberconway's general verdict on daffodils in 1935: "I think it is a flower which you might call everybody's flower." He did not, of course, say *everything's* flower, but *everybody* might be extended to include Nature's broad range of what we humans call pests, from viruses to fungi, nematodes to insects, which live with us, some too intimately at times. And they do affect our ways.

Since its inception 13 years ago, the American Daffodil Society has devoted much of its effort to extolling the beauty of daffodils through the exhibitions it promotes, in training judges meticulously to analyze the basis of the daffodil's perennial charm, and to encourage daffodil breeders to develop these features to even higher levels. It has been very helpful to daffodil lovers in educating them to prevent or withstand the onslaught of the daffodil's direct enemies, but very little as yet has been offered to aid in suppressing competition to its welfare by other plants for which we have no esteem whatever — weeds!

This situation is reflected in what has become in recent years a voluminous literature — journal articles and trade catalogs — that describe weeds in general and advertise weed killers (less venomously called herbicides) under names that grow "curiouser and curiouser", as Alice found things she saw on her descent to the Wonderland of the underground. But little or nothing has appeared that particularly relates to these subjects as they affect daffodil culture, whether in formal beds for specimens or cut flowers, in groups for yard decoration, or naturalized in broad landscaping. In each of these situations problems of weed control occur, and they differ in many ways — regionally, seasonally, and as affected by individual purpose and means. The subject as a whole merits consideration in books and special articles on daffodil culture, among topics for discussion at local club meetings, perhaps occasional symposiums at national ADS conventions.

This article is no attempt at a detailed presentation — it is only to emphasize weed control — and how — in daffodil culture. Some of the problems will remain with us for a long time, some will vary from year to year.

There are some common features basic among different weeds, such as annuals vs. perennials, grasses (monocots) vs. broadleaves (dicots), seasonal growth in winter vs. summer, which must be taken into account in discussing weed control among daffodils. Likewise among herbicides, careful distinction must be made between those selective — effective against certain weeds, innocuous to others — and those of general toxicity; between those termed pre-emergent — applied directly to soil or mixed into it, and their effect limited to seeds in the germinating stage, practically impotent to plants with established root systems and aerial growth. Other factors such as soil temperature and moisture, and residual effect — how long toxicity lasts — are important. Different herbicides vary greatly in these characteristics.

The viewpoints presented here are limited mostly to the author's experience, with some reports from others — at Magnolia Gardens, located near Charleston, S. C., which is primarily a garden of spring-blooming woody ornamentals; daffodils are of very minor use and in an early stage of development. From the standpoint of weed control alone considerable experience is being gained in the plant nursery adjacent to the Garden, but this has no direct relation to daffodils. Further details have been gathered from the catalogs of several manufacturers of herbicides and should be of interest to daffodil growers who have similar weed problems to those encountered here, even though there is no direct evidence of their use on daffodils. This information is presented under the trade names of herbicides under test here, and arranged in alphabetic order. The name and address of the manufacturer of each is shown so that readers desiring further information, especially advice on their use in daffodil culture, can request it from the most logical source.

Caution is requisite in testing materials for which specific recommendations for use on daffodils are not available. Try them first on small-scale test plots, and repeat once or twice before extending to larger operations.

No discussion is presented here of the use of the herbicides known as 2, 4-D and 2, 4, 5-T, the dichlorophenoxyacetic acid group, in daffodil culture. Presently marketed forms of these, like those first introduced over 20 years ago, are toxic to daffodils and probably to other amaryllids. They are intended for control of broadleaf weeds in lawns, and should not be used in daffodil plantings, or even near them because of the hazard of toxic vapor drift. They may have less hazard to daffodils if used on beds only after the foliage has died to the ground level or below in summer, and are intended only to suppress summer weeds from seeding and reappearing in the fall. However, they have no effect

on weedy grasses, and there are true pre-emergent herbicides that can accomplish this and involve less hazard to daffodils when dormant.

Betasan — Stauffer Chemical Co., 380 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y. 10017 and numerous branches in large cities throughout the U. S.

For pre-emergence use against crabgrass, goosegrass, and annual Poa; also various broadleaf annuals. Available in granular and in wettable powder form (4-E). The former used at 25 lb. on 7,200 sq. ft. for crabgrass, or 6,000 sq. ft. for annual Poa, followed by liberal sprinkling with water; w.p. form at 1 gal. in 40 to 50 gal. of water to 17,000 sq. ft. (crabgrass), 13,900 sq. ft. (annual Poa and broadleaf weeds). Apply in spring *before* crabgrass germinates, or if late summer germination occurs, repeat 4 to 5 months later. Use lawn fertilizer-spreader for granular form, or power or hand sprayer for 4-E. Emphasize uniform distribution with either.

Casoron — Thompson Hayward Chemical Co., 2915 Southwest Blvd., Kansas City, Kansas.

Primarily for pre-emergence application in fall or winter up to April to combat all winter annuals, and also perennials such as mugwort, nutgrass, quackgrass. Has been used successfully on established daffodil beds and pre-planting of gladiolus; also on established woody ornamentals, or 4 to 6 weeks after planting. Applied to ground surface only, not cultivated in; post-application of water unnecessary; has no long residual effect. Available in granular form (G-4) and wettable powder (W-50). Dry application by mechanical duster, 100 to 125 lb./acre; wettable form in low-pressure sprayer, 30 to 40 p.s.i., 8 to 12 lb. in 50 gal. of water/acre. All weeds in evidence before application should be cleared by shallow cultivation, but a direct toxic effect on some perennial weeds like mugwort and Chinese artichoke is evident from spray application. Second application in 1 year usually unnecessary, but a light one may be used with caution in April or May after fall application.

