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The

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Quarterly Publication of

AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.

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Volume 13

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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 IS JANUARY 15, 1977

SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

<i>Individual</i>	\$7.50 a year or \$20.00 for three years
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ON THE COVER

A New Zealand lamb and daffodils symbolize the spring in September enjoyed by ADS members from 15 states, the District of Columbia, Australia, Holland, and Ireland who attended the First World Daffodil Convention.

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THE 1977 ADS CONVENTION

By JACK S. ROMINE, *Walnut Creek, California*

The 1977 ADS National Convention will be held in San Francisco on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 17-19. Convention headquarters will be the Holiday Inn, Union Square, in the heart of downtown San Francisco. For those who will be flying in, there is a limousine service from the San Francisco Airport to downtown San Francisco.

Registration will be Thursday, March 17, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the lobby.

The Daffodil Show will be open in the Cotillion Ballroom East (on the mezzanine) from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursday and from 7:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday. (Show schedules will be mailed to exhibitors as soon as

they have sent in their registration fees.) As a special adjunct to our show there will be daffodil arrangements created by master flower arrangers from the local area.

You are on your own for dinner arrangements Thursday evening. Besides the hotel coffee shop and dining room, there are many fine restaurants within a few minutes' walk.

At 8:00 p.m. on Thursday evening we will meet in the Cotillion Ballroom West for the annual members meeting, the presentation of show awards, and a brief slide program featuring new cultivars and/or selected seedlings. (Hybridizers are requested to send no more than 10 slides to Richard Holmes, 3841 Palo Alto Drive, Lafayette, CA 94549. The deadline for submitting slides is March 5.)

Friday morning we will begin with a sit-down breakfast in the Cotillion Ballroom West, 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. We will begin to load onto our buses at 8:45 a.m. for a tour of small private gardens in the East Bay area. Our buses will take us over the famous Oakland-East Bay Bridge and into the Berkeley hills; then along Grizzly Peak Drive, where we will have a fabulous view of San Francisco Bay, the cities that ring it, and Golden Gate Bridge; then down the hills into Orinda, Lafayette, and Walnut Creek.

One garden we will visit features miniatures and also has a section entirely under the control of a junior member who frequently wins awards. Another garden consists of nearly an acre of naturalized daffodil species and hybrids and California native plants in an alpine-like setting. A third garden is landscaped to emphasize the companionship of daffodils and other spring flowers, and in addition has its own daffodil hill in the background. A fourth garden contains guest bulbs, some of the owner's own seedlings, and over 300 fairly recent daffodil introductions. We will lunch in Orinda.

We will return to the hotel in mid-afternoon, and you are then free to rest or to explore the downtown San Francisco area. Chinatown is only ten blocks away; a cable car ride will take you to Fishermen's Wharf and Ghirardelli Square, two famous dining areas. You are on your own for dinner this evening. We will provide you with a list of good restaurants.

After breakfast (on your own) Saturday morning, we load onto the buses at 8:45 to travel down the peninsula to Woodside and Hillsborough. This time we will visit three large estates. The MacBride garden is carefully designed to take advantage of a brook. There are drifts of naturalized daffodils and other spring bulbs as well as interesting flowering trees and shrubs. The Starr Bruce garden is famous for having its own redwood grove, a Japanese garden, a formal garden, and many rare trees and shrubs. This estate was designed by John McLaren, the man who also designed and created Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. Filoli is a private garden that was once maintained by 14 full-time gardeners. It is now open to the public. Here we could wander around for hours admiring the old mansion and the acres and acres of formal gardens and lawns and pools, but we will be guided chiefly to the bulb plantings and to the fields of naturalized daffodils. If our timing is right, we will also see masses of rhododendrons and azaleas. Our lunch will be in San Mateo. We will return to the hotel in mid-afternoon.

At 6:30 p.m. there will be a cash bar in the reception area outside the Cotillion Ballroom West. We will go into the Ballroom for our banquet at 7:30 p.m. For our after-dinner program we will have a presentation by

Brian Duncan, the well-known Irish breeder and co-owner of Rathowen Daffodils.

Although the convention ends Saturday evening, we invite you to stay on in San Francisco and enjoy its many vacation advantages. Take a Gray Line tour of the city; ride BART, our computerized commuter train; visit the nearby wine country; take a cable car ride; drive or walk across Golden Gate Bridge; wonder at 2,000-year-old redwoods in Muir Woods; enjoy a boat ride on the Bay; stroll through Golden Gate Park; visit the many museums and art galleries; window-shop on fashionable Union Street; drive past old Victorian houses in Pacific Heights; see the spectacular lobby of the Hyatt-Regency; have an Irish coffee with the jet set at the famous Buena Vista Bar near Fishermen's Wharf; have lunch in the Veranda Room on the 30th floor of the hotel and have dinner in one of dozens of gourmet restaurants.

Go west in '77, daffodillers!

EATING ONE'S WAY THROUGH FANTASYLAND

By MARIE BOZIEVICH, *Bethesda, Maryland*

It is hard to write about New Zealand and not let it become a grand rhapsody about the beautiful scenery, but this travelogue should be a story of gardens and of daffodil shows and daffodil people. All these were in superabundance and A#1 quality everywhere as our group of Americans crisscrossed both the North and South Islands for 30 days.

We found a fantasy-land where emerald pastures wander the craggy hills, where the lemon slice in your tea comes from a tree growing outside the window, where steaming mudholes bubble and boil at your feet, and forests of tree ferns tower overhead, where rhododendrons grow into massive trees, and limestone caves are glittering with myriads of glowworms, where tribal cultures are treasured, and cities and towns are named in the liquid Maori tongue. It is a land of wonderful people where a warm and openhearted coach driver can put a group of Americans, mostly strangers to each other, on a first-name basis within an hour or two, where putting out the welcome mat is a genuine pleasure. These Kiwis (New Zealanders) are resourceful people who approach life with great zest and who work and play hard. They pasture sheep on the golf courses or race tracks to mow the grass, they invent machines to harvest the fruit crop and then invent the trees and pruning methods to use the machines, they fertilize the pastures by airplane and deliver beer to hotels and pubs in a tank truck which pulls out a hose and couples into the customer outlet. Then, on the weekends, the Kiwi engages in a hard game of rugby or some other such sturdy endeavor. All the while the ladies are busy preparing beautiful morning and afternoon teas.

We began our travels in Auckland and on the afternoon of our arrival we were whisked away to our first daffodil show, at Pukekohe. This was a small show, but the enthusiasm of the exhibitors was everywhere evident. It had been held open well past the closing hour so that we might see it.

The next day we had our first taste of New Zealand hospitality when we arrived for lunch at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Yarrall. A large buffet was set up in the lovely garden, and an extra table was laden with New Zealand wines. There was a wine for every taste: red or white or rose, still

or sparkling, dry or flowery. We become well acquainted with many of these wines in the weeks ahead.

Most of the daffodil growers from the surrounding areas were there to welcome us, and we spent a wonderful afternoon getting acquainted.

From there we went to the Daffodil Show of the Morrinsville Horticultural Society. Here we saw some of the exciting New Zealand raised varieties which were to become old friends as we saw them again in later shows. Many of Phil Phillips' flowers were in places of honor: 2a Y Demand, 3b YYR Lynelle, 2b P Dear Me, and 3c Sea Dream. Two of his delightful cyclamineus hybrids caught my fancy: yellow Back Chat and reverse bicolor Jingle, as did a pink trumpet seedling 1p18A. Peter Ramsey, who helped arrange our trip, was exhibiting too, with many fine flowers, and we looked forward to talking about them at his home that evening where we were invited for a "Hangi," or Maori feast.

As we gathered at Peter's house that evening, we found that many of our new friends were there too. We chatted over cocktails and wine until the outdoor pit was opened and the meat and vegetables which had been cooking there were put on the buffet table, amply supplemented by salads and other meats. Later on, when we felt we couldn't hold another bite, a table of desserts and coffee was brought in. The good food, the wine, and the warm companionship were all omens of the wonderful days ahead.

The following morning we visited the plantings of Graham Phillips (Phil's son). He has five acres in daffodils, growing them principally for the cut flower trade and commercial bulb sales. We found our host barefoot in his fields, and though the rest of us were bundled up in heavy sweaters and coats, he didn't seem chilly in his light sweater. The best flowers here, to my way of thinking, were 3b YYR Pakatoa (Phillips) and 1a Lordship (Verry). I also noted three pink cups: Divine, Pink Gift, and Chaste. (The latter may measure as a trumpet.)

When we came into the house for a "warm-up" and morning tea, we visited with Graham's charming wife and met his delightful little daughters, who like daffodils but are not so sure about a crowd of strange people. However, they shyly passed around the delicious cakes and scones that accompanied steaming coffee and tea.

All too soon we were on our way to Rotorua and Waikakei, the thermal region of the North Island where volcanos and geysers abound, and a huge geothermal project produces electricity from underground steam. Here many of the Maoris live and we were able to see how they make the beautiful wood-carvings which decorate their meeting houses and boats. A concert of Maori songs and dances bespoke their kinship with other Polynesian peoples. It was a welcome change from travel to frolic in the thermal swimming pool of our hotel in Waikakei, and to stroll through the beautifully landscaped grounds.

After this interlude we were on our way to Otorohanga for a visit to the gardens of Phil and Esme Phillips. Unfortunately it was a rainy day, but they met us with umbrellas at the driveway and hurried us into their lovely home. Here they set out a staggering buffet lunch that kept us busy for an hour. Afterwards they provided boots and slickers for those hardy souls who braved the downpour for a tour of the gardens.

There are hardly words to describe the infinite variety of daffodils grown here. In addition to Phil's magnificent seedlings there are imports from Eng-

land, Ireland, Tasmania, Australia, and the U.S.A., all growing happily in the loose volcanic soil. The ingenuity with which Phil protects his flowers from inclement weather, as show time nears, is remarkable. Some sections of the beds have small tents, about 3' x 6', erected over them on heavy wire frames which can be dismantled for storage along with the shaped and sewn covers. Isolated individual blooms are protected by gallon size tubs of white plastic which are nailed to wooden stakes and can be moved about the garden wherever needed. In other areas, whole sections are protected by nylon screens at the sides and overhead.

After the garden tour, the cold, wet pilgrims returned to the living room where a roaring fire and afternoon tea awaited. Later, Phil showed us his special cold damp room, where he holds flowers as he cuts them for shows. It was filled with blooms for the National Show, still a week away, and he brought some of these flowers into the living room to show us how he stores them (bunched, with the stems fastened closely together just below the necks and again at the bottom), and how he transports them to shows (with the vases fitted in holes cut in shelves which were specially made to fit into his van-type car).

Particularly beautiful here were Sea Dream, a 3c of Jim O'More's raising, and Phil's own 2b P Dear Me, 3b GY Placid, 2b P Declare, and again the jaunty 6b Jingle. 2a R Hot Stuff (Gray) was very brilliant, as were John Lea's Torridon and many of Nell Richardson's cultivars and seedlings, superbly grown.

From Otorohanga we made our way to Waitoma (to see the glowworm caves) and from there turned westward towards the Tasman Sea to the city of New Plymouth. Here the Horticultural Society was celebrating its centennial with a beautifully staged Daffodil and Camellia Show. It was our first acquaintance with the flowers of M. E. Brogden. Some of his numbered seedlings were really outstanding, and among his named cultivars I particularly admired 2c Guiding Light, 2b PPW Melanie, 1a Y Donation, 2a Y Goldmine, and 2d Pryda. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Yeates, whose charming garden we visited the next morning, also had many lovely flowers there. Among those of Mr. Yeates' raising, I noted 2c Torano, 2c Huskie, 1b Tupare and 1a Kapuni, which was awarded an A. M. later as a show flower at the National Show.

The daffodils were equalled by the camellias, which were exquisitely staged in crystal-clear cups set on tables covered in shiny black. After viewing the show we were served a delicious buffet and enjoyed a visit with members of the Society. Somehow our appetites were becoming adjusted to four or five meals a day and we told ourselves that all that butter and whipped cream played an important role in keeping us warm.

The following day we were privileged to view the lovely estate of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Matthews with its spectacular hillside garden. Mr. Matthews was kind enough to give us a guided tour, explaining the bewildering variety of shrubs and flowers, all grown to perfection. One of the most interesting of these was an early flowering native clematis, blooming with great abandon on pergolas and walls. We also visited Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust and Pukekura Park, but more about these later.

That evening we were again the guests of the Horticultural Society at a showing of slides of scenery and gardens in the New Plymouth area. The views of Mt. Egmont, a snowcapped volcano, were particularly welcome,

because the top had been obscured in clouds throughout our visit. Refreshments were served and a social hour completed the evening.

Perhaps some information about the role played by the various horticultural societies in New Zealand would be of interest. Every township has such a group and in many cases the society has its own exhibition hall (with a kitchen and dining room, of course). There are monthly lecture meetings, field days, visits to parks and gardens, and at least three large flower shows each year: spring, summer, and fall. The spring flower shows which we attended featured daffodils and camellias, but other spring flowers, shrubs, and vegetables were included. This is true also of the summer and fall shows. Everything that a Kiwi grows can be exhibited. A booklet containing the schedules for all shows during the year and other pertinent information about the society is issued each year.

There is usually a Floral Art Club loosely affiliated with the horticultural society, and these ladies really mean business. At each of their monthly meetings they have a competition, and they also participate in special sections of the horticultural societies' shows. Being essentially a flower grower, I have never spent much time looking at the Artistic Design sections of our American shows, but the designs in New Zealand brought me up short. In the first place, many of them were quite large, four or five feet tall, and the exotic plant material used was very striking. It helps a lot to have it growing right outdoors, and arrangers in New Zealand think nothing of cutting several huge stalks of protea to make a center of interest. It seems a shame that anything as exquisite as the Ikebana exhibits in the National Show should be destined for such a short life!

Another facet of the work of the various horticultural and other volunteer groups in New Zealand has been to preserve the unique native bush, ferns, and trees which grow nowhere else on the earth. Near Lake Taupo, the Waipahihi Botanical Society was able to have set aside as a Botanical Reserve an 85-acre area. It is supported entirely by volunteer labor and contributions, and is a fascinating place where native growth has been made accessible by a winding motor road to the hilltop and well placed paths for those who prefer to explore on foot. Separate areas have been planted with rhododendrons, camellias, azaleas, and rock garden plants, but for the overseas visitors the native plant areas were the most interesting.