CIPC (Chloro IPC) — Niagara Chemical Div. of FMC Corp., Middleport, N. Y. Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., Chemical Div., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Granular form, Niagara 5%; also in miscible form. The granular form is similar to common salt in appearance and particle size, non-odorous. Can be applied to dry foliage and falls to ground, thus avoiding injury to desired plants. Has been used mainly on soil surface where annual grasses and broadleaves are expected or just emerging; can be used against chickweed and purslane which have already appeared. Applied at rate of 160 lb./acre, or 2.5 oz./100 sq. ft. in early spring, fall or winter; do not apply in mid-summer. Best results from applications to smooth, firm surface where weeds have already been cleared by shallow cultivation.

Dacthal — Diamond Alkali Co., Chlorinated Products Div., Union Commerce Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio

A pre-emergent herbicide (dimethyl ester of tetrachloroterephthalic acid) of relatively recent development. Available in 2 wettable powder forms, W-50 and W-75. Claims made for it state "keeps ornamental beds free of weeds for an entire season with just one application." Officially registered for use on a wide variety of deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs, ground-cover and herbaceous plants. Among the latter are dahlia, gladiolus, lilies. Crystalline, odorless, does not build up residual toxic levels. Granular forms also available

Apply in early spring, prior to weed emergence but after soil is prepared for planting, established weeds cleared by shallow cultivation. Apply W-50 at rate of 15 to 18 lb./acre by low pressure sprayer, 20 to 40 p.s.i., at a volume of 40 to 100 gal./acre. W-75 requires lower rates; heavy types of soil require heavier applications of both. Light watering or rainfall desirable after applica-

tion; shallow cultivation, 1 to 2 inches deep, does not weaken protective effect.

Dymid (diphenamid)—Elanco Products Co. (Eli Lilly Co.), Indianapolis, Ind.

Three forms available: Granular, 5G, wettable powders Dymid D and Dymid 80W. (See also *Treflan* [trifluralin], produced by Elanco). Dymid is used primarily for late fall applications to control winter annuals, also other annuals (grass and broadleaf) germinating in spring, and can be used on established plantings of ornamental shrubs and trees, but *not on daffodils or tulips*.

Enide (diphenamid)—Upjohn Co., Agricultural Products Div., Kalamazoo, Mich.

Recommendations for this (by the producer) include: a list of 6 ground-cover plants, 23 herbaceous ornamentals, 74 deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs for which Enide can be safely used on established plants for pre-emergent control of 16 annual grasses, 18 broadleaves. Apply in fall or spring before weeds appear, or where existing weeds are cleared by shallow cultivation, using 12 to 16 lb. in 30 to 50 gal. of water per acre, in a low-pressure (25 to 50 p.s.i.) sprayer; follow with light sprinkling or irrigation after applying, repeat this in 7 to 10 days. Shallow cultivation will not destroy weed control effect. Use on daffodils, tulips, and other ornamental bulbs is not mentioned, but the described treatment can be used on dahlias and peonies.

Eptam—Stauffer Chemical Co., 380 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y.

Available in granular form, Eptam 5, and miscible, Eptam 6E. A selective pre-emergence herbicide for control of over 20 weeds, including some perennials such as mugwort, nutgrass, and quackgrass, when these are thoroughly chopped up and incorporated into soil by using disc or power-driven tiller. Can be used among established woody ornamentals like camellias and hollies, also ground-covers and herbaceous perennials, and annuals after new growth appears or 2 weeks after planting in spring. Must be mixed into soil immediately after application, 2 to 3 inches deep, or watering to this depth. For granular form, use 4 oz./100 sq. ft. for annual weeds, 4.8 oz./100 for Bermuda grass, nutgrass, quackgrass. For miscible form use 0.27 fl. oz./100 sq. ft. for annual weeds, 0.3 fl. oz./100 for perennial weeds, 0.7 fl. oz./100 for mugwort. Apply in 5 to 10 gal. of water/1000 sq. ft., using a low-pressure sprayer. For heavily established perennial weeds, first clear by cultivation 6 inches deep, then apply 7½ lb. of Eptam 5, or 7 fluid ounces of Eptam 6 per 1,000 sq. ft. Wait 4 weeks before replanting.

Simazine—Geigy Agricultural Chemicals, Box 430, Yonkers, N. Y.

Simazine 50-W is a non-selective usually pre-emergent herbicide, but can be used during early emergence; is non-corrosive, has low toxicity to man and animals. Can be applied to soil surface in early spring or fall, and should be followed by watering or rainfall. Recommended rates: 10 lb. in 25 to 100 gal. of water per acre for seasonal control of annual grasses and broadleaves, or 20 to 30 lbs. for more resistant weeds and longer residual action.

Treflan—Elanco Products Co., Indianapolis, Ind.

A non-selective pre-emergent herbicide, for spring application to plantings of established woody ornamentals, also ornamental bulbs if applied near surface and immediately cultivated to a depth of 2 to 3 inches. Rate of application: 1 pint in 20 to 40 gal. per acre, by low-pressure (20 to 50 p.s.i.) sprayer, for light soils. For heavier soils use 1½ pints in 20 to 40 gals. of water. Does not require subsequent wetting, does not leach away. Can be used alternately with Dymid in fall to control winter annuals.

TANTALIZING TRIANDRUS THALIA

By MILDRED H. SIMMS, *Atlanta, Ga.*

After unsuccessfully pollinating approximately a dozen blooms of Thalia each season for a number of years, I decided to make one last attempt on a larger scale before admitting failure. Late in December, 1964, I planted 100 new bulbs of this variety, anticipating blooms in weather most favorable for crossing.