On a larger and more elaborate scale is Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust on the flanks of Mt. Egmont. It comprises 900 acres of subalpine native bush, among which have been planted rhododendrons and azaleas in more than 700 species and hybrids. Only a few of these were in bloom, but the giant tree ferns, weird rata trees, and other strange plants whose twisted trunks were festooned with moss made one think of a primeval forest. These forests are havens for many of the unusual native birds, whose songs make a visit so enchanting.

Public parks abound in New Zealand. Every city and town has large areas set aside for this purpose, full of flowers expertly maintained and of people enjoying their beauty. New Plymouth, population 35,550, has more than 1000 acres of parks, some in the city center, others at the seashore or on hillsides affording panoramic views. One of those in the center of town is Pukekara, which includes a zoo, greenhouses, lighted fountains and waterfalls, an outdoor theater seating 17,000, and playing fields, as well as acres of manicured outdoor plantings.

Our next journey was to Palmerston North. On the way we stopped at the little town of Hawera where there is a huge milk factory. Here 250,000 gallons of milk is processed each day for export to Japan. The whole process is controlled by computers and requires only 23 minutes to change wet milk to dry powder. All the time I was gazing at those stainless steel towers, tank trucks and shining buildings, I was seeing in my mind's eye a miniature daffodil with its tiny yellow bells nodding. It seems that daffodils and milk go together. Mrs. Richardson has a dairy farm, as do Kate Reade, Phil Phillips, Bill Bender, and many others.

At Palmerston North we attended another Daffodil and Camellia Show with many of the same exhibitors in competition and a wealth of beautiful daffodils and other flowers. The president of the Horticultural Society, Mr. Walker, made us feel very welcome, and we were all entranced with vivacious, bubbling Barbara Smith, the Hon. Secretary. We saw her later at the National Show and Convention and then at Christchurch. She put fun into every occasion.

That evening we were invited to a lecture and slide show on the birds of New Zealand, and also had the opportunity to see the museum exhibits. The visit ended with more good food and more good talk.

Next morning we were privileged to see the garden of dear little Mrs. Aikman, 82 years old, who had invited us to see her prize camellias. She had won many awards at the show the previous day, and her carefully tended garden was a tribute to her horticultural prowess. There were many flowers here besides camellias, and we feasted our eyes on them until she shepherded us into her antique-filled home for morning tea. That was another feast, indeed!

Our next stop was at Foxton to see the plantings of Reg Cull, a commercial daffodil grower who is also doing hybridizing. We spent most of our time among the seedlings, and saw some promising things. Then it was into the house to get warm and enjoy a gorgeous afternoon tea, while Reg showed us some of the beautiful daffodils he had cut to bring to the National Show next day.

Then it was on to Wellington and Lower Hutt for the World Daffodil Convention. Here we met Mrs. Tim Jackson of Tasmania, her handsome son, David, and his attractive wife. The Jackson name is famous for pink cups and the tradition is carrying on. Outstanding among their exhibits were 2b P Vahu and 2b P Verran. A splendid 1a Akkad and a colorful 3a R Dimity were also very good. The Jacksons were at the Christchurch show as well, and their friendly presence on our bus contributed much to the enjoyment of the occasion.

The Convention activities are covered in other articles in this issue, but I want to add a special note of thanks to the delightful President of the Hutt Valley Horticultural Society, Mr. D. E. Harper, and his charming, sophisticated wife, who opened their home near the Horticultural Hall to the overseas visitors. A real treat for many of us was to see her studio and beautiful paintings.

There were so many wonderful people, but I will never forget gentle, unassuming Miss Verry, an avid contender in the open trophy classes (and frequent winner), an honored member of the Floral Committee and Panel of Judges of the National Daffodil Society, and a hybridizer of note, so knowledgeable and so sweet. And I will always carry the memory of shy,

smiling Maurice Butcher, whose shirt pocket was full of miniature daffodils, peeking their heads out.

After the convention we went to the South Island. This journey was a scenic one and daffodils took a back seat temporarily while we feasted our eyes on the incredible beauty around us. There were the towering Southern Alps which rise abruptly 12,000 ft. from a rain forest at the base to their glaciated crests; the deep blue Tasman Sea with its rock-studded coast, the tumbling waterfalls, the rushing rivers, and the clusters of blue-green lakes reflecting all this beauty. We spent 10 days exploring this wonderland from the coach, from the air, and on foot, or just sitting on the terrace of a hotel and drinking it in. At the end we emerged on the green Canterbury Plains, with all the baby lambs and flowering fruit trees, and made our way to Christchurch.

Here, in addition to attending the South Island National Show and renewing friendships, we visited the gardens of David Bell and Dave Butcher. Mr. Bell, well known for his many originations, ushered us into his garage, where he had arranged a display of his more recent cultivars and seedlings. A large group of 2b P Liebestraum was most impressive. (It had been honored with an Award of Merit as a show flower at Christchurch the preceding day). I also liked 1c Tradewind, 2a R Highfire, 1d Riptide, and 1d Biscayne. Then it was out to the fields to see them growing. We wandered about for an hour or so in a sea of daffodils, stopping to examine this one and that one, until it was time to go on to Dave Butcher's.

At the Butcher farm the first order of the day was morning tea, then we reveled in the neat flower garden around the house, just bursting with color, and the tidy, well-marked daffodil patch. But Dave soon had us on our way to see the workings of his magnificent, orderly farm. One of his sons is overseeing the sheep-raising and another one the pig-raising, all of it done very hygienically and scientifically. In addition Dave is growing many crops for winter forage, and also is producing certified seed for sale. The farm seems to extend for miles, (we went in the bus to see the different paddocks), yet it is near the city.

And then it was time to return to Christchurch for our flight to Auckland and the homeward journey. Lunch in the beautiful Civic Center with Wells and Mary Knierim was the perfect ending for my New Zealand adventure. They had both done so much for all of us to make our trip an outstanding success.

So it is goodbye, New Zealand, and farewell to all the baby lambs and their mamas, the shimmering lakes and turquoise rivers, the emerald pastures and the awesome snow-clad peaks. Who can forget the intrepid pilots with their tiny planes who will fly you into the crater of a volcano or put you down on a glacier at the top of Mt. Cook, or the cheerful and efficient coach-drivers who can answer any question you want to ask and for whom nothing is too much trouble. And goodbye, all you delightful Kiwis with your wonderful hospitality — you made us feel so welcome everywhere we went!

FIRST WORLD DAFFODIL CONVENTION,

Lower Hutt, New Zealand, September 15-19

By PEGGY MACNEALE, *Cincinnati, Ohio*

The general concensus of our group from the States is that Hospitality is the one word which best describes our experience at the First World Daffodil Convention. It is very hard to separate the convention from the show and from the sight-seeing, but over and above all the goings and comings and the meetings and greetings we were overwhelmed by the careful planning for our pleasure and edification, as well as the spontaneous thoughtfulness and kindness which made every day so delightful. Coffee and tea were constantly available, from the moment the two groups from the States met on Wednesday afternoon until the moment of parting on Sunday.

We were equally impressed with the cooperation between city government, horticultural groups, and the National Daffodil Society of New Zealand in providing an outstanding program in an outstanding setting. The very first evening we had an introduction to this unusual cooperative spirit when the Mayor of Lower Hutt, Mr. Kennedy-Good, opened the City Council chambers, which were adjacent to the Horticultural Hall in the Civic Center complex, and entertained the convention visitors at a cocktail party. The 21 members of the City Council and their wives feted us with drinks and canapes. Then we were given a formal warm welcome from the official Council seats. The Mayor, wearing his gold chain of office, together with Mr. Donald Harper, president of the Hutt Valley Horticultural Society, and Mr. David Butcher, president of the National Daffodil Society, passed congratulations and greetings back and forth between themselves and the visitors until it was time for dinner — a delicious buffet.

On Thursday we concentrated on the daffodil show, which is being reported elsewhere. Only a few of us took the early bus to visit the staging area of the show, where our friends from Tasmania, mainland Australia, and the North and South Islands of New Zealand were busily grooming their entries. It was a long day of mounting excitement as we observed the ever-expanding display of beauty. Luncheon at noon and an evening wine-and-cheese party, followed by a buffet spread, made us very mellow for the after-dinner program. This was held in the Little Theatre, across the garden from the Horticultural Hall. Presiding over a panel of experts from different countries, Mr. Butcher introduced Mrs. Richardson from Ireland, Matthew Zandbergen from Holland, Mrs. Jackson from Tasmania, Willis Wheeler from the U.S.A., and Phil Phillips of New Zealand.

Each had a few minutes to make some comments about his or her current enthusiasm, and some of these were provocative enough to raise comment from the audience. Mrs. Richardson discussed double daffodils, inspired by the fact that her Gay Challenger had won the top award at the show. Matthew Zandbergen told about raising tons of bulbs in Holland on the land reclaimed from the sea. Mrs. Jackson informed us about the breeding program she and her son are following, emphasizing line breeding to improve pink daffodils. Willis Wheeler, as the next commentator, took another tack, and brought up the subject of redefining the poeticus division. He also touched on the thorny topic of what to do about the a and b subdivisions

in Divisions 5, 6, and 7, as new flowers are bred that make the classification problem very complex. Who is the proper classifier, the originator or a committee? This brought forth a follow-up from Phil Phillips on the same subject. He advocated more radical changes in the classification. He would do away with all a, b, and c designations and substitute color coding to subdivide the divisions. He also advocated discontinuing a separate division for species and wild forms and distributing these according to form and color. After many queries and further discussion the speakers were applauded, thanked, and good-nights were said over more cups of coffee. We should say here that the trips back and forth from Wellington to Lower Hutt were all made in the "Knierim bus," for which the "Farley group" was very grateful.

On Friday some of the group skipped the National Daffodil Society annual meeting to visit the Wellington Botanic Gardens, or the Otari Native Plant Outdoor Museum, or to shop for woolies (it was a bit on the cool side). Those who accepted the invitation of the New Zealand growers to join them found the proceedings very interesting. President David Butcher was to step down, and Phil Phillips was elected to succeed to the office. It was noted that the men far outnumbered the women at this meeting, which was conducted in a very businesslike way, with Roberts' Rules of Order strictly followed. After morning coffee the Floral Committee met. This was not a flower-arranging group, as some of us had surmised, but a judging committee. An Award of Merit for a Show Flower was given to Kapuni, a 1a bred by Gordon Yeates of New Plymouth. Eighteen blooms of this gold trumpet were presented for the assembled committee to pass judgement on, and ADS judges were invited to participate.

Friday evening we gathered again for cocktails and the formal convention banquet. Most of us donned our dinner dresses for this occasion and made merry with all our new friends among the Down Under daffodil growers. This would be the last dinner we enjoyed together. The speaker of the evening was Tazewell M. Carrington III of Virginia — a valiant pinch-hitter for Bill Pannill, who was unable to make the trip. Those of us who were unacquainted with Mr. Carrington prior to this occasion were delighted with his humor and moved by his comments on the political situation in Africa — somehow he tied this to his experiences with daffodils!

On Saturday we were treated to an all-day bus tour of the surrounding area, with a noon stop back at the Lower Hutt horticultural headquarters for lunch. Most of the morning was spent at the New Zealand government Soil Bureau, where a most informative series of short talks, illustrated by maps and soil profiles, gave us an insight into the work done by the Bureau in its investigations of the many types of New Zealand soils. Physicists, chemists, geologists, and horticulturists are all involved in solving growers' problems. We even saw nematodes at work, magnified many times on a microscope slide. Horribly fascinating! We could have spent hours there with great profit, and are grateful to Mr. Frank Taylor, the hard-working Hon. Secretary of the National Daffodil Society, for arranging this program for us.

After lunch the group split up; one bus went to the Wellington Botanic Garden and the other to see the daffodil plantings of Jim O'More, who had been one of the very successful exhibitors in the show. His place is high on one of the steep hillsides so prevalent in the area, and his many seedlings and

other daffodils are grown in a series of room-like plots separated by high hedge windbreaks. Cameras were clicking at a great rate that day.

We scattered for dinner and then went back to Lower Hutt for the showing of a magnificent film on the white heron: "A Bird of a Single Flight," photographed in the sanctuary of the Okorita. Those who missed this deprived themselves of a real treat. Four different groups of slides were then shown. Those taken by Matthew Zandbergen of wild daffodils in Spain and fields of *Narcissus poeticus* in Austria were especially delightful. This program brought to a close the formal or planned part of the convention. On Sunday morning, however, there was an unscheduled final party at the Harpers', which was enjoyed by a large proportion of our group. Joining us there was Mr. Armistead Selden, the U.S. Ambassador. It was a time of leave-taking, not only from our new friends, but now the two U.S. groups said good-bye until our meeting again at Christchurch ten days later.

The Knierim group ferried over to the South Island, while the Farley group took off from Wellington on Monday for New Plymouth. Enroute there was a stop at the Normanby home of M. E. ("Spud") Brogden, whose daffodils had been much admired at the show. All the way north the weather held fair, so we were treated with magnificent views of Mt. Egmont at New Plymouth, and with sunshine over the daffodils at Phil Phillips' farm. What more could one ask than springtime in September, plus snow-capped mountains, steaming geysers, glaciers, fiords, and new friends displaying the most beautiful daffodils outdoors and in that we had ever seen? What a bonanza this convention was!

SOME TWIN SCALING RESULTS

(Excerpts from a letter to W. O. Ticknor from Barbara Fry, Rosewarne Experimental Horticulture Station, Camborne, Cornwall, England)

In 1974 we twin scaled bulbs of 4 different seedling clones, and the number of bulbs and weight increase in two years was extremely good compared with their natural increase.

From a white seedling resulting from a cross between Parkmore \times Finland we twin scaled one double nose and one offset weighing 170 gms. From this were produced 79 twin scales of which 73 had bulbils when planted on 3 December 1974. When lifted in July this year these had grown into 92 bulbs weighing 1340 gms. The other part of this stock grown naturally, consisted of two double noses and four chips weighing 190 gms and increased in two years to 19 bulbs made up of two double noses, two rounds, three offsets, and 12 chips, weighing 520 gms.

From a yellow seedling, Dutch Master \times St. Keverne, we twin scaled one double nose and one offset weighing 185 gms, from which were produced 88 twin scales, 77 of which had bulbils when planted on 3 December 1974. When lifted this year they had produced a total of 76 bulbs weighing 1540 gms. The other part of this stock grown naturally consisted of three double noses and one chip weighing 290 gms and we lifted this year three double noses, seven offsets, and five chips weighing 945 gms.