En route to the Asheville Show in April, 1965, we visited Eve Robertson's garden and saw her phenomenal Thalia seedling at its prime. What an incentive!

Returning with pollen from some of Eve's other seedlings and seedlings from Dan Thomson's garden, I began pollinating each floret as it opened, using a bit of honey as an adhesive. With the exception of pollen from these seedlings, only pollen from varieties known to be fertile was applied. The weather cooperated beautifully and approximately 600 florets were crossed and tagged.

Shortly thereafter, daily inspections began. As each pod withered and flattened out, I opened it to see if maybe a little seed could be hiding inside. But I did not find one!

I made no crosses in this particular planting of Thalia in 1966. Yet, while digging the bulbs something caught my eye — a fat seed pod ready to open. It contained one round black seed that looked perfectly normal. At planting time, however, it had the appearance of having been sat upon!

I am pondering the significance of this one seed. Should I replant the bulbs in a good location and try again, or move them to the woods and let nature take its course?

YOU'RE INVITED TO CLEMSON GARDENS

Walter E. Thompson, chairman of the American Daffodil Society Test Gardens, extends an invitation to all ADS members who will be in the vicinity of Clemson University, Clemson, S.C., between early March and late mid-April to visit the Test Garden.

The number of varieties have been materially increased in the last year and he asks that you remember, when digging this summer, to keep the Test Gardens in mind. He hopes, in cooperation with Dr. Freeman A. Weiss, to locate another Test Garden at the University of Minnesota Arboretum in 1967.

THE EXCHANGE OF NEWS IN THE DAFFODIL WORLD

By WILLIAM O. TICKNER, *Falls Church, Va.*

The Exchange Editorship is a fun job. It "requires" me to read and digest fascinating material from around the world on a subject of great interest to me. The first exchange publication to come to my hand since our last JOURNAL is the *Journal* of The Daffodil Society of England. Until recently it was known as the Midland Daffodil Society, and since it was the first specialist daffodil society it merits an exclusive title. It must be a fine society as its publication is filled with good humour and reeks with daffodil knowledge.

They accepted the loss of their late president, F. E. Board, with a typical British attitude of appreciation for his contributions and with well hidden grief. For those who have worried, be it known that several members of the Society have acquired his seedlings and meticulous records. Before his death the quotable Mr. Board wrote a class-by-class description of their Society's 1965 Birmingham show and the result is a fine critique of modern daffodils. He paid tribute to such familiar greats as Kingscourt, "We are baffled why the public still buys rubbish such as King Alfred and Rembrandt when this daffodil is available for the price of ten cigarettes," Preamble, Galway, Ormeau, "remarkable flower in its perfection of form, strong growth and consistency of performance," Arbar and Chungking. He gave rave notices to 1c Panache, which apparently achieves a five and a half inch perianth without coarseness. It was one of the last selections of Guy Wilson, "the great white chief."

Mr. Board highly commended the Triandrus hybrid, Arish Mell, as a big advance in Division 5a. High praise was given to Grant Mitsch's 3b Aircastle, which Mr. Board feels is "already established as one of the greats." Praise was also given to 2d Bethany and 1d Lunar Sea.

Several things came to my mind as I read the English *Journal*. One, the excellence of the work of a number of English amateur hybridizers. Two, their limitation of interest to trumpets and cups; and thirdly, their apparent unawareness of miniature daffodils.

C. G. Hilditch had an excellent article on how to win the famous Bourne cup and it could profitably be read by an amateur hybridizer. Along with other good advice he names varieties to be avoided as parents. These are Cantatrice, Moonstruck, Spellbinder, Kindled and Blarney. He says that tens of thousands of seedlings must have been raised from these varieties with no outstanding results. (I wonder if

Festivity could not be added to this group?)

A list of pedigrees of 71 newer daffodils was given. Very few of these are now in commerce but we may well be admiring them in the years to come. They are the work of Mr. Dunlop, Mr. de Jager and, largely, Mr. Board. Many are described in the text of the JOURNAL and the list is also valuable as an indication of good parents.

Last of all, their editor, D. J. Pierce, has uncovered a new daffodil pest. Foxes have been digging up his daffodils.

The Southern Region of the ADS is to be congratulated on its newsy *Newsletter* of December 13, 1966. Regional Vice President Margaret Roof presented information about 1967 shows in Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi and asked the 214 members of this region stretching from the Ohio River to the Gulf of Mexico to write and share their daffodil knowledge and experience.

The New England Region January *Newsletter*, edited by the indefatigable George Lee, now Executive Director of our Society, reprinted in part an article by C. R. Wootton from the aforementioned *Journal* of The Daffodil Society. Mr. Wootton describes his choice of daffodils if he were forever limited to six varieties and their progeny. The newsletter also tells how to handle New Zealand daffodils and of their adjustment problems. Finally, it offers a suggestion on that nuisance but frequently necessary problem of labels.

The latest exchange of publications in our international network of daffodil groups is with *De Koninklijke Algemeene Vereeniging Voor Bloembollencultuur*. (The United Royal Society for Flower Bulb Culture.) Their publication is a well illustrated, many paged, weekly concerned with all bulbs grown in the Netherlands. Alas, it is all in Dutch, but I can report that it carried an article on the special attention being given to daffodil diseases and pests. With the aid of a Dutch-English dictionary I found that our fellow member and Memphis guest, Matthew Zandbergen, gave a well received talk on the history of the daffodil to his Dutch peers at Lisse.

Perhaps the value of this exchange is that the Dutch growers have our JOURNAL and can see the daffodil interest and needs of American gardeners. This would certainly be so if you, dear member, would send short, or long, articles to Willis Wheeler telling of your daffodil successes, problems, desires and aspirations. The Dutch growers produce fine garden varieties and are anxious to know our needs.