THE STORY OF TONED DAFFODILS

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

“. . . jaundiced perianths. This is a bad figure taken from medical disease. We should . . . use the term *toned*; i.e. as in tones of pale yellow. This figure (of speech) taken from musical terminology, is much more attractive than the figure taken from medical pathology.”

— Fr. Athanasius Buchholz

The late Harry I. Tuggle was a sort of modern-day Renaissance Man. He had a magnificent range of knowledge and interests. His curiosity was boundless. Among his considerable interests was an intense fascination with medicine. Harry always felt he had a real calling to be a physician, which he fed by developing a large practice among neighbors and friends. If Bill Pannill needed a little antibiotic on a late Sunday afternoon, and the local pharmacy was closed, he could always obtain a supply from Harry — together with a snap diagnosis and a lot of therapeutic advice.

And, indeed, it was Harry who, from his familiarity with medical jargon, coined the term “jaundiced daffodils.” The first such bloom I saw was Mitsch’s Aircastle. The breeder’s 1958 description of the variety was: “Perfection of form is the striking feature of this flower. The perianth is very rounded and flat and in perfect balance with the small flat crown. The crown is pale apricot-lemon with a narrow margin of a deeper shade; and the perianth opens milk white, but after a few days turns to a greenish-beige. A large flower of good substance and vigorous growth. A very beautiful and unusual flower, although the color will not be a favorite with everyone.” In 1970, Mr. Mitsch had modified, in part, this somewhat unenthusiastic description as follows: “One may go down a long row and find nearly every flower of exhibition caliber. A frequent show winner, including awards for the best flower in the Royal Horticultural Society London Daffodil Show in 1963 and 1966. It has been a good parent. While the color does not appeal to everyone, it is doubtless one of the best daffodils we have raised.”

I did not grow Aircastle for several years after its introduction because of the mental picture I had of the greenish-beige perianth. When I saw it exhibited, the blooms were young, the perianth a sparkling white, and the extraordinary perfection of the flower was evident. Then I saw a mature bloom and became immediately entranced by the luminous colors and delicate shadings. Indeed, this was another *kind* of daffodil.

Aircastle is a selection from Mitsch’s R/33 cross: Chinese White × Green Island. These two varieties, each almost perfect, had combined their superior qualities to attain an even greater degree of perfection and elegance and to give birth to another sort of daffodil. Harry called the blooms “jaundiced”; not meaning to reflect an inferior quality but rather Harry’s ingenious mode of description. And so, “jaundiced daffodils” came into being.

I must admit I took an unusual interest in this evanescent coloration and wondered if it could be intensified. Grant Mitsch sent me a number of other seedlings from the R/33 cross and two of them showed a deeper range of perianth color than Aircastle. These were R33/41, subsequently registered as Irish Coffee and R33/2, introduced as Old Satin. Both of these were larger and more circular than Aircastle, and the crystalline-white perianths, in my

climate, became ultimately as yellow as a well-grown Binkie. I began to wonder if, by proper breeding, it might not be possible to produce a series of 3a daffodils from these unusual flowers; i.e., by using certain white daffodils, as parents, to produce varieties with yellow perianths. Coming in through the back door, so to speak! I decided to look into the possibility.

Initially, it was obvious that I must find other daffodils with the same potential; investigate their family trees, and find the common denominator of this strange but fascinating coloration. First, there was the Richardson plant, Lemonade, a 3a bloom undergoing the unusual color changes. Not as good a variety as the other three with which I was working, it was little help in that it also shared the same parentage. Then I noted in my garden on a warm spring day the same type of color changes occurring, in a lesser degree, in Gossamer, Easter Moon, and Foggy Dew.

Here was a real lead. Gossamer is (Rubra \times Foggy Dew). Easter Moon is (Tryst \times Greenland); and Foggy Dew is (Nelly \times Rinsey). I turned these data over to Samantha, the computer which contains the *Daffodil Data Bank*, and came up with the information that Rinsey was the common factor shared by all known varieties having this strange but delightful coloration. Apparently something inherited from Rinsey allows certain flowers to develop these color changes. Rinsey itself is a little green-throated 3c out of Silver Coin by an unknown pollen source. I have never been able to keep Rinsey around long enough to determine just what it does. It is of further interest that Easter Moon has Silver Coin as a grandparent on one side and a great-grandparent on the other. Silver Coin itself is out of *N. poeticus hellenicus*, and there the trail disappears.

So, in the end, it appeared as if Silver Coin might be the source of the genetic material I sought. How best to use this information?

Over a period of several years I made a number of fertile crosses between Chinese White, Aircastle, Green Island, Gossamer, Beige Beauty, Easter Moon, Foggy Dew, and a few unnamed seedlings carrying the same general lines of breeding. At about this same time Murray Evans began to notice groups of seedlings in his beds with white perianths which tended to take on yellowish tones. Most of these had Foggy Dew as a parent, and several had a marvelously smooth substance, almost like chamois skin. These, too, were used in my breeding.

It became increasingly obvious that one route to a Division 3 reversed bicolor lay in these lines of breeding. I had noted that Irish Coffee, with its pure white perianth and lemon cup edged golden-orange, tended to develop a luminous soft yellow perianth, a white cup and a golden rim. Somehow it appeared that this double reversal of perianth and cup colors might lead to a well-formed 3d. As a matter of fact, Irish Coffee makes a pretty fair 3d in my garden.

This paling of corona colors in reversed bicolors also led me to another line of thinking. I have observed that when reversed bicolors are crossed with highly colored forms, the seedlings tend to take up the color in a softer, diffused, and more pastel tone. An example has turned up later in Mitsch's Milestone (Leonaine \times Daydream?) This soft luminescent yellow bloom carries a softer pink than the more lilac toned seed parent. Thus, a series of crosses were made between my toned parents and such colorful varieties as Altruist, Russet, Merlin, Accent, Rose Caprice, Salome, Audubon, Arbar, and others.

Many crosses were carried out between the toned varieties themselves and other crosses between toned flowers and colorful varieties. These crosses were repeated, sometimes, in the reverse order. And all this in mere hope! Could I deepen the range of luminous tones and preserve the essential Division 3 character and beauty of the flowers? Could I deepen the tinted perianths and lighten the coronas and have a 3d? And could I add colorful cups to those delicately shaded perianths? And lastly, what would the overall health be of these newly created things. Indeed, this last is not least, for in my garden the reversed bicolors have basal problems, and their evanescent petal colors are subject to mosaic.

The results have been satisfying, as each new generation of seedlings comes into flower and those selected specimens are grown on:

One of the most productive crosses was T65/2 (Gossamer \times Aircastle). T65/2/1 is a truly beautiful flower. It opens with a round, gleaming white, flat perianth and a pale sharp lemon small cup with a green eye. The cup has a finely cut and frilled edge of a deeper gold. Yet, within a day or two, the whole flower had assumed those glowing suede tones that have entranced me — a true 3a. And the next day the petals have taken on a deeper hue, and the tiny cup has become white with only a hint of lemon on the edge — a true 3d. The lovely perfection and ground-glass appearance of this flower led to its registration as Lalique. And I split the difference and registered it as a 3a. You take your pick!

T67/13/1 (Old Satin \times Audubon?). This glowing model from two white parents has a pale yellow perianth, a slightly darker cup with a striking but soft pale orange rim. Registered as Canyon Rim.

T/66/17 (Old Satin \times Russet) is a fascinating series. The cross was made because Russet is a perfectly formed flower and the pale yellow coloration of the perianth is so delicate that in my garden the petals are actually a heavily-substantiated white. The red cup is deep and striking. T66/17/3 has a glowing, brilliant yellow perianth with an orange eye zone to a deep red cup. A highly colored 3a ORR registered as Marque. T66/17/5 (Old Satin \times Russet). The glowing yellow perianth surrounds completely a small cup of deep tangerine — an unusual hue in my experience. Registered as Stirrup Cup.

T66/33/3 (Easter Moon \times Irish Coffee). This seedling has the build of a shorter-cupped Easter Moon with a soft pleasing yellow perianth and a short white cup just tipped pale yellow. I have an undyed silk jacket identical to the flower in color, hence the registration as Raw Silk.

T67/24 (Old Satin \times Altruist) gave the most colorful group of seedlings from which to choose. T67/24/2: the soft yellow petals serve as a foil to a bright yellow cup, with a deep green eye and an intense orange rim. Registered as Painted Desert. T67/24/3 has a pale yellow perianth, a green eye, and an intensely red frilled short cup. Registered as Spring Tonic. T67/24/5 has a most unusual perianth. In your mind's eye visualize that sugary, crystalline white perianth that certain heavily substantiated white daffodils have. Now imagine that same sparkling crystalline quality in a deep reddish-gold perianth. The small dark red cup has an orange eye. This unique perianth is of an entirely different quality from that of Altruist, the pollen parent, and is easily seen and recognized yards away. The assured poise of the plant and its colorful tints make friends so easily that the registered name is Tom Jones.

T67/6/4 (Old Satin × Arbar). The pale yellow perianth forms a delicate background for a yellow cup with a very broad band, not a rim, of a lacy network of orange-on-yellow. At a glance one might think this flower had a unique double rim of lace — hence the name Tracery.

T66/1 (Chinese White × Irish Coffee). This seedling falls into Division 2, but is among the most delicately toned of daffodils. The evanescent hues fairly change from hour to hour. The perianth is, again, that lovely pale yellow I wished to obtain. The larger cup is the same ground glass stuff as the perianth, but is wire-rimmed in a well demarcated cinnamon-pink. The flower indeed looks its name: Wind Song.

T66/8 (Irish Coffee × Aircastle) is another Division 2 bloom with tones and tints enough to satisfy anyone. Again, the changing yellow of the perianth, a slightly deeper yellow corona with the thinnest possible wire edge of brilliant true red. The name: Stinger.

T66/3/6 (Easter Moon × Irish Coffee). A bloom filled with changing tones and luminous lights of yellow. The cup is only slightly darker than the perianth. It measures a Division 2 and is registered as The Benson.

T67/6/2 (Old Satin × Arbar). A flower of such heavy substance that I cannot believe it unfolds into such perfection. I can't decide whether the petals are a deep cream or pale yellow. The cup reminds me of Chemawa, being a glowing true orange with a definite finely cut rim of sharp gold. So far not registered, this variety has been mentally tagged: Ms. Muffet.

The above is an account of the daffodils with which I have been playing during the past dozen years — these, and literally thousands of others. Let me epitomize my observations about toned daffodils:

1. Toned daffodils are varieties which open with white or pale perianths. This color gradually or swiftly deepens as the flower ages to a definite and luminous yellow.

2. The genetic source of my toned daffodils seems to be the old variety Silver Coin.

3. As the perianth deepens, the cup color of toned daffodils may fade to a true white. This leads to a completely different series of reversed bicolor daffodils.

4. These yellowish tones, as in reversed bicolors of more usual origin, may prove unstable and vary with cultural conditions. However, to date, this pigment instability has not been prone to breakdown by mosaic.

5. Toned daffodils lend themselves to the insertion of cup colors with fascinating ease. Also, the variable hues in the perianths may be deepened by crosses into lines with true colored perianths.

6. Most toned daffodils are essentially "round" flowers with smallish cups. This type of daffodil is currently rather uncommon. However, some toned daffodils have been produced in Division 2 without any loss of their transient color change or innate perfection of form.

7. To date, toned daffodils have been healthy plants, of good vigor, carrying high blooms and multiplying at an average rate. The bulbs would not please a Dutchman's fancy but look like most other hybrid daffodil bulbs.

8. It is much too early in the day to assess toned daffodils. They have been with us for only two generations. They may be but a passing fancy; a pleasure to a curious hybridizer but of no value on the show table or in your garden. I hope several more of them can be made available through commercial channels. You can then be the judge.

However, three toned daffodil seedlings were in the group of five that won the Red-White-Blue Ribbon at the Portland, Oregon, show during the National Convention of the ADS in 1975. And one of these took the Gold Ribbon for Best Flower in the Show. Perhaps you, like me, will like toned daffodils a little better, once you have made their acquaintance.

(Dr. Throckmorton also won the Red-White-Blue Ribbon at the 1976 Convention Show with five of the cultivars mentioned in this article.)

"DAFFODILS 1976"

Like a warm spring breeze new strength and optimism has been breathed into the RHS daffodil annual and it shows in the quality and quantity of its articles. Perhaps a corner has been turned, the pound will rise, the trade stands at the RHS show will increase and England will again demonstrate its great prominence in the daffodil world. The 90 page book has something good for everyone. Alec Gray tells that he never achieved two of his major aims — a truly miniature red cup and a really small white trumpet — and his greatest success, *Tête-a-Tête*, was an accident.

Lovers of poets can enjoy a thoughtful article by F. W. Shepherd. Barbara Fry, who it seems to me is deserving of an award of some sort, tells of a resurgence of breeding with tazettas. John W. Blanchard takes his readers on a wild flower daffodil trip to Spain and tantalizes them with an account of *N. elegans* and *N. × rogendorfi*.

Our indefatigable Dr. Tom Throckmorton and his faithful computer went in search of "The Golden Ring." According to them the Rev. Engleheart barely missed an in-the-park home run when he crossed 3a Beacon with an unknown seedling to produce three seeds which became in time the ancestors of all of our exquisite golden-rimmed beauties such as Blarney, Arapaho, Top Secret, Chemawa and Irish Rover. Properly inspired, the computer told Dr. Throckmorton all this and much more. It seems to me that the Reverend hit a bases-loaded home run with that cross.

Brian Duncan and Jack Goldsmith tell of coming to our Philadelphia Convention and to see our daffodils. Their kindness in reporting is matched only by great daffodil knowledge and personal charm. Our talented writer Peggy Macneale tells of the SWODS show in Cincinnati. The Competition, the main RHS show, and the Daffodil Society show are all well reported on and the reports are useful in seeing what new fine flowers are, or will soon be, available to us. Lindsay Dettman, of Victoria, Australia, tells of that continent's 1975 season.

The *pièce de résistance* is a loving and knowledge-filled two-piece story about Prospect House, the wonderland where the Richardsons transformed the daffodil. Other articles fill out this fine small booklet and a list of newly registered daffodils is included.

Miss Elspeth Napier, John Lea, and an unknown angel deserve much credit for this publication. It is available for \$3.50 from our Executive Director, George S. Lee, Jr., 89 Chichester Road, New Canaan, Conn. 06840
— WILLIAM O. TICKNOR

THE ENGLISH SEASON 1976

By G. W. TARRY, Wirral, Cheshire, England

The English climate is normally temperate, free from excesses of all kinds, but the period May 1975-May 1976 was an extreme departure from normal; rainfall was the minimum recorded for any period of 12 months since records were first kept 250 years ago. As this followed two years that had below-average rain, in many areas, soil moisture fell below the level necessary for proper plant development, and we experienced conditions far removed from those we understand. If such conditions continue, we shall have to adapt our methods to meet them.