Editors of regional newsletters, local daffodil societies, or any other groups specializing in daffodils are requested to add my name and address, 2814 Greenway Blvd., Falls Church, Va. 22042, to their mailing list. The activities of any group of daffodil growers, amateur or professional, can be of interest to all of our ADS members.

MUSINGS AND MEANDERINGS

By POETICUS

Daffodil colors are subtle and do not lend themselves well to photography nor to description. Catalogers are not daunted by this problem, and any one of numerous adjectives preceding the word yellow will conjure up a picture which should be appealing if not faithful. By combing a few catalogs one might build a working vocabulary consisting of brassy, bright, butter, buttercup, cadmium, canary, citron, chrome, clear, cream, dark, deep, duckling, gleaming, glowing, golden, greenish, lemon, light, orange, pale, primrose, pure, rich, self, soft, sulphur, sunny, and velvety.

Such terms give a blurred picture and are inadequate for precise communication, yet they are tolerated in the registration of new varieties by the ADS. For some years the Royal Horticultural Society has required that descriptions of flowers relate their colors to their two-volume *Horticultural Colour Chart* which is now out of print and has recently been replaced by the *Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart* (\$12.00 to Fellows; \$15.00 to non-Fellows). This chart consists of a set of four fans of 50 leaves each, each leaf having four tints running to the margin of the paper on one side for easy matching. The total of four tints of each of 202 hues gives a sufficient range for all horticultural purposes. The basic colors are numbered consecutively from 1 to 202 and the tints are lettered A, B, C, D.

The *Nickerson Color Fan* published by the American Horticultural Society consists of a single fan and has a somewhat smaller range of colors and tints and is less expensive (\$6.37 to members; \$7.50 to non-members). Printed in small type on each color is the popular color name and its numerical designation in the Munsell System of Color Notations which is accepted as standard by most industries and societies dealing with color systems in this country.

The time has arrived for the ADS to examine the merits of these two leading systems, to adopt one of them, and to require that the color description of newly registered varieties be expressed in terms of the official color system. Duckling yellow is no longer acceptable.

* * *

The roster of the ADS contains many distinguished names, but one whose mark within the Society did not match her renown in the horticultural world was Miss Harriette Rice Halloway who recently died at her home in North Plainfield, N. J., at the age of 91. Miss Halloway was a teacher of geography in a boys' school, but she engaged in

numerous extracurricular horticultural activities; among them she was consultant to the Union County (N. J.) Park Commission. In that capacity she built up in Cedarbrook Park a collection of *cornus* (dogwood) generally regarded as the finest in the United States, succeeding with species usually intolerant of the eastern United States. Her displays of iris and daffodils were also widely known in a county which is notable for its public gardens. In 1958 Miss Halloway was awarded the distinguished service medal of the Garden Club of America.

* * *

Those interested in daffodils in the wild will regret the passing of Lt. Comdr. C. M. Stocken, R.N. During a lengthy tour of duty in Gibraltar he found time to explore the Spanish Sierra Nevada and the Atlas Mountains. His articles on the flora of those areas which appeared frequently in the *Journal* of the Royal Horticultural Society and the *Bulletin* of the Alpine Garden Society contained numerous references to the daffodil species he encountered. It is said that he left a completed manuscript on his travels in Southern Spain and Morocco which should interest daffodil growers when published. Stocken was killed mountain climbing, while leading the Royal Navy's East Greenland expedition.

* * *

Occasionally we take note of the activities of other daffodil societies, but one which has managed to survive our neglect is the Men's Daffodil Society of which Elmer E. Parette is the secretary and treasurer. In our own woman-ridden Society, there is need for this haven from stretch pants and miniskirts. In that blissful Eden there are no meetings, no dues in spite of the sole officer's titles, and every man is a lifetime member. No constitution, no by-laws; just a motto: "Give flowers to your friends while they're living." Membership, which is evidenced by a card, will be conferred upon application to Mr. Parette at Route 2, Box 66, Morrilton, Ark. 72110. We wish him well.

* * *

Occasionally some nonconformist speaks out against the notion that man's tinkering with daffodils results in improvements over what Nature created in eons of time. The complaint is usually that the grace, airiness, and laxity of the wild plant have been abandoned in the quest for a flower to meet today's passing fashions. It is possible that time will have its revenge. Hear what one such iconoclast, writing under the pseudonym of Rhinanthus in the *Journal* of the Alpine Garden Society, has to say:

"In the perpetual search for the sensational that seems curiously to

afflict the Sunday press at all its social layers, the inoffensive daffodil has now been dragged in. In very large type, the *Sunday Telegraph* announced 'Row Over New Daffodil.'

"It seems that some Dutch breeder, by tinkering about with the plant, has produced a flower in which the trumpet is split and folds back with the perianth. The British Daffodil Society's president is reported to have exclaimed self-righteously: 'The Royal Horticultural Society is quite wrong in recognizing this flower. The Society should be supporting the gradual development of classical forms of the flower.'

"What an extraordinary statement! Where, one wonders when reflecting on an RHS Show in the spring of 1966, were the "classical forms' of the prize-winning daffodils? They were over-size, waxy in texture so as to compete with plastic, on ram-rod stems, not to mention the odd colourings now entering the trumpets.

"Classic forms . . . to use an unclassic expression . . . my foot! At the same show, tucked away at the back of the dais was Eliot Hodgkins pan of *Narcissus alpestris*, rightly (for it is a difficult plant) awarded a Cultural Commendation. Here, ignored by the crowds was an example of the expert's failure to 'develop' the daffodil on the self-satisfied, commercialized criteria of classical forms. Little *Narcissus alpestris* no doubt irritates them, for it achieves unimprovable perfection without their interference."

* * *

No note seems to have been taken in these pages of a memorable event which occurred on May 3, 1966. Grant Mitsch's Daydream was awarded the top honor of the Royal Horticultural Society, a First Class Certificate (F.C.C.) of the Royal Horticultural Society as a show

Especially For Iris Lovers!



AIS membership brings you

- *What Every Iris Grower Should Know: beautiful handbook on all kinds of irises, their culture, color, awards and details of many AIS activities you can enjoy.*
- *The Bulletin: each quarterly issue packed with interesting, helpful articles, variety reports, iris information.*
- *Invitations to join letter robins: choose from over 20 iris subjects; get to know iriserians in your own area, across the country, around the world.*
- *All this plus local, regional, national meetings, garden tours, shows and much more.*

FOR ONLY \$5 A YEAR

JOIN US NOW!

The AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY, 2315 Tower Grove Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63110

flower. While his reversed bicolors are rapidly replacing Spellbinder and Binkie at all shows, both here and abroad, this is the first time that an American-bred daffodil has received what is considered to be the premier honor of the daffodil world. Daydream's first recognition came in 1963 when it was given an Award of Merit as a show flower.

Mitsch is represented in England by Jefferson-Brown and the award-winning flowers were shown by the latter. In a review of the 1966 daffodil season, David Lloyd writes in the 1967 RHS *Year Book* that Daydream "is not always perfect, the proportion of flowers with nicked petals being rather high, but it is a splendid plant, a good doer, and an astonishing laster."

* * *

The *Year Book* of the National Daffodil Society of New Zealand contains, without identifying the writer, a poem which has a happy relevance to these March days:

TO A DAFFODIL

*Anyone knows
It's easy enough to be a rose.
Sun and summer, sky and gentle breeze,
A rose can bloom and blossom at ease!
Not easy, though, to be the colour of sun
When winter's scarcely done;
Difficult looking gay
With skies wind-blown and grey,
And to dance
Before spring's made a start
Takes a stout heart.
And if when the wind of adversity's blowing,
To keep on hoping seems pretty hard going,
It might help to think of the courage and will
Involved in being a Daffodil*

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

The regional newsletters certainly must hold even more interest for those within the region than for those outside it. But each has some fascinating bit in it of general interest.

A recent letter from Mrs. Raymond Roof, vice president of the Southern Region, includes this item: the Southern Region has the second largest membership in the Society.

NEW PUBLIC GARDEN PRESERVES OLD DAFFODILS

By DOROTHY S. ROWE, *Cincinnati, Ohio*

There are many old-timers in the daffodil world whose interest in their favorite flower pre-dates the Society. They remember the name Carl Krippendorf, and will rejoice with Cincinnatians in this bit of news:

The fine beechwood grove and stand of climax forest — all 175 acres, which surround the home to which he and his wife, Mary, moved on their wedding day in 1900 and enjoyed together for 60 years, is to be perpetuated as a foundation called "The Cincinnati Nature Center".

The reason this is important to our ADS membership is that the newer daffodil-loving generation really should appreciate the older ones who carried the torch for them a few decades ago. Personal enthusiasm for fine plants is the greatest possible heritage one can pass on, and Mr. Krippendorf enjoyed the gift to the greatest degree.

If you have read "The Little Bulbs", by Elizabeth Lawrence in which she describes her common gardening experiences in dealing with rarities with "Mr. K."; or if you are acquainted with Mrs. Philip Adams, an AHS director, who happens to be his daughter and a worthy enthusiast in her own right; or if you attended the well-run annual meeting in Connecticut, executed by Mrs. Joseph Nelson, his grand-daughter — then this legendary expert will begin to come to life for you.

He naturalized his beech woods with daffodils now numbered in the millions, and he considered Helios, Yellow Poppy, Grandis, *N. poeticus recurvus* and *N. poeticus ornatus* the best varieties for this purpose.

But his true love was for the choice, non-showy types we now call miniatures or intermediates. Some of his favorites here were *N. x tenuior*, *N. jonquilla*, *N. asturiensis*, Trevithian, Firetail and J. T. Bennett-Poë. Styles have changed, so some of these may not be obtainable now.

But the exchange of letters as well as bulbs with the "greats" in England, Holland and France built a real foundation for our specialists today.

For instance, once Peter Barr sent him a few bulbs of those he discovered growing in the wild mountainous part of Spain. It took several trial locations before this little gem, Queen of Spain, found a spot to her liking. It turned out to be a well-drained, semi-sunny knoll in the woods, and fortunately for us she happily settled in Lob's Wood, for like the song birds in Italy, she became a casualty of war. In the Spanish Civil War they must have used the treasure for

onions! It is no more in its native habitat, but one of our professional members is trying to build up a supply from a few Krippendorf clumps, and before too long we will be seeing it on the lists again.

It is good to know that the home-base of one of the daffodil's best friends is now again geared to pass on that torch to future generations of bulb enthusiasts.

A BACKYARD LABORATORY CHECKS 'POISONING' BY WALNUTS

As I write this a log of black walnut burns brightly in my fire place and is turning into potash for my daffodils. This is fair enough, as my daffodils contributed to the black walnut tree.

Five years ago I planted daffodils on the edge of my property close by a great walnut tree. I dug a series of large pot holes, enriched the soil with humus and fertilizers, and planted six to a dozen bulbs of Hong Kong, Armada, Snow Gem, Alamein, Grapefruit, Amateur and Ceylon. The next spring they bloomed beautifully. The following year, however, the blooms were fewer and smaller. The succeeding year was distressful with no blooms in Grapefruit and Ceylon and fewer and smaller blooms in the others.