Against such a background, the usual topic of the weather before the flowering season assumed less importance, particularly as the winter was fairly mild (and dry) and only a moderately cold spell during March prevented a very early season. Cool conditions prevailed during April, with a minimum of bright sunny days; as a result, flowers developed steadily and kept in good condition throughout the month, and most shows reported good support.

The RHS Competition opened the main show season on March 30-31 with an ample display of good flowers. Mrs. Richardson won the class for 12 blooms raised by the exhibitor, with an exhibit mainly of well-known named flowers, e.g., Sir Ivor, Golden Aura, Irish Light, Rose Royale, and Rockall; her exhibit was a fine example in both quality and presentation. Her only rival, John Blanchard, presented a keen challenge, mainly with numbered seedlings and three named cultivars — Kings Stag, Bryanston, and Kimmeridge. In the sole exhibit of six seedlings, Brian Duncan showed a fine bloom of *Premiere*, 2b, which flowers much earlier than anything else of this type available here.

In the other major class, the Devonshire Trophy for 12 blooms, Mrs. Richardson was also successful, with an exhibit very similar to that in class 1. In second place, Rathowen (Brian Duncan), featured *Descanso*, *Strines*, *Estramadura*, and *Broomhill* in good form.

The single-bloom classes were dominated by established favorites; *Kimmeridge*, staged by R. A. Southon, was awarded Best Bloom in Show. There were a few newcomers to these honors; those growers who had read of *Banbridge* as grown in Ireland saw just how good it can be from Brian Duncan's fine example, which outclassed 11 rivals. John Blanchard won the 2a all yellow class with *Bryanston*, which was Reserve Best Bloom. John Lea took the 2c class with *Canisp*, a cultivar which performed particularly well this year.

The competitive classes were augmented by a few flowers put before the Awards Committee. Mrs. Abel Smith gained a well-deserved Award of Merit for *Park Springs* 3b, a most valuable addition to a collection, as it flowers early. John Blanchard secured a Preliminary Commendation for *Bryanston*.

The next major event in the calendar was the RHS Show on April 13-14, and although no records were broken, we had a hall full of good flowers. The main attraction is the Engleheart Cup for 12 seedlings, and this year there was even keener interest than usual. The two main contenders, Mrs. Richardson and Mr. Lea, both had outstanding exhibits. Mr. Lea included for the first time his seedling 2-26-69 which has an orange/buff perianth. He had

grave doubts on the judges' reaction to this, but it passed their scrutiny, and he placed first. Of the other blooms, Canisp, Dalhauine, and Loch Assynt were the pick of those named, but there were many fine things under number. In Mrs. Richardson's exhibit the two pinks, Rose Royale and Gracious Lady, particularly caught the eye, Rose Royale being honored as Best Bloom in the Show.

The single-bloom classes were very competitive, and the results confirmed the reliability of many popular exhibition cultivars, Viking, Newcastle, Honeybird, Ringmaster, Golden Aura, Avenger, Daydream, Lemonade, Rockall, Aircastle, and Rose Royale all taking first prizes. This is particularly encouraging for the amateur, as he can select a limited number of bulbs each year to build up his collection and know that they are likely to stay the course for some time. One challenger for inclusion in the list in the future is Rathowen's White Star, which produces a high proportion of good blooms and was Reserve Best Bloom. Other possibilities are Tudor Love from Mrs. Richardson and Achduart from John Lea, both of which are building good reputations.

In the Amateur division of the show, the Bowles Cup reverted to three blooms of a cultivar, but only 15 vases were required this year. Only two growers could muster this collection, which indicates that the season was not particularly favorable. John Blanchard's winning entry included favorites Viking, Golden Aura, and Daydream, and a selection of his own raising, including Kings Stag, Ashmore, and Purbeck.

The main ambition of amateurs is to win the Richardson Cup for 12 blooms, which replaces the P. D. Williams Medal Class. Twelve contenders staged and provided an impressive spectacle, the trophy going to our leading amateur exhibitor, Tony Noton, who had a very fine set of flowers, ranging from inexpensive Border Chief and Passionale to the latest novelties, White Star, Misty Glen, Fair Prospect, and his own Barnsdale Wood. The minor places went to very fine exhibits, and the whole class was in keeping with the contest expected for this new trophy.

The trades provided really magnificent support which cannot be described in the few lines available. Rathowen and their small band of helpers covered the end wall of the hall with their biggest display to date, while John Lea, Carncairn, and Mrs. Abel Smith all staged large displays which included many of their latest novelties, both named and under number, and which were most appreciated by the enthusiasts.

There was just time to return home for a few essential tasks before going on to The Daffodil Society's own show at Solihull, in the Birmingham area, on April 17, 18 and 19. As this was Easter weekend and near the peak of the season for many of us, the show was unquestionably the finest the Society has staged for many years. Many previous bests were exceeded, including total number of exhibitors and exhibits, and most of the trophies changed hands, quite a number going to growers who had not won them previously.

The show commences with one seedling; our President, Mrs. Abel Smith, was successful with Q4/15, a 3b with yellow cup banded with orange, which was also given the special honor of being named best seedling in show.

The main objective for many members is the Board medal which requires three blooms of each of three cultivars, three divisions. Seven growers staged, but the exhibits suggested that many of them had problems in assembling sufficient blooms, and Mrs. Oxtan was a clear winner with a well-

matched collection. In the single-bloom classes, old favorites scored heavily, but we found interest in the newcomers, particularly April Love, Stourbridge, Woodland Star, and Park Springs.

The Bourne Cup for 12 seedlings was retained by John Lea with a fine collection built around flowers we know well: Dailmanach, Loch Hope, Canisp, Achduart, Rubh Mor, and Loch Assynt, all grown and staged to the highest possible standard and an asset to the show.

For cultivars in commerce, the premier trophy is the Cartwright Cup, a good test for any grower. Our Secretary, Jim Pearce, is usually well to the fore in this class, and once again assembled a winning collection. One or two of his regular cultivars were missing, but his Ballyrobert, Shining Light, Strines, Broomhill, and Bethany all showed the quality expected from a top grower.

Of the many open trophies, the main interest centered round the Williams Cup for six blooms, all yellow, and the Walter Ware Cup for pinks. Mrs. Oxton won the Williams Cup in keen competition, including very fine Squire and Ormeau in her set; for the Walter Ware Cup, Alfred Bradshaw staged some lovely Gracious Lady and Rose Royale to overcome opposition in a very good class.

The classes for amateurs were exceptionally well filled, and the competition for the main trophies was so keen that the judges finally resorted to pointing every flower to reach a verdict. Mrs. Oxton won the Wootton Cup for 12 blooms, her Yellow Idol and Balalaika being particularly fine, while the Norfolk Cup, which has a price limit of 50p a bulb, went to one of our newer exhibitors, Terry Attwood, with Preamble, Vigil, and Arbar playing a major part in his success.

Again it is impossible to comment on every flower of note, but the inter-society competition cannot be omitted. Here, the members of local societies contributed blooms towards exhibits of 12 cultivars to compete against other societies; the quality of the exhibits demonstrated that many gave the best flowers they had and not the residue after they had made up their personal exhibits. On this occasion, Stourbridge were the winners, and we add special congratulations to the anonymous grower who contributed the bloom of Canisp that was awarded "Best Bloom in Show."

In the following week we travelled north to Harrogate to find all previous records surpassed and many fine flowers on show. The writer was warmly commended by his fellow exhibitors for his nine blooms from Divisions 2 and 3 which included good examples of Border Chief, Rockall, and Purbeck and won a strong class by a clear margin. As usual the judges selected champions from the main subdivisions and awarded these honors to Ballyrobert, Newcastle, Rashee, Shining Light, Camelot, Hotspur, Tudor Minstrel, Gem of Antrim, Easter Moon, Altruist, Lemonade, Rockall, Woodland Prince, Verona, Achentoul, Oryx, and Cantabile. Wilson Stuart's Rashee was Grand Champion of the show.

The show season ended with the Daffodil Society's Late Competition in London on May 4. Although modest in size, the show was the result of many growers providing a limited number of blooms for each, and we saw good examples of several cultivars that were too late for the main shows. Mrs. Oxton was the only grower who could muster 12 vases of three blooms for the Norton Cup, a remarkable achievement after staging so many exhibits throughout the season. The Lamberhurst Society won the inter-

society competition and included a fine bloom of Estrella to gain Best Bloom in Show. Other blooms in good form for so late a date were Golden Vale, Downpatrick, Ohio, Chiloquin, Chickadee, and Pipit. And so we came to the end of a season which gave growers many satisfying times but left concern for the possible effects of the continuing shortage of rain.

FLIGHT OF THE ROBINS

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

For me planting time is anticipation time. Why anticipate? First, what kind of season will the coming one be? There will be those seedlings to observe, several for the first time. Will those seed all germinate? The greatest satisfaction will be seeing the blooms of the ones that will be blooming for the first time in my garden. Can you imagine what the blooms will be like to such things as Skookum, April Message, Topkapi, Fairsel, Peaceful, Impact, and Focal Point, to name only a few. Also, the coming season will allow me to meet old friends again.

One of my greatest problems is space. The disposal of surplus bulbs can be something of a problem. I give mine to various persons and to some civic groups for landscaping, and exchange with other growers. Frances Armstrong reported that she gave several hundred bulbs to the Highway Department for roadside planting. Those daffodils you may see growing around Covington, Virginia, could very well be those she donated.

Another problem is fertilizers. Inexperienced growers may get too liberal with fertilizer and may use the wrong kind. Excess nitrates must be avoided. Dr. William A. Bender, our farm adviser, pointed out that wood ashes make an excellent fertilizer. It is thought that trace elements may be found in fireplace ashes because tree roots grow deep and bring up trace elements that are often found to be lacking in topsoil. Wood ashes should not be used heavily, however, and at no time should a bulb be in contact with any fertilizer.

Years ago I read a paper on lily culture which had to do with the selective utilization of elements. It was found that this plant drew heavily on nitrogen in early stages of active growth. Later, at and near blooming time, the roots picked up potash and phosphates. I have often wondered about selective utilization by daffodil plants. There was a discussion in one of the men's Robins of the possibility of ADS setting up a research project and furnishing financial support. Such a program should be sustained over a period of years.

Dr. Tom Throckmorton has given us an interesting observation on the adaptation of bulbs from Ireland in his garden in Iowa. The bulbs he received from Guy Wilson in the past were large and required a somewhat longer period of time to adapt in his area than those from Lionel Richardson, which were smaller and more solid. I am always fearful to give any rating for a new daffodil the first year. Some give an excellent account of themselves, only to disappear before the next season. Others may very well grow like weeds. Also, the season's bloom depends upon what the plant did the previous year. The second year blooms will reflect what a bulb does the first year in your planting. Bulbs will not grow so large for me as they do in other areas, yet they produce excellent blooms for the most part.

Anticipation is a great hobby. Try it!

TIPS FOR POINT SCORING DAFFODILS

FORM 20%

By HELEN K. LINK, *Brooklyn, Indiana*

Form of a daffodil shares the spotlight with condition in the scale of points for judging specimens. When judging form a number of things must be taken into consideration. Perhaps the foremost is a knowledge of perfection of form for the division, and secondly a knowledge of perfection of form for the cultivar.

Although a certain cultivar may be near perfection in form for that cultivar, it may rate poorly when judged against perfection for the division. For example, a well grown specimen of Galway 2a YYY (1943), which has received six outstanding awards in the 33 years since its registration, could win a blue ribbon in a class for a single specimen of Galway, but were the same specimen judged in a class along with equally good specimens of Golden Aura 2a YYY (1964), Scio 2a YYY (1969), and Ballymoss 2a YYY (1964) it could not win a blue ribbon. Perfection of form for a specimen in a class of 2a YYY would require flat, broad, overlapping (imbricate) perianth segments and a rounded, well-formed corona. Whether the edge of the corona is serrated, ruffled, frilled, or notched is immaterial so long as it is neat and even. The corona may be bell-shaped, goblet-shaped, or straight, but perfect poise and balance are essential. The perianth segments may be shovel-shaped (broad ovate), rounded (broad elliptic), or rounded with a pointed tip (obovate). The segments should be flat; cupping and twisting are faults.

Deformities in segments such as nicks, notches, and mitten thumbs are often the result of perianth segments catching in ruffle on edge of cup during growth and upon opening. These faults may be minor, such as a small nick, or major, such as a deep mitten thumb. The nick probably would fault form very little but a deep mitten thumb would inflict a more severe penalty as it would ruin the form of a segment and thus the balance of the flower.

When competition is keen in a class in a show, and there are several very good specimens worthy of a blue ribbon, then it is necessary to look for some fine points upon which to make the final decision. All other things being equal, the specimen with the best axis balance may receive the award. When an imaginary vertical line bisects the midrib of a sepal, petal, and stem, good axis balance is present, and it gives distinction to the specimen as well as perfect balance. A flower that is slightly off balance sometimes can be twisted and worked with the fingers to attain good axis balance during the grooming process. This should be done before the specimen is hardened off. The neck and flower head are more pliable at this time than after they are hardened. Axis balance does not apply to multiple-flowered scapes.

All parts of the flower should be in proportion to each other. For instance, if the corona is extremely large and overpowers the segments in Divisions I, II, and III, then the specimen would need to be faulted under form for lack of balance and proportion. A good example of a very large cup in Division I is the cultivar Unsurpassable. The segments are relatively small and are overpowered by the corona. This fault may occur in some other divisions also. Horn of Plenty 5a is an example of a cup which is extremely large for the perianth segments; however, in Divisions X and XII the bulbocodiums

all have very small segments and unusually large cups. This is characteristic of the species and would not be considered a fault.

When judging species, wild forms, and wild hybrids the judge will be judging against perfection for that species; therefore, it is very important that the judge be acquainted with the characteristics of the species. Some of the species *poeticus* have wedge shaped segments (cuneate) which is characteristic of that particular variety. This would not be a fault when judging species poets, but when judging cultivars in Division IX we look for flat, broad, over-lapping perianth segments.

Since new miniatures are appearing each year as seedlings on the show table, and many of them are hybridized by using one of the species as either seed or pollen parent, the judge must know whether the resulting seedling resembles in form the general appearance of a flower for the division in which the exhibitor has placed it.

Faults a judge should look for when judging form are nicks, notches or mitten thumbs, cupped or twisted perianth segments, misshapen or uneven cup, and proportion and balance of each part of flower to the whole. Axis balance and symmetry of pollen sacs around the stigma should be considered when competition is keen. The form of the mucros (sharp terminal point on tip of perianth segments) may also be considered. They are more pronounced on some cultivars than others, and usually larger on the sepals than on the petals. Sometimes the mucros are so thick that they tend to cause cupping of the segments.

A daffodil is born with or without good form; although grooming may improve some aspects of poor form, not much can be done by the exhibitor to improve what nature has left out.

One-fifth of the total points for judging is allocated to form. It is important for the judge to recognize good form when he or she sees it. Judges should know the proper form for all divisions, and the more cultivars he or she is familiar with the better qualified the judge will be.

BOOK REVIEW

Great Aunt Jane's Cook and Garden Book, by Jane Birchfield. 224 pp. Lippincott, New York, 1976. \$8.95

Most of us who have known Jane Birchfield over the years as a grower, exhibitor, judge, arranger, hybridizer, and writer-about of daffodils have been aware of the liveliness of her mind as well as the diversity of her talents and interests. Year-round life in the country in Virginia on "the forty acres," and especially imaginative cookery are the connecting thread of the newspaper and magazine articles that were the basis of this book, with many recipes and ideas appropriate to each month in turn. Anyone who grows vegetables successfully and faces a surfeit will appreciate Jane's many unusual suggestions for cooking them. Although daffodils are mentioned only a few times daffodil lovers who enjoy cooking — or just reading about interesting food — may find the book so entertaining that they will forgive Jane for neglecting daffodils this time. Maybe she will write about them next!

— ROBERTA C. WATROUS

HERE AND THERE

Newsletters have been received from four regions and two local societies. The Southwest Region letter for May included short articles by Laura Lee Cox on daffodils seen at the Philadelphia convention and by Rosalie Dillard on miniatures, as well as show reports. The Middle Atlantic Region letter for August gave the program for the fall meeting to take place in September. Mrs. Tom D. Throckmorton, new Regional Vice President for the Central Region, wrote about the way she and Dr. Throckmorton plant their daffodil bulbs, and commented on sources. The Pacific Region also has a new Vice President, Mrs. Robert C. Robinson, and her letter for September includes articles by Harold Koopowitz, Gerard H. Wayne, and Nancy Wilson, the latter reprinted from the April issue of *Pacific Horticulture*, Journal of the Pacific Horticultural Foundation.

Mary Lou Gripshover is both president and editor of the Central Ohio Daffodil Society, and her July letter includes a list of the more than 500 varieties the Society had planted in its educational garden in Whetstone Park, Columbus. Among numerous events scheduled for the coming year is a "Daffodil Clinic," a workshop to cover all aspects of showing.

The Australian Daffodil Society Newsletter for September is devoted largely to reports of winning varieties and exhibitors in eight shows.

The Garden Club of America celebrated the Bicentennial with a special issue of its Bulletin in July. Two of our Virginia members contributed articles. Mrs. William J. Perry, Jr., Staunton (one of our regional directors), wrote "Plant American-bred Daffodils," inspired by an article in the *Washington Post* by Henry Mitchell, and Mrs. Bruce C. Gunnell, Alexandria, paid tribute to Richard Marshall Scott, "A Gentleman Gardener of Virginia," during the first quarter of the 19th century.

Mrs. Dale Bauer, whose "Daffodils at Smiley Park" was described in our March issue, contributed an excellent introductory article on daffodils in the September issue of *The National Gardener*.

The 43rd Annual Puyallup Valley Daffodil Festival will take place April 2-11, 1977, with the Grand Floral Street Parade, Tacoma, Puyallup, and Sumner on Saturday, April 10, and the Festival Flower Show at the Western Washington Fairgrounds, Puyallup, on April 9-11.

The work on tissue culture of daffodils by Janet E. A. Seabrook and Bruce G. Cumming, reported in our September issue, has also been published in more technical form in *Canadian Journal of Botany*, Vol. 54, No. 9, 1976. A reprint of the article is in the ADS Library.

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden has recently revised their Gardening Guide, a publication filled with basic how-to information for general gardeners. Our Executive Director, George S. Lee, Jr., has rewritten the section on daffodils in a style that tells briefly all one needs to know about growing our favorite flower. His article is a good quick reference for all of us and an invaluable aid to the beginning enthusiast. The entire booklet would be a great Christmas present for a new homeowner and is available from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, New York, 11225 for \$1.50.

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In 1961 my Christmas present from a friend was a membership in the American Daffodil Society. I doubt that anyone could have given me a more rewarding gift. It has led me into a deep involvement with a great national horticultural society and into fine friendships across this country and around the world. It has caused me to grow unbelievably beautiful flowers in my garden. From personal experience I can recommend it as a gift.

The Royal Horticultural Society decided, in view of the advances made in breeding during the past quarter of a century, that the classification of daffodils should be reviewed and changes made if these are found to be necessary or desirable. They have asked ours and other national daffodil societies for their views and proposals. Dr. Tom Throckmorton devised a scheme that is remarkable both for its comprehensiveness and simplicity and it was published in the September 1976 Journal. Subsequently the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group has sent a strong endorsement of the Throckmorton proposal to the RHS.

Our Society set up a special committee last April under the chairmanship of Willis Wheeler to receive and study all suggestions pertaining to classification. At the Board of Directors meeting in Hot Springs, Arkansas, on October 23, Willis reviewed the work of his committee and moved that the Board recommend to the RHS acceptance of the Throckmorton proposal. William Pannill seconded this motion. After some discussion the Board voted unanimously approving the motion. Certain minor changes were made to the proposal, such as the deletion of repetitive words, the substitution of Arabic for Roman numerals, and the use of the word daffodils rather than Narcissi unless a species was being defined.

The proposal will now go to the Royal Horticultural Society as the International Registration Authority for Daffodils. We will all wait with the greatest interest to see what action they will take in a matter of great importance to daffodil lovers.

John Larus has resigned as Chairman of the Miniatures Committee after long years of exceptional service. Mrs. Neil Macneale of Cincinnati, Ohio, has accepted the committee assignment. Peggy Macneale has long been a great contributor to our Society and is a fluent spokesman for daffodils and gardening. Her column "Letters to Susie" in Flower and Garden eloquently and simply imparts basic gardening. An authority on daffodils, large and small, Peggy will monitor our List and receive suggestions and requests for advice regarding the little daffodils.

Brent Heath of the Daffodil Mart has challenged show committees across the country to prepare a list, and to exhibit a class, of intermediate daffodils. It is an opportunity for a good many people to win some daffodils but, even more, an opportunity for the beautiful "in-between daffodils" to be exhibited. The idea of a List of Intermediate Daffodils for show purposes is both strongly supported and strongly opposed by members of our Society. Director at Large Mrs. Leroy F. Meyer has undertaken to gather all ideas, both pro and con, on this subject and to report on it to the Society. Send her your ideas on the subject.

—WILLIAM O. TICKNOR

REGISTRATION FORM

ADS Convention, March 17-19, 1977

Holiday Inn, Union Square, San Francisco, CA 94108

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please give Christian or nickname _____

Registration fee: before March 5\$55.00
after March 5\$70.00

Convention registration includes: March 17, National Convention Show, annual meeting, hybridizers' slide program; March 18, sit-down breakfast, bus tour, lunch; March 19, bus tour, lunch, banquet.

Please make check payable to: Glee Robinson, Registrar, and mail to her at 245 Alicia Way, Los Altos, CA 94022 (Tel. 415-948-1564)

HOTEL RESERVATION

Holiday Inn, Union Square

480 Sutter Street at Powell

San Francisco, CA 94108 (Tel. 415-398-8900)

American Daffodil Society, March 17-19, 1977

Please submit by March 1, 1977

\$36.00 Single ()

\$44.00 Double ()

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Arrival date _____ time _____

Departure date _____ time _____

I plan to share a room with _____

Send the Reservation Form directly to the Holiday Inn at the above address with a deposit for the first night's lodging in order to protect accommodations.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The continuity of the daffodil yearbooks published by the Royal Horticultural Society now seems assured for some years. The volumes for 1972-3-4-5-6 are kept in stock at the ADS office and are purchased on a regular basis by a large number of our members. However, there is often a long delay before word gets out that a new volume is in stock and orders begin to arrive. To assure these regular purchasers getting their copies as soon as they become available, the office is creating a list of those who wish to receive copies automatically.

This service was begun this year by sending copies to members known to be regular purchasers. These members now form the nucleus of the list of regular subscribers. Other members who wish to be included will be added upon request. Conversely, it will be appreciated if those who wish to end the service notify the office, although the worst that can happen is the task of returning an unwanted copy.

An error crept into the announcement in the September Journal concerning the offer of printouts from the Data Bank of separate divisions of the official classification. Correctly the offer is for printouts for \$5.00 each of Divisions I-III and for \$3.00 each for Divisions IV-XII, or \$7.50 for any three of the latter divisions.

—GEORGE S. LEE, JR.

ADS JUDGING SCHOOL, 1977

Course II, Atlanta, Ga., April 9, 9 a.m. Chairman: Mrs. Maurice C. Abercrombie, Rte. 1, Box 331, Palmetto, Ga. 30268. Telephone 463-4451. Deadline for registration March 15.

1977 DAFFODIL SHOW DATES

A complete list will be published in the March issue of the Journal. Chairpersons of shows not included in this list are urgently requested to send this information to the Awards Chairman, Mrs. W. S. Simms, 3356 Cochise Dr., Atlanta, Ga. 30339 before January 10, 1977. Information desired: Date of show; city or town where it will be held; sponsor of show; show address or building; and the name and address of person to contact for information.

Early Shows:

March 12-13 — Fortuna, Calif. — by the Fortuna Garden Club at the Fortuna Morning Club House, 608 Main St.; information: Mrs. Betty Allison, Rte. 1, Box 612, Fortuna, Calif. 95540.

March 12-14 — Dallas, Texas — State Show by the Texas Daffodil Society as part of the Dallas Flower and Garden Show at the State Fair Park; information: Mrs. J. R. Hensley, Sr., 4418 Goodfellow Dr., Dallas, Texas 75229.

March 17-19 — San Francisco, Calif. — National Show by the Northern California Daffodil Society at Holiday Inn (Union Square, San Francisco); information: Mrs. Mary Dunn, 4828 Jella Way, North Highlands, Calif. 95660.

March 19-20 — Memphis, Tenn. — State Show by the Mid-South Daffodil Society at Goldsmith Civic Garden Center; information: Miss Leslie Anderson, Rte. 3, 2302 Byhalia Rd., Hernando, Miss. 38632.

March 24 — Oxford, Miss. — by the Oxford Garden Club at the new Lafayette-Oxford Library, corner Jackson Ave., East and Bramlett Blvd.; information: Mrs. Robert L. Young, 108 Leighton Rd., Oxford, Miss. 38655.

March 26 (tentative) — Fayetteville, Ga. — by the Fayette Garden Club at the Fayetteville Masonic Hall; information: Mrs. Philip E. Campbell, Rte. 3, Fayetteville, Ga. 30214.

March 26-27 — Hernando, Miss. — State Show by the Garden Study Club at the De Soto County Youth Bldg.; information: Miss Leslie Anderson, Rte. 3, 2302 Byhalia Rd., Hernando, Miss. 38632.

"WHERE CAN I GET . . . ?"

Anyone who can spare a bulb of the following (or who knows where they may be purchased) please write directly to the person seeking it. Send requests for future listings to Mrs. Paul Gripshover, 2917 North Star Road, Columbus, Ohio 43221.

CULTIVAR

1a Sutton Court
Martian Sunbeam
Tidd Pratt
First Light

2b Eastern Dawn

3c Tiny Tim

5a Poppet

6a Stella Turk
Kelpie

8 Dulcetta
Fame

9 Lamplighter

1b Court Jester
Effective

2b Troubadour

5a Yellow Silk
Cordillera

6a Cyclone

8 Grand Primo Citronière
Grand Monarque
Green Goddess
Helios

Any bulbs raised or registered by Mrs. Paul Davis of Nashville.

DESIRED BY

John Reed, 1712 Dixie Highway, Lot 20,
Crete, Ill. 60417

Mrs. Fred Allen, Jr., 899 Van Leer Drive,
Nashville, Tenn. 37220

Mr. Reed writes that he will be happy to trade for any of the bulbs he is seeking, while Mrs. Allen is particularly anxious to locate any of the Davis bulbs in hopes of identifying some of the cultivars growing in a 10-acre bulb field in Nashville for Mrs. Davis' son.

Manuel Matos Lima, Jr., P.O. Box 602, Walnut Grove, Calif., would like to obtain slides or prints of Murray Evans' cultivars Cataract and Ghost and will be happy to pay for duplication.

March 26-27 — Chapel Hill, N. Car. — by the Garden Club Council of Chapel Hill-Carrboro in the Totten Building at the North Carolina Botanical Garden; information: Mrs. E. K. Wilson, 1413 Poinsett Dr., Chapel Hill, N. Car. 27514.

March 26-27 — La Canada, Calif. — by the Southern California Daffodil Society at Descanso Gardens, 1419 Descanso Dr.; information: Dr. Harold Koopowitz, 17992 Norton St., Irvine, Calif. 92715.

March 31-April 1 — Atlanta, Ga. — Southeast Regional Show by the Georgia Daffodil Society, the Atlanta Garden Center and affiliated clubs at Rich's plaza auditorium, 45 Broad St.; information: Mrs. Jeanne Lynch, P.O. Box 4539, Atlanta, Ga. 30302.

April 2-3 — Nashville, Tenn. — Southern Regional by the Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society at Tennessee Botanical Gardens, Cheekwood; information: Mrs. Richard H. Frank, Jr., Hill Road, Brentwood, Tenn. 37027.

Later Shows: (Details on these and other shows will be given in the March issue.)

April 6 — Princess Anne, Md. (Mrs. A. Z. Schneider)

Early April — Frankfort, Ky. (Mrs. Robert K. Cullen)

April 9 — Hampton, Va. (Mrs. F. J. Klein, Sr.)

April 9-10 — Lynchburg, Va. (Mrs. A. D. Thornhill)

April 14 — Chillicothe, Ohio (Mrs. Betty Beery)

April 15 — Wilmington, Del. (Mrs. W. R. Mackinney)

April 16-17 — Washington, D.C.

April 19-20 — Chambersburg, Pa.