I had heard that black walnut trees poison the soil and that other plants cannot grow near them. I went to see my botanist-daffodil friend, Charles W. Culpepper. He was well aware of the "black walnut poison" story, and said that a number of trials, tests and studies had shown no indication of any such poisoning. He said, however, that a walnut tree is a gross feeder and will pre-empt whatever nourishment and water there is near it.

Early that same spring, my neighbor, for reasons of his own, had the tree cut down, and I annexed the logs. That summer I converted the area into a bed and spaded around the pot holes. I found that the walnut had sent out a root system like a pipe line tapping each bulb planting. The following year, 1966, the daffodils made a surprising comeback. Grapefruit had two blooms but Ceylon produced eleven. Amateur (which my wife prizes and cuts as soon as it opens) had 17 blooms. Snow Gem had 25 majestic blooms and Hong Kong 22.

When I dig, divide and replant these bulbs they will get a liberal supply of black walnut wood ashes.

— W. O. T.

NOTES . . . and NOTATIONS

Daffodils that . . . take the winds of March

Shakespeare was probably referring to the Lent Lily when he wrote of daffodils that come before the swallow dares and take the winds of March in beauty, for these and other low-growing types do come through windy weather with relatively little damage. However, the amount and kind of damage wind can cause to taller plants with larger flowers is all too familiar to most of us. At the least, stems are twisted and flowers are torn. But, when wind follows a sharp drop in temperature—the results can be disastrous.

When the mercury drops so does the sap or juice in the plants. The flowers become thin and papery, the stems flat and soft. Then, come the winds, nearly every stem snaps off slightly above the ground.

At this season daffodil growers should keep one ear on the weatherman and one eye on the almanac! When predictions indicate troubles to come, all flowers wanted for specimens and arrangements are safest cut and brought inside for further development. (Fluorescent light is preferable for coaxing flowers to open.)

But, in the garden, frequently first-aid measures must be taken to save plants that have been pollinated and then broken. Is it Polly Anderson who applies what she calls a "Ben Casey Splint"—supporting broken place in stem with a flat wooden marker before securing it to a supporting stake? Here, as in any case when it is desirable or necessary to tie a stem (to straighten or provide support) it is always best to use woolen yarn as a tie. It is firm, yet resilient, and does not bruise the stem.

A Show for All Season

Nothing beats a good daffodil show for encouraging more people to grow daffodils and stimulating interest in newer and better varieties. Every committee should keep a file of ideas for special classes and exhibits that get a good response. For instance, a few seasons past the show at Leesburg featured an exhibit "Daffodils—Now and Then", that included flowers from all Garden Club of Virginia Test Collections, dating back to the first one in 1930. It served as a sort of retrospective of daffodil breeding and attracted a lot of interest. Last season the Washington show included a special trophy class for "Daffodil Parent and Child" which got an enthusiastic response from exhibitors and visitors.

On his annual Daffodil Day last year, Harold King staged a similar

exhibit in his garden — next to a bed of numerous seedlings from Mabel Taylor x Binkie he displayed cut specimens of the two parents.

But, interesting as these are, the best show or the most successful garden day are here today and gone tomorrow, and there remains an entire season during which we can share our flowers and infect others with our enthusiasm for growing them.

If there are house and garden tours in your area, contributions of cut flowers for arrangements and special exhibits of specimens will be most welcome and they will be seen by a lot of people. Churches, hospitals, organizations having special meetings, and individuals giving large parties, are always grateful for the fresh cut flowers. If there is an arrangement workshop nearby, donate some quality daffodils to the project.

In her entrance hall at "Rockland", Lib Brown keeps a season-long exhibit of daffodils on a large chest. If you visited "Rockland" every day you would find new and different daffodils on display. Her collection of containers ranges from Coke bottles to antique inkwells and a handy supply of paper slips and pencil makes it easy to have correct name and division on each replacement in the collection. (A display like this not only provides great interest for all visitors — it also gives you additional opportunity to study your own flowers.)

Every week throughout the season when Louise Wharton goes to have her hair done she takes along a collection of daffodils, tagged with names. Now that's putting Beauty in the beauty shop!

(Shops, banks, store windows — all are good prospective places to set up daffodil displays that can be kept filled with fresh flowers. (A wood block-test tube arrangement is ideal for staging these changing collections.) But, wherever, whenever, however shown — these daffodils should always be correctly named, for this adds enormously to their interest, educational value, and effectiveness.

The Ubiquitous Baskets

Born with a built-in sales resistance to just about everything else — I could be called a compulsive basket buyer. Having long since passed the stage where anyone could pretend I *need* a basket for any possible purpose, I am constantly on the lookout for new ways to use the ones I already have and shall doubtless continue to buy.

Fortunately they make the most practical and attractive containers for toting and exhibiting collections of daffodils. Fitted out with liners (bread, tart, or cake tins of proper size) which are in turn filled with oasis, these baskets of assorted sizes and shapes are in constant use throughout the blooming season. Sometimes the oasis is soaked and covered with fresh moss from the woods, then flower stems and name

tags are inserted directly in the oasis. (One arrangement like this survived the trip from Virginia to Holland last year with every flower still in place, and they remained fresh and in good condition for almost two weeks after.)

When these baskets are used for cutting flowers in the garden or taking specimens to a show, the oasis is left dry and water-filled test tubes of correct size are inserted. Each bloom remains firmly in place and the whole assortment is light and easy to carry.

Fan Your Daffodils

Don't go near the garden without your RHS Color Fans this year . . . Harry Tuggle and I agree this new system is the greatest. Color reproduction is superb, method of coding is brief and exact. For everyone from average grower to garden writer (*and especially hybridizers*) the RHS Fans should be standard equipment.

Ed to the Rescue

Some time ago I read about using 2, 4-D (the readily available weed killer) as a stimulant in working with incompatible crosses. When Round Robin members wanted more particulars I couldn't find the reference. Now, Ed Kauzmann comes along — just in time for the '67 season — with the missing information, which also appeared in *Create New Flowers and Plants — Indoors and Out* by John James (pub. Doubleday).

Briefly, the recommendations are: Mix a very weak solution (about 1/10 of one percent) 2, 4-D with lanolin to form a paste. Break off flower petals where they join pistil and apply paste to exposed surface, either just before or just after pollination. That's all there is to it and while not invariably successful, results so far warrant further experimentation.

Finally — here's wishing all of you that

*happiest light
can lie on ground,
Grass sloping under trees
Alive with yellow shine of daffodils.*

— J. N. B.

ADDED TO THE LIBRARY SHELVES

In 1963 the American Daffodil Society awarded its Gold Medal to Prof. Dr. Abilio Fernandes in recognition of his studies on daffodil species. Recently the Publications Committee received from him two publications for the Society's Library. The first, dated June 1966, bears the title, "*Sur la Position Systematique du Genre Hannonia Br.-Bl. & Maire*" (Concerning the Classification Position of the Genus *Hannonia Br.-Bl. & Maire*").

The second, under date of September 1966, is entitled "*Nouvelles Etudes Caryologiques sur la Section Jonquilla DC. du Genre Narcissus L.*" ("New Cytological Studies of the Section *Jonquilla DC.* of the Genus *Narcissus L.*").

We appreciate Prof. Fernandes' courtesy in sending the publications, which are in French. Both are to be placed in the Society's Library.

NEW AWARDS CHAIRMAN

Franklin D. Seney, 308 Longwood Drive, Newport News, Va. 23606, has been appointed Awards Chairman to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. John Bozievich. In the future all correspondence regarding show awards and the approval of schedules should be addressed to him.

RICHARDSON

The name with an unequalled record of success in

DAFFODILS

75 Gold Medals

88 Awards of Merit

21 First Class Certificates

Wholesale and Retail Price Lists and Descriptive Catalogue Free on Application

Special Terms for Societies and Garden Clubs

MRS. LIONEL RICHARDSON

Prospect House

Waterford, Ireland

TEN YEARS OF THE SYMPOSIUM AND WHAT THEY'VE TOLD US

By BETTY D. DARDEN, *Newsoms, Va.*

The Symposium has been the 'Gallup Poll' of the American Daffodil Society for ten years. Harry I. Tuggle, Jr., its chairman since 1959, has said it is a guide rather than a gospel in rating daffodils. The line-up of favorites has been somewhat self-limiting, in that pollsters could vote only for those varieties they grew. Rockall, with its expensive introductory price tag, received few votes at first, but everyone could afford *Blarney*. Scarcity of varieties in other classes narrowed competition.

In the early days of the American Daffodil Society, the only reverse bicolors available were *Binkie*, *Spellbinder* and *Lunar Sea*. Grant Mitsch took the lead in changing this picture. *Lunar Sea* still leads its division, but *Binkie* and *Spellbinder* are at the small end of the popularity poll.

During the last ten years, approximately three hundred and eight flowers have made an appearance on the Symposium's exhibition roster. One of every five of these has made the list at least nine years. This should qualify them as all-time greats. There is no indication that the American public is fickle when it comes to its taste in daffodils. Galway, Ceylon, Chinese White and Trevithian have led their respective divisions every year, with Chinese White the top vote-getter several times.

Silver Chimes holds the unique distinction of leading the triandrus class for nine years, and, when reclassified as a tazetta, it led the tazettas. This is quite an achievement for a flower that cannot be grown in the Northern States. Furthermore, with the exception of lonely Beryl, it is the oldest ten-time winner (introduced in 1916). Unfortunately, it is a notorious "Typhoid Mary" when it comes to virus, but it is a winner on the show bench.

Of the gold trumpets, Kingscourt, Artic Gold and Ulster Prince have been consistent winners. Moonstruck and Grapefruit are the favorite pale trumpets. Preamble is the undisputed leader of the bicolor trumpets with Trousseau a few votes behind. Effective was a recognized exhibition bicolor until the past year, when it was dropped to become one of the most popular daffodils for garden use. Cantatrice and Broughshane hold ten-year records for the white trumpets. Vigil, which joined the group after the first year, now leads it.

The yellow large cups have seen little change through the years.

CHARLES H. MUELLER
Bulb Specialist

River Road, New Hope, Pa. 18938

WORLD'S FINEST BULBS

VISIT OUR SPRING DISPLAY — a living catalogue, open to the public from April 1 to May 25. It contains more than 1,200 varieties of spring-flowering bulbs from which to select and order your bulbs for fall planting. Blooming times range from the earliest Snowdrops, through Hyacinths, Daffodils and Tulips, to the last Wood Hyacinths.

TULIPS include newest Dutch hybrids, some of which can be seen only here.

DAFFODILS include best Dutch, English, Irish and West Coast varieties.

Write for Special Daffodil Offer or Fall Folder.

FREE CATALOGUE

**Finest Imported
Holland Bulbs**

92 pages of over 1,100 varieties of the finest imported Holland flower bulbs available . . . the most complete and authoritative catalogue published.

Over 300 varieties of Daffodils listed.

Write:

de Jager

Dept. ADS

South Hamilton, Mass. 01982

Leading the procession every year was Galway, looking like a trumpet as one would expect with the same parents that *Kingscourt* has. *Golden Torch* made the list every year, as did *St. Keverne* until it was dropped in the most recent Symposium. Ormeau moved to second place.