April 20 — Islip, N.Y. (Mrs. Frederick L. Voss)

April 21 — Princeton, N.J. (Mrs. Alan Carrick)

April 22-23 — Norristown, Pa. (Mrs. James J. Tracey)

April 23 — Harford County Md.

April 23-24 — Columbus, Ohio (Mrs. James Liggett)

April 27 (tentative) — Nantucket, Mass. (Mrs. Earle MacAusland)

April 28 — Greenwich, Conn. (Mrs. James W. Riley, Jr.)

May 4-5 — Worcester, Mass.

COLOR FUN

Do you believe that *real* red-cupped and pink trumpet daffodils exist? Well, they do! And you can have them in your home next spring for only \$10 or less if you already own a fluorescent lamp fixture. Most lamp stores, garden catalogs, etc., carry "Gro-Lux" lamps or a similar brand. These bulbs give off light whose main wavelengths are in the reds to help grow plants indoors. If you put your daffodil blooms under them you will be amazed. The extra red light waves will be reflected off the daffodils toward your eyes, giving Red Devon 2a a pure red cup or making Rima 1b three times more pink. All the daffodils will glisten when placed under the lamp. Amaze yourself and give it a try or find a friend who has one that you can try. Just imagine the judges' faces if you could use it at your next show! And think what the photographs would look like.

— JOHN R. REED

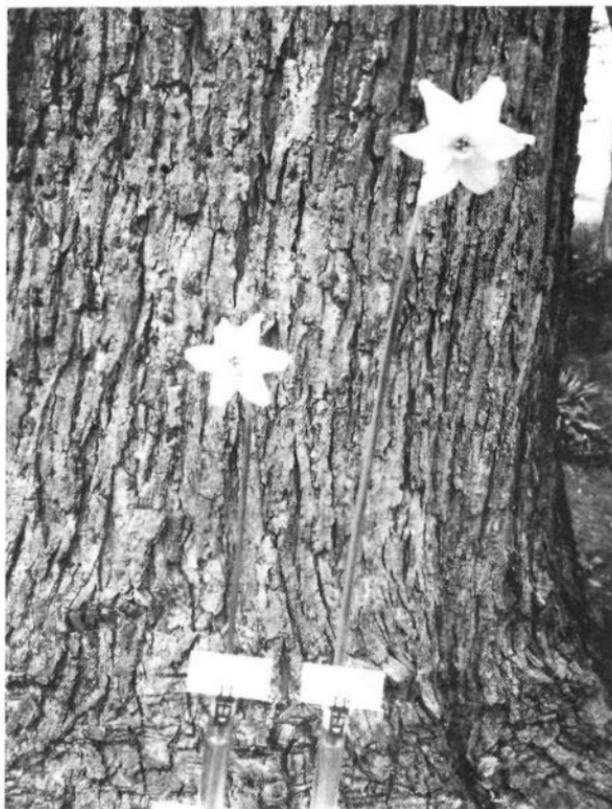
WILL THE REAL PRAECOX GRANDIFLORUS PLEASE STAND UP?

By MEG YERGER, *Princess Anne, Maryland*

As early as August 1915, H. W. Pugsley wrote in his monograph on "*Narcissus Poeticus* and Its Allies" in *The Journal of Botany* that *N. poeticus grandiflorus praecox* was an early-flowering poeticus probably of Dutch origin and perhaps a hybrid of *N. poeticus recurvus* and *N. poeticus radiiflorus*, although normally they would not flower together. In the RHS Classified List of 1927, however, both *poeticus praecox* and *poeticus praecox grandiflorus* were placed in Division 10. There, in spite of the suspicion that they were hybrids, they remained until, about 40 years later, they were reclassified into Division 9.

Both are good for forcing and last well as cut flowers. They are probably good pod parents because they set seed freely and increase bulbs rapidly, so they may be helpful in hybridizing earlier blooming poet cultivars. They deserve to be better known. (Venice Brink already has one seedling from *N. poeticus Praecox* that bloomed 5 days earlier than its seed parent.)

In the picture accompanying this article the flower on the left is *N. poeticus Praecox* 9 and on the right is *N. poeticus Praecox Grandiflorus* 9. One is



larger and taller than the other, and both are informal, sprightly garden flowers. Both are among the very earliest poets to bloom, but *Praecox Grandiflorus* blooms 4 or 5 days earlier than *Praecox*, and has a sweeter fragrance. It has a huge bulb 5 to 7 inches long and shaped like a parsnip, whereas the smaller flower comes from a bulb perhaps no longer than a little finger. If both varieties are not grown almost side by side it is almost impossible to tell them apart without digging to examine the bulb.

Our small variety came to us in 1974 from a Connecticut friend who got it from Alec Gray. The large bulb came from our ADS member Venice Brink in Nashville, Illinois. Ellimatta Nurseries in Australia listed it at one time. It is said to thrive in a private garden in Alabama, and we know someone who grows it in Minnesota. Once in a while it appears in shows.

And there it is — in shows — that a perplexed public seeing all the cultivars and varieties of poets may say, with a puzzled shake of the head, "Will the real *Praecox Grandiflorus* please stand up?"

HYBRIDIZERS' FORUM

From the Hybridizing Robin

For the first time I had enough seedlings to use for both pollen and seed parents. A number of Binkie \times *N. jonquilla* crosses bloomed. Although nothing beat Pipit I had several very nice reverses. Not being a geneticist it was interesting to see the different colors and forms of this cross — from 7a's to 7b's and solid to bicolors. Surprisingly my two best seedlings were from the unlikely cross (a first year mistake) of Paricutin \times Fairy Tale. I hear that sometimes nice first year seedlings turn into dogs later. But taking this risk, one was a very nice 2d which reversed very quickly and cleanly. The other was a large 2b with very heavy substance. Both were of good form with perianths free of nicks and blemishes.

— OTIS H. ETHEREDGE

In a letter to J. S. B. Lea very early this year I wrote that if he brought over blooms of his 1a red Glenfarclas to let me know quickly so that I could get the pollen ahead of Dr. Bender. To my great surprise when I saw John Lea in Philadelphia he produced a capsule containing several stamens from Glenfarclas and said that it had been out of bloom for weeks. I was most appreciative, but all of my flowers had been stewed in the recent heat. Not quite. Two buds of Rathowen's very late 3a R Sunfire came into bloom and so did a number of Quick Step buds. I deathered and cross pollinated. I got only five seeds from a single pod of Sunfire and 116 seeds from Quick Step. Since I almost never get self set seeds even on Quick Step I am hopeful of having something.

— WILLIAM O. TICKNOR

I have 65 seed lots tucked away this year, 26 of them involving miniatures. I found that Snipe set seed, and since it grows much better here than the species *N. cyclamineus*, perhaps I'll forget about trying to grow the species. I have seed from Snipe \times poeticus (12), Snipe \times *N. jonquilla* (6), and two seeds from Snipe o.p. I think next year I'll put pollen from some of the

deepest pinks on Snipe, and see if I can get some pink cyclamineus. The biggest lots from one pod of seed are *N. minor* × *N. asturiensis* (34 plus some dry seeds), and Millenium × *N. jonquilla henriquesii* (27 seeds). I used Murray Evans' D-207 with Cantatrice, Vigil, Arctic Doric, and Empress of Ireland, but the most surprising thing to me was the large number of open pollinated poets late in the season when it got so hot. Obviously the poets like the heat for setting seed.

— MARY LOU GRIPSHOVER

Some other interesting crosses mentioned in recent Robin letters were *N. triandrus albus* × Cushendall (Jack Romine); Cornet 6a × Golden Day (Kevin McKenzie); Bithynia × *N. × dubius*; *N. asturiensis* × *N. × dubius*, (Rubra × *N. × dubius*, Quick Step × *N. × dubius* (George E. Morrill); Beryl × Quick Step (Glenn Dooley). Some of these have bloomed. Of my own few lots of seed harvested this year I think the most interesting was from *N. pseudo-narcissus pallidiflorus* × a very small poet given me by Betty Darden some years ago.

— ROBERTA C. WATROUS

In 1970 I thought I would try to do something about poor seed germination, so I spent a day at the National Library of Agriculture in Beltsville, Md., researching the literature, got 15,000 seeds from P. Phillips, treated the 100-seed trial lots in most of the ways previously used to break dormancy successfully in other seeds as reported in the literature, then went to the pantry and laundry and used everything that had even remote possibilities of breaking dormancy. As you well know the dormancy-germination process is very complex, involving many factors: "after-ripening period," hard seed coat, immature embryo, etc.—too many factors to "control" by simply planting a similar lot of untreated seed at the same time beside a treated lot. So although I was quite unable to prove anything I did satisfy myself that: (1) except for tender tazettas most daffodil seeds have a very strict "after-ripening period" of 6 months, which I was unable to compromise; (2) Daffodil seeds have less than 3% hard seedcoats if at all. (3) Other factors, possibly immature embryos, control the 1-to-3-year dormancy in standard daffodil seeds.

I think (2) is true in spite of my finding that Axion soak produced the highest percentage of first-year germination in 1970 and since then I have read reports on the effect of "saponins" (natural enzyme systems) on the waxy seed coat of other seeds.

Temperature is another factor that could explain why some years we have good germination while occasionally we have a "bad" year. Cool temperature dormancy induction appears to be a fairly general physiological phenomenon, so that it would be interesting to note whether daffodil seeds matured in a "cool" or early spring express a greater dormancy when germinating in a late spring when temperatures suddenly become consistently warm.

Having failed miserably in my 1970 and 1971 trials to break dormancy in daffodil seeds I have elected to live with nature's laws for dormancy-germination rather than try to "break" those laws. I plant my seeds to stay down four years so that any dormant seeds can germinate in the second, third, and fourth years.

—WILLIAM A. BENDER

A BEGINNING IN AUSTRALIA

Adapted from a letter from John Skinner of Victoria, Australia, to W. O. Ticknor, as it was published in The Australian Daffodil Society's Newsletter No. 26, August 1975.

The name "Fairbairn of Banongill" has made a place that is uniquely its own in the history of daffodils in Australia. I would like to tell you the story, briefly, as told to me by Mrs. Fairbairn of how she and her husband became involved in the world of daffodils.

In the spring of 1923 they were asked by local residents to support the "Skipton Spring Flower Show" struggling at that time to support itself. Knowing little or nothing about these things they asked how they could help? By showing of course someone said, surely you have, maybe, some daffodils growing out there. Well, treating it all in a rather light hearted manner they agreed and proceeded to gather a motley collection of anything that took their fancy, all very old varieties, consisting mainly of yellow trumpets, the very old double narcissus, jonquilla, tazetta, and poeticus types. Names were unknown, the bulbs had been there for years. The flowers were duly staged in their proper divisions by a Show Steward. Having promised to attend the opening function at 2 p.m. along they went. Afterwards they inspected the exhibits. Well, not a word was said until the last exhibit had been viewed, they then looked at each other and burst into loud peals of laughter, their own floral efforts looked so pathetic in comparison to most others that there and then on that spot they vowed to give their all (so far as it was possible with other commitments) to the raising, growing and hybridising of daffodils and I might add it was their greater joy to the end of their days.

THE NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL DAFFODIL SHOWS

Lower Hutt, Sept. 16-19, and Christchurch, Sept. 29-30

By LOUISA V. CONRAD, *Prides Crossing, Massachusetts*
and AMY COLE ANTHONY, *Bloomfield, Connecticut*

For those of us who traveled many thousand miles, the Golden Jubilee Show of the National Daffodil Society of New Zealand at Lower Hutt was an eyeopener. It was a huge show held in conjunction with the very lively Hutt Valley Horticultural Society, which held its own separate show in an adjoining hall on September 18-19. In addition to the crowded daffodil classes the halls were resplendent with superb flower arrangements utilizing the wide range of plant material that grows in New Zealand, from daffodils to tree ferns, also exhibits of orchids, camellias, and native plant material. If we could have had time to really study this fascinating exhibit surely we would have enjoyed our following tour of the two islands even more.

The show was opened on Thursday afternoon, September 16, with considerable ceremony by the Governor General, who commented in his opening remarks that he first got to like daffodils in Green Park in London, on his

daily walks to his office in Whitehall. The Mayor of Lower Hutt also spoke at the opening, as did the presidents of the National Daffodil Society of New Zealand and the Hutt Valley Horticultural Society.

The quality, color, and size of the daffodil blooms was outstanding, and the many New Zealand raised seedlings and older varieties in commerce were impressive. In honor of the convention and our visit a silver tray was given by ADS and awarded for the first time to Mr. J. A. O'More, amateur, for nine blooms, American raised. The class specified "not more than 3 blooms of any one cultivar," an example of class definition new to us, but used in several other collection classes.

The more than 20 trophies and other honors were presented after dinner that evening, in a less formal ceremony presided over with good humor by David Butcher, President of the National Daffodil Society. Our trophy was presented by Wells Knierim. Mrs. Lionel Richardson presented the British Raisers Permanent Challenge Cup to Mr. D. L. Hayes. This cup and the National Daffodil Society's Permanent Open Championship Cup, an immense silver bowl known familiarly as "The Baby's Bath," are alternated between the North and South Island National shows, and call for 18 varieties, 3 stems each. Other notables on the stage took turns handing out the various honors.

Rather than attempt to give full reports on the two National Daffodil Society shows we attended, we shall concentrate on some of the differences between their shows and ours. Each of the two National shows (North and South Island) offers 96 classes in five sections. Section I consists of 18 collection classes, for which trophies or rosettes are given, and five classes for miniatures, which "must clearly show the characteristics of miniature narcissi." Section II is for seedlings "*which have flowered not prior to the 1974 season,*" or, in the case of a collection of 12, be "not in commerce, raised by exhibitor and not shown in winning stand in this class previously." The stress is on the first three divisions of the classification, with one class for "any other division or sub-division N.O.E." (not otherwise enumerated). Section III is for single blooms, and again the classes emphasize the various color possibilities in Divisions I-III, with five different classes provided for 2b. Sections I to III are open to all. Sections IV and V are collection and single bloom classes for amateurs, with various restrictions.

Daffodil foliage and moss are used in staging, and stems are given a slight backward tilt. In many collection classes two or three different cultivars may be shown in one vase. There are small entry fees, and cash prizes are given in most of the classes for which trophies or rosettes are not provided. Exhibitors are permitted to make more than one entry in a class, even collection classes. Surprising to us, red outranks blue in rosettes or ribbons. Judges work singly, even for the very large trophy classes, and four judges judged 96 classes. Judges are elected by members of the National Daffodil Society at their annual meetings. A "Premier" bloom in each of the principal classes is selected, and the "Champion Bloom" selected from these. In the show at Lower Hutt this was the Richardson double Gay Challenger, an enormous faultless bloom shown by P. & G. Phillips, and the trophy for this was presented by Mrs. Richardson. Other Premier blooms were 1a Reward, 2a Orator, 2d pink Vahn, 2d Daydream, 3c Verona, 8 Highfield Beauty.