Ceylon's popularity was mentioned previously. With competition a-plenty from spectacular novelties, it has not moved over for any of them. *Armada* has been voted an exhibition variety every year also. *Narvik* is an enigma. It was popular for eight years as an exhibition variety, but has appeared on the list of garden favorites only one year.

Once upon a time, there were two pretty red and white daffodils named *Kilworth* and *Arbar*. One or the other always took first place in their division. When they joined genes, a whole new race of daffodils came to market. One of these, *Avenger*, is now the second most popular flower in this division. Fermoy was always in the popular set until this past year, when it joined Selma Lagerlöf and Duke of Windsor in the garden. Of the pinky orange cups, only Daviot is a ten-year winner.

Competition is so keen in the white cup division that a flower has to be outstanding to make the grade. Ludlow and Ave have made it every year. In 1965, after nine years, Zero was eased off the list and Easter Moon took the lead in this group. Judge Carey E. Quinn, the first President of the American Daffodil Society, must have beamed when he read the most recent list of beauties voted "best garden varieties": Ludlow, Zero, Easter Moon, Ave, Dew Pond and Wedding Gift.

Of the red and yellow small cups, Ardour, Chungking and Therm have held their own for ten years, and Dinkie for most of the time. The choice here was sparse. The situation in the 3*b* group is just the reverse. In fact, it became expedient to subdivide the group into two sections, those with solid cups and those having a rim. Blarney was the favorite solid cup until the Kilworth-Arbar alliance created Rockall. Limerick was a perennial favorite and Matapan stayed, once it had caught the attention of the public. In the rimmed cups, it has been Bithynia and Carnmoon repeatedly.

Moving to the white small cup division, daffodil exhibitors have shown partiality for Chinese White, Bryher, Cushendall and Frigid. Foggy Dew stayed on the list for years, but its neck is like that of its mother, Nelly, and it was eventually placed in the garden.

Swansdown and Cheerfulness have been perpetuals, but in 1956 what else could one do?

Ballots cast in three classes returned the same three flowers year

Novelty Daffodils

From

“DAFFODIL HAVEN”

Look for these among the “winners” at '67 Shows . . .

ACCENT . . . AIRCASTLE . . . AUDUBON . . .
BETHANY . . . BUTTERSCOTCH . . . CHEMAWA
. . . COLORATURA . . . CORAL RIBBON . . . DAY-
DREAM . . . DESCANSO . . . DICKCISSEL . . . EMI-
NENT . . . FESTIVITY . . . FLAMINGO . . . FORAY
. . . HONEYBIRD . . . JOYOUS . . . LEMON DROPS . . .
LIMEADE . . . LUNAR SEA . . . MOONMIST . . . MOON-
SHOT . . . PIPIT . . . PRECEDENT . . . PROLOGUE
. . . RIMA . . . SILKEN SAILS . . . VERDIN

Whether your garden is large or small . . . whether your interest is in show flowers—blooms for cutting—a colorful garden display—especially if you're developing an interest in growing seedlings . . . you should have our catalogue.

THIS IS OUR 40TH ANNIVERSARY AS BULB GROWERS

'67 Catalogue ready in June—a copy free to ADS Members.

Price List available now.

Our wish is that 1967 may be a successful Daffodil year for each one of you.

GRANT E. MITSCH
“Daffodil Haven”
Canby, Oregon 97013

after year. The cyclamineus hybrids have indicated togetherness with the "Coleman three" — Charity May, Dove Wings, and Jenny in just about that order. The jonquil hybrid class is dominated by Trevithian, Sweetness and Cherie. The species tazettas have been the subject for detailed discussion and controversy, but the hybrids have evoked little interest. Geranium, Orange Wonder and Mary Washington have been the constant winners — by default, perhaps? Reclassification has moved the immortal Silver Chimes to this group.

As for the poets, the original four, Actaea, Cantabile, Sea Green and Smyrna have never missed a roll call. Of the eleven varieties of poets that have been represented on the list during the past ten years, all were introduced 25 to 50 years ago. The boundaries of this class are confined to flowers having "characteristics of the *Narcissus poeticus* group without admixture of any other." Other groups, however, may borrow poeticus characteristics. That brings us to the "pinks", which could not have existed without the pigment bred from the poets. Rose of Tralee and Salmon Trout are the only "pinks" showing up every year. Accent and Radiation are the current popular "pinks."

Can we draw some analogy from all these winners? Ancestry could have played a part. Royalist is the ancestor of most of the fine yellow trumpet-type flowers. Kanchenjunga lives on in many of the best whites and, also, in the bicolor, Preamble. Beacon qualifies as the mother or the grandmother of almost any year. Beacon genes will be found in at least one-third of the all-time greats.

The largest number of all-timers was introduced in 1938, that golden year when we were well out of the depression and the whole world looked magic.

Alexander Pope's verse could best describe the American Daffodil Symposium:

*Be not the first by whom the new are tried,
Nor yet the last to lay the old aside.*

G. ZANDBERGEN-TERWEGEN
SASSENHEIM **HOLLAND**

Gold Medal Daffodils,
including a variety of
Small Hybrid and
Miniature Narcissi

Special quotation on request

GOLD MEDAL DAFFODILS

I have a splendid collection of the finest new Daffodils in cultivation for exhibition and garden decoration, and offer bulbs of the highest quality, grown under my close personal supervision.

**RETAIL — GARDEN CLUB — TRADE INQUIRIES
WELCOMED**

Please write for my descriptive illustrated catalogue with cultural notes on request.

W. J. DUNLOP

Dunrobin Bulb Farm

Broughshane Ballymena
Northern Ireland