Ten days after the North Island show we attended the South Island National Show at Christchurch. As before, the local society held a show of its own in conjunction with the National one, and a feature of this was a

rock garden staged by the Canterbury Alpine Society, in which miniature daffodils were seen to advantage. Interest in miniatures is increasing, we were told, especially in the Canterbury area. Here, too, overseas visitors were given a part in the presentation of trophies at the opening: Mrs. W. Jackson of Tasmania gave the trophy for Australian raised daffodil to Mr. D. H. Butcher; Matthew Zandbergen handed the prize for the Champion Bloom to Phil Phillips, for a lovely 3c Richardson #148, from Benediction \times Verona; and Wells Knierim pinned the Red Rosette for 9 American raised daffodils on the same Phil Phillips, who showed Foxfire, Coral Light, Precedent, Air-castle, Crystal River, and Cool Crystal.

Among the Premier Blooms were many familiar Richardson flowers plus always dependable Daydream. There are many lovely varieties raised in New Zealand and as a result of our visit more will be seen in our own shows in a few years.

In closing we quote Mr. David Butcher on exhibiting: "There is nothing I like better than being beaten, for then I know I have met a worthy competitor."

UNORTHODOX DAFFODIL HYBRIDS

By HAROLD KOPOWITZ, *Irvine, California*
(From the *Pacific Region Newsletter*, June 1976)

There are two major goals for the amateur hybridizer, creating new and better flowers and making cultivars which are well suited to the local environment. The latter goal occurs automatically as one grows a batch of seedlings towards flowering size and this becomes reinforced if one uses the most vigorous of one's own seedlings for breeding succeeding generations. In southern California it is the tazetta group and the jonquils which grow the easiest and perhaps one should use their genes for producing new flowers. As far as creating new and better flowers is concerned one often looks towards the great hybridizers and despairs of ever achieving comparable flowers. The flowers which they introduce in their catalogues are frequently obsolete compared to the new seedlings blooming in their trial fields. What is the amateur hybridizer to do? The answer I would contend is to do something unique or different. Try to make out-of-the-ordinary hybrids. The following paragraphs describe some unflowered hybrids, and although this is rather like counting chickens before they hatch, it does suggest some unusual crosses that others might like to repeat on the off-chance of getting something really different.

Narcissus serotinus is a small fall blooming white species with a very small yellow corona. It is easy to grow and bloom and it appears to be very fertile when crossed with other species. It hybridizes with *N. viridiflorus* to give intermediate flowers and in the wild it also crosses with *Tapeinanthus humilis* to give an intergeneric hybrid. I have two batches of seedlings from this. *N. serotinus* \times Autumn Sol gave lots of seedlings which are still in their second year. The seedlings resemble the seed parent and when they bloom may prove to be the same. This year I carefully emasculated a flower and applied pollen from Lawali, a standard pink double from Tasmania. Seven seeds resulted which were planted as soon as ripe and two have ger-

minated already. There is a possible prospect of a fall blooming double daffodil.

Gaytime and Falaise have been used extensively as pod parents but they also bear anthers. The plants are unpredictable in their behavior. Some years they produce flowers with perfect stigmas and ovaries on nearly all flowers but at other times the flowers are female sterile. Often when this is the case anthers can be found associated with the white petaloids. Sometimes the petaloid merely bears a ridge of pollen along one side. As far as I am aware all present double tazettas and triandrus like Cheerfulness and White Marvel are sports, but one should be able to create doubles in these and other groups by using pollen from double daffodils onto the correct parents. Two crosses which I made this spring and from which I obtained good seed were Silver Bells \times Gaytime and *N. bulbocodium conspicuus* \times Gaytime. Hopefully the former cross will yield some double triandrus and the latter some miniature doubles. Others might wish to try double pollen onto the tiny miniature species like *watieri*, *rupicola*, or *gaditanus*. This year only one out of about 20 Gaytime blooms had a good pistil and this was pollinated by Matador — unfortunately all I obtained were two flat seeds, but the cross will be repeated next year.

The old double yellow Golden Eagle always has an abundance of pollen and this was used on a number of emasculated Matador blooms with good effect and I harvested a number of seeds. Will they produce double tazettas? Time will tell. Matador pollen is viable and it is easier to get seed using it as the pollen parent than as the pod parent. Some of the crosses harvested this year have potential for being different if not good. They include Inca Gold \times Matador, Nampa \times Matador, and even Gold Collar \times Matador. Would anyone care for a bunch of split-coronas or a bunch of trumpets on a single stalk?

This year White Pearl, which is possibly the best white tazetta, produced some viable pollen. Two crosses harvested were Leonaine \times White Pearl and Rose Caprice \times White Pearl. Unfortunately the crosses of white small cups and White Pearl were unsuccessful, but one should try crosses repeatedly before giving up. The vision of a green-eyed white counterpart to Highfield Beauty will keep me trying to make these kinds of crosses for many years.

Another group of way-out crosses which gave reasonable seed this season were from Paper White \times Binkie and Paper White \times Recital. We hope for reverse bicolor tazettas and pink cupped tazettas. The Paper White crosses require a great deal of patience as probably only one in a hundred florets sets seed. However, if the correct auspicious juxtaposition of temperature, stigma maturity, and pollen age occur an entire umbel of pods will form, as did one stalk of Paper White \times Carita. Tazetta seed should be planted very soon after harvesting as they will germinate in early August in southern California.

Triandrus pollen onto Accent gave Mitsch some pink triandrus hybrids; why not repeat the cross using some of the newer deeper pink colors? What about cyclamineus pollen onto pink long cups and trumpets? Beryl often sets seed. Would double pollen onto a reflexed standard cyclamineus give one a pom-pom? There are many unique crosses which could be made. It only takes a little imagination and a bit of courage to do something which might not be acceptable to the purists. Without that where would be the magnificent doubles and the red trumpets of today and the split coronas of tomorrow? Did you know that Guy Wilson had trouble introducing the first

reverse bicolor, Spellbinder, because the coloring was not quite acceptable at that time. Without his daring, perhaps, Daydream and its rich constellation of relatives would not exist and then even the new lemon and pink combinations only now starting to become popular would not have been born. Try an unusual cross next year!

BULB RESEARCH IN NEW ZEALAND

By WILLIS H. WHEELER, *Gainesville, Florida*

During our visit on September 30 to Lincoln College of the University College of Agriculture at Christchurch the American Daffodil Society visitors attended a lecture on daffodil pests and diseases given by Dr. Ronald C. Close, Senior Lecturer in Plant Pathology.

According to Dr. Close workers in New Zealand have identified two virus diseases affecting narcissus: narcissus yellow stripe and narcissus mosaic. Of principal concern is the first. Its yellow striping of the foliage and color breaking in the flowers serve to indicate its presence, especially in cultivars such as Charter, Daydream, and Spellbinder. Dr. Close showed infected specimens of all three flowers as well as foliage displaying typical symptoms. In his experience many daffodil cultivars tolerate the yellow stripe virus and some may not even show flower symptoms. However, a decrease in bulb production is usually found to be a result of infection of the plant.

Dr. Close explained that yellow stripe virus has been shown to be disseminated by certain species of aphids which are seldom seen and are not effectively controlled by any known spray program. In view of this situation he recommended that seedlings be grown at some distance from sources of infection. Early infection of a single seedling plant means all of its increase will be infected. In that way an otherwise valuable seedling may be a complete loss.

In response to a question Dr. Close said that daffodils can be cured of virus infections by a special technique consisting of growing bits of meristematic tissue in a culture medium. Some plants resulting from that procedure are found to be virus-free. One notable example of the success of such an undertaking are the virus free stocks of Grand Soleil d'Or now being increased in the Isles of Sicily.

For those interested in the control of the bulb-and-stem nematode (*Ditylenchus dipsaci* (Kuehn) Filip.) Dr. Close gave one pertinent suggestion that had come from bulb treatment research. Tests have shown that narcissus bulbs held at 30° C. for 7 days before being given the hot water treatment to control the nematode, as well as the bulb scale mite and the narcissus bulb fly, will show better growth than bulbs not given that 7 days at 30° C.

In recommending the hot water treatment Dr. Close cautioned against its being given after root growth has started if injury is to be avoided. To determine when root growth has begun he suggested the cutting away of a portion of the basal plate of the bulb. (Since this appears to be a practice of some uncertainty, the grower should begin early in the summer, making a weekly check of bulbs of an inexpensive cultivar, to determine the date when root growth begins, and to gain experience in the procedure.

INTERMEDIATE DAFFODILS

By DOROTHY ALLEN, *Nashville, Tennessee*

I disagree with what Dr. Tom Throckmorton said in his letter to the editor in the September Journal — that if an "Intermediate Class" is put in the ADS shows, it will cause trouble. In 1964, as chairman of the Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society Show, and since we were trying to show our fellow Tennesseans what will grow in our fickle climate, I came up with the "Intermediate Class." I put such a class in the show so people could continue to exhibit the daffodils they had purchased for rock gardens or front of the border plants in mixed borders. This class has been in every show MTDS has put on since. At no time have I ever heard of the class causing anyone hardship, or of it keeping anyone from joining ADS or MTDS. We even have new members of MTDS purchasing the varieties on our list in order to exhibit in the class.

I made up a list of varieties that would be eligible to compete for the trophy. Many of the varieties had just been put out to pasture by an ADS committee getting up a list of miniature daffodils. I added varieties I was growing which I had seen turned down by judges because they were small for their class. Varieties on this list may be entered in other classes in our show, however — they are not restricted to the "Intermediate Class." Most of the daffodils people see in this class in our shows are old reliables, senior citizens of the world of daffodils, daffodils of distinction.

One difficulty that might occur is finding the bulbs listed in catalogs. Most breeders today are producing flowers that are either tinier, or bigger and more vigorous than those we think of as intermediates.

COMMENT

Mrs. Allen enclosed a copy of the list used in the MTDS shows, with additions to be made in 1977. I have compared this list with those in the June 1976 and December 1966 Journals, and with a list of varieties that were considered and decided against in making the Approved List of Miniatures in 1963, this latter referred to by Mrs. Allen in her article. It is apparent that the term "intermediate daffodils" means different things to different people. Some people seem to think it refers to all varieties in RHS divisions 5-7, and the lists run heavily to those divisions. Mrs. Allen's list emphasizes "old reliables." All the lists include both varieties now on the Approved List of Miniatures and standard varieties (especially in divisions 5-7) that frequently win in standard classes.

If I remember correctly, objection to an official Intermediate Class has in the past been based chiefly on the difficulty of drawing a line, in Div. 5-7, between those flowers too small to hold their own in shows against the larger cultivars now prevalent in those classes, (although until fairly recently considered as standard), and the scarcity of suitable varieties in the remaining divisions.

The charm of clearly small but not miniature flowers invites attention to this size range, which might best be served by special show classes without definite official limits, at least for a trial period. Elsewhere in this issue The Daffodil Mart is offering prizes for such collections in 1977 shows. It will be interesting to watch the response.

— ROBERTA C. WATROUS



MORE ON ECONOMICAL MARKERS

(A letter to Glenn Dooley)

Fremont, Ohio,
April 21, 1976

Dear Sir,

After reading your article in the spring issue of the Daffodil Journal regarding economical markers, I would like to pass along a method I ran into about 10 years ago.

The two enclosed aluminum tags came from the bottoms of TV dinner containers, coffee cake containers, or baked goods from commercial bakeries. These can easily be cut with old shears; I use small tin snips. By placing the strips on a soft but firm surface, like mail order catalogues, and using an old ball point pen you can write or print on the tags and the indentation will remain permanent.

The wires came from old telephone cable salvaged from waste baskets in office where new services were installed, also old cable from business places razed. Doorbell wire can be used also. Twistems do not last very long for me. The paper weathers and the wire rusts. The holes in the strips can be punched with a paper punch or nail on wood block. These markers will last for years.

My stakes come from the fingers of old TV antennas. They can be had for the taking from the junk heaps at TV sales rooms. I have received some this way and purchased some from estate auction sales for 50¢. The fingers are usually 4 ft. long. I cut them in half; one end has a hole drilled in it for attachment to the frame, the other end is crimped and a hole can be made with a drill and bit or by a nail on a wood block. I place the stakes about 1 ft. in the ground. This holds them through the winter without heaving.

If the above information will be helpful to some of the members I am pleased to pass it along.

Sincerely yours,
ROBERT J. GELLER

PERSEVERANCE

By NANCY TIMMS, *Wallingford, Pennsylvania*

In 1961 the Wisters gave me two small bulbs of Cora Ann 7b and because of their size I put them in a 3-inch pot before planting them, so that if they were not happy in the growing rows I could easily change them to another spot. Five "delicate, tiny bi-color blooms" appeared in 1962, "one flower only to a stem." We then left the States (which we do periodically because of business) and I did not see my garden until 1966, when there were three blooms on the 17th of April.

In spite of what I like to think are rather detailed and complete records, I failed to mention the pot, and so Cora Ann bloomed in a desultory way with anywhere from two to seven blooms through the years, still a delight and joy, and when we were here I kept count of the blooms and blooming date even though it was never really spectacular.

I had this on the list to dig in 1972 (a total of 31 blooms in twelve years) as the foliage was excessive for the few blooms, but we were again closing the house for another prolonged stay abroad and it was not until 1975 that it was dug after having produced thirteen blooms! — and almost a square yard of foliage! It was then I discovered the pot. Needless to say it was filled, and overflowing with bulbs — 48 bulbs of various sizes — absolutely incredible! Interestingly enough, not a bulb had broken away from the mother-mass; they were all attached by the root hairs. Very gently we broke the pot and separated the bulbs and salvaged 18 of fairly good size which we planted in a group and have six blooms in 1976. If these 18 bulbs persevere like the original bulbs, can you imagine the quantities of bloom in years to come?

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

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—ROBERTA C. WATROUS

U. S. REGISTRATIONS IN 1976

Reported by MRS. KENNETH B. ANDERSON, Registration Chairman

American registrants of new daffodils and their registrations for 1976 are: Board, F. E.; (by Bloomer, Mrs. H. B., Jr.): Larry.
 Evans, Murray; Corbett, Oregon: Arawannah, Charade, Dewy Rose, Eggshell, Fount, Heart Throb, Ice Age, Lollipop, Nutmeg, Picnic, Pink Flare, Skookum, Sun Ball, Wizard, White Satin.
 Kanouse, A. N.; Olympia, Wash.: Coral Strand, Doll Dance, Lemon Ice, Party Dress, Square Dancer, Two Step.
 Havens, Mrs. Richard; Hubbard, Oregon: Pay Day, Taffy, Scholar.
 Mitsch, Grant E.; Canby, Oregon: Angel Eyes, Bard, Bon Bon, Chamois, Classic, Cotinga, Dazzler, Discovery, Elixir, En Route, Fairy Chimes, Fire Flame, Lark, Modulation, Monal, Parody, Pitta, Precocious, Queen Size, Rapture, Rival, Saberwing, Seraph, Sioux, Swallow, Tart, Wheatear, Zip.
 Pannill, William; Martinsville, Virginia: Chromacolor, Irvington, Lizzie Hop, Rimride, Wakefield.
 Simmons, Mrs. H. H.; Seattle, Washington: Turntable, Wapiti.
 Throckmorton, Tom; Des Moines, Iowa: Centre Ville, Charentais, Earthlight, Jumping Jack, On Edge, Suave, Star Trek, Whirlaway.
 Yerger, Mrs. Merton S.; Princess Anne, Maryland: Lady Serena.



REGISTRATIONS

Measurements given are: height (H.); diameter of flower (F.); length of perianth segments (P. Segs.); length of corona, (C. lgth.); diameter of corona (C. diam.). Color code will follow class.

- Albacore (Evans) 2b YYY; midseason; H. 32 cm.; F. 105 mm.; P. segs. 48 mm., white; C. lgth. 32 mm.; C. diam. 28 mm., yellow. K-12 ((Lunar Sea × Galway) × Glenmanus)
- Angel Eyes (Mitsch) 9 GYO; late; H. 50 cm.; F. 72 mm.; P. segs. 32 mm., white; C. lgth. 4 mm.; C. diam. 50 mm., green eye, yellow rim, orange red edge. Resembles Quetzal, but a better grower. D 94/1 (Quetzal × Smyrna)
- Arawannah (Evans) 1a YYY; midseason; H. 40 cm.; F. 90 mm.; P. segs. 35 mm., yellow; C. lgth. 35 mm.; C. diam. 40 mm., yellow; H-3/1 (Bethany × Daydream)
- Bard (Mitsch) 6a YYY; early; H. 36 cm.; F. 95 mm.; P. segs. 36 mm., clear yellow; C. lgth. 37 mm.; C. diam. 30 mm., slightly deeper yellow; a good keeper very early yellow from cyclamineus ancestry. E 67/2 (Mitylene × cyclamineus sdlg.) × sdlg.
- Bon Bon (Mitsch) 9 OR.; late; H. 48 cm.; F. 72 mm.; P. segs. 38 mm., white; C. lgth. 5 mm.; C. diam. 20 mm., orange red; resembles Tart, but

- larger and less brilliant. One of the few solid red-eyed poets. D 94/15 (Quetzal × Smyrna)
- Centre Ville (Throckmorton) 3a RRR; late midseason; H. 45 cm.; F. 95 mm.; P. segs. 43 mm., toned soft yellow with suffusion of orange gold; C. lgth. 8 mm.; C. diam. 20 mm., deep red throughout; a rather small flower and has a fawn orange perianth. Very small cup which is perfectly straight but highly folded and ruffled, deepest red but does burn easily. T 67/14 (Russet × Altruist)
- Chamois (Mitsch) 2a O; early midseason; H. 36 cm.; F. 103 mm.; P. segs. 42 mm., coppery apricot; C. lgth. 22 mm.; C. diam. 38 mm., deep copper orange. Good cutting flower going thru several stages of interest in coloration, fades in the open. A distinct novelty. C S 3/1 (Carita open pollinated)
- Charade (Evans) 2a YYY; midseason; H. 37 cm.; F. 97 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., opens white, soon turning to greenish beige; C. lgth. 22 mm.; C. diam. 30 mm., yellow beige. K-50 (Greenland × Green Island)
- Charentais (Throckmorton) 3a OOO; late midseason; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., soft lovely tawny suede tone; C. lgth. 12 mm.; C. diam. 35 mm., soft very unusual melon color. T 67/12 (Old Satin × Altruist)
- Chromacolor (Pannill) 2b PPP; midseason; H. 42 cm.; F. 120 mm.; P. segs. 50 mm., white; C. lgth. 34 mm.; C. diam. 45., pink. Resembles Accent, deeper color, wider mouth. 64/25/FR (Carita × Accent)
- Classic (Mitsch) 2b Y; early midseason; H. 43 cm.; F. 116 mm.; P. segs. 50 mm., white; C. lgth. 45 mm.; C. diam. 32 mm., lemon yellow; appears to be a trumpet but does not measure so, very smooth with flat starlike perianth and long narrow crown. B 56/1-R6/1 ((Broughshane × Cantatrice) × Empress of Ireland)
- Coral Strand (Kanouse) 4 WPP; late midseason; H. 47 cm.; F. 101.6 mm.; P. segs. 38.1 mm., cream white; C. lgth. 22.2 mm.; C. diam. 63.5 mm. coral pink. Good double flower with fine substance, very strong straight stem. (Pink Chiffon × Mabel Taylor)
- Cotinga (Mitsch) 6a W-PP; midseason; H. 26 cm.; F. 92 mm.; P. segs. 43 mm., ivory white; C. lgth. 29 mm.; C. diam. 22 mm., apricot pink somewhat deeper at edge. E 07/3 ((Mitylene × cyclamineus sdlg.) × sdlg.)
- Dazzler (Mitsch) 2a YOR; midseason; H. 50 cm.; F. 106 mm.; P. segs. 48 mm., intense gold; C. lgth. 27 mm.; C. diam. 62 mm., fiery orange red, the wide almost flat fluted crown makes it distinctive. Z 162/1 (Matlock × Falstaff)
- Dewy Rose (Evans) 2b WPP; midseason; H. 38 cm.; F. 95 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., white; C. lgth. 25 mm.; C. diam. 40 mm., white, pink. L-30 (Cordial × Caro Nome)
- Discovery (Mitsch) 4 Y-YO; late; H. 38 cm.; F. 95 mm., P. segs. 47 mm., deep lemon, very broad; corona same as perianth with pale orange segments interspersed. A new color for a 4. Good stem, full double. G 69/1 (Gay Time × Daydream)
- Doll Dance (Kanouse) 11 WWW; midseason; H. 43.2 cm.; F. 88.9 mm.; P. segs. 28.6 mm.; white; C. lgth. 34.9 mm.; C. diam. 69.9 mm., white. Resembles Two Step but differs in shape, color, tone and size. Cup is lightly pleated, has good stem. (Hillbilly × Mabel Taylor)
- Earthlight (Throckmorton) 3a WYY; late; H. 50 cm.; F. 92 mm.; P. segs.

- 40 mm., soft toned beige yellow; C. lgth. 13 mm.; C. diam. 30 mm., deeper yellow than perianth, pale throat deepening to a toned yellow rim. A perfect example of a "toned" daffodil; its unique colors catch and hold the eye. T 66/12/2 (Aircastle × Irish Coffee)
- Eggshell (Evans) 2a YYY; late midseason; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 43 mm., yellow; C. lgth. 30 mm.; C. diam. 37 mm., yellow. K-7/1 (Oneonta × Protege)
- Elixir (Mitsch) 4 Y-Y; late; H. 57 cm.; F. 95 mm.; P. segs. 42 mm., deep lemon; corona deeper yellow center petals. Resembles its sibling Discovery except it has deep yellow segments where Discovery has orange. C 69/2 (Gay Time × Daydream)
- En Route (Mitsch) 2b PPP; midseason; H. 38 cm.; F. 120 mm.; P. segs. 50 mm., white, very round and much overlapping; C. lgth. 27 mm.; C. diam. 43 mm., light apricot pink. Resembles High Repute, taller and with a smaller crown. D/60/3 (Passionale × Accent)
- Fairy Chimes (Mitsch) 5b YYY; late midseason; H. 38 cm.; F. 44 mm.; P. segs. 20., pale yellow; C. lgth. 9 mm.; C. diam. 13 mm., pale yellow. Resemble April Tears but considerably taller, earlier, more vigorous, and a prolific bloomer. C 76/1 (*N. jonquilla* × *N. triandrus albus*)
- Fireflame (Mitsch) 2a OR; midseason; H. 55 cm.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 45 mm., intense gold; C. lgth. 24 mm.; C. diam. 46 mm., fiery orange red, sun resistant, somewhat like Firecracker, much larger and taller. F 103/3 (Firecracker × Brer Fox)
- Fount (Evans) 2b PPP; midseason; H. 39 cm.; F. 110 mm.; P. segs. 46 mm., white; C. lgth. 30 mm.; C. diam. 40 mm., pink. L-2 (Interim × 2b PPP seedling)
- Heart Throb (Evans) 2b GWP; midseason; H. 42 cm.; F. 90 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., white; C. lgth. 20 mm.; C. diam. 30 mm., green, white, pink. L-39 (Everpink × (Cairo Nome × Mabel Taylor))
- Ice Age (Evans) 2c WWW; early; H. 40 cm.; F. 110 mm.; P. segs. 45 mm., white; C. lgth. 40 mm.; C. diam. 40 mm., white. F-268 (Zero × Kanchenjunga)
- Irvington (Pannill) 3b RRR; H. 44 cm.; F. 87 mm.; P. segs. 36 mm., white; C. lgth. 9 mm.; C. diam. 30 mm., red. 64/84/B (Merlin × Hotspur)
- Jumping Jack (Throckmorton) 2a GYO; H. 48 cm.; Golden fawn tone with iridescent yellow shine to it. Cup has an olive eye extending into a very bright yellow cup edged in orange and tipped and flecked in bright gold and white. T 77/62/2 (Old Satin × Arbar)
- Lady Serena (Yerger) 9 GGYR; midseason; F. 66 mm.; P. segs. white; C. diam. 14 mm., green eye, fluted chartreuse band with white line inside red rim on aging. Resembles Perdita but not as flared in bowl, or as shiny and glistening, but has heavy gardenia-like texture. P.D.W. 101, parents unknown.
- Lark (Mitsch) 2d; L-LWL; late midseason; H. 43 cm.; F. 90 mm.; P. segs. 38mm., soft lemon; C. lgth. 18 mm.; C. diam. 40 mm., lemon fading to near pure white with lemon frilled rim, resembles Lyrebird, except larger crown, H 123/1 (Irish Coffee × Richardson 3d seedling)
- Larry (Board) 3b GYRO; late midseason; H. 43 cm.; F. 97 mm.; P. segs. 42 mm., white; C. lgth. 12 mm.; C. diam. 40 mm., deep green eye, inner half of nearly flat corona a soft yellow shading into a bright red orange in

- outer half. Resembles Fermoy but sharper, brighter colors. 361 ((Fermoy × Roimond) × Arbar) Raised and named by Mr. Board, who died before it could be registered. Registered by Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, Jr.
- Lemon Ice** (Kanouse) 11 WYY; late midseason; H. 50.8 cm.; F. 88.9 mm.; P. segs. 31.8 mm., white; C. lgth. 38.1; C. diam. 73 mm., lemon yellow lighter at base. Corona ruffled at tips of split corona. Clear colors, good stem. (Hillbilly × Lisbreen)
- Lizzie Hop** (Pannill) 1a YYY; midseason; H. 44 cm.; F. 108 mm.; P. segs. 42 mm., gold; C. lgth. 43 mm.; C. diam. 39 mm. gold; 64/38 (Arctic Gold × Fine Gold)
- Lollipop** (Evans) 3b YYY; late midseason; H. 40 cm.; F. 85 mm.; P. segs. 35 mm., white; C. lgth. 10 mm.; C. diam. 20 mm., yellow. J-16 (Green Island × Actaea)
- Modulation** (Mitsch) 2a PPP; midseason; H. 45 cm.; 103 mm.; P. segs. 44 mm., pale lemon; C. lgth. 33 mm.; C. diam., apricot pink. Resembles Milestone but crown is more flared, coloring more evenly distributed. 2 H 1/2 (Accent × Daydream)
- Monal** (Mitsch) 2a OR; early; H. 38 cm.; F. 108 mm.; P. segs. 46 mm., rich golden yellow; C. lgth. 24 mm.; C. diam. 41 mm., deep solid orange red; a very brilliant well formed flower and holds its color well. G 65/3 A 4/1 ((Armada × Paricutin) × Falstaff)
- Nutmeg** (Evans) 2b YYY; midseason; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm.; white; C. lgth. 28 mm.; C. diam. 38 mm., yellow. KK-38/1 (2b seedling × Accent)
- On Edge** (Throckmorton) 3a GYR; late midseason; H. 59 cm.; P. segs. 40 mm., pale toned soft yellow; C. lgth. 10 mm.; C. diam. deep green eye. Sharp yellow corona ending in the narrowest possible edge of sharp vermilion orange. This flower has beautiful pale iridescent tones which change almost from hour to hour. Cup is extremely small, straight, but so highly shirred and folded that it seems even smaller. T 67/24/4 (Old Satin × Altruist)
- Parody** (Mitsch) 2d L-LW; midseason; H. 43 cm.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 44 mm., Pale lemon; C. lgth. 35 mm.; C. diam. 35 mm., pale lemon fading to near white, reflexing perianth sometimes like a cyclamineus hybrid. F 70/1 (Daydream × Binkie)
- Party Dress** (Kanouse) 11 YYY; late midseason; H. 45 cm.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 34.9 mm.; cream; C. lgth. 25.4 mm.; C. diam. 80 mm., ivory, deeper than perianth, lighter on edges, very ruffled and fluted. Resembles Square Dancer, different color. (Hillbilly × Mabel Taylor)
- Pay Day** (Havens) 1d L-L; late; H. 42 cm.; F. 103 mm.; P. segs. 44 mm., deep lemon gold with white halo; C. lgth. 46 mm.; C. diam. 43 mm., lemon gold fading slightly. Under some conditions this may be a 1a, others a 1d, but one of the finest late trumpets, blooming with the poets. GEJ 9/1 (Royal Oak × Daydream)
- Picnic** (Evans) 2b YYY; midseason; H. 49 cm.; F. 105 mm.; P. segs. 42 mm.; white; C. lgth. 28 mm.; C. diam. 40 mm., yellow. K-38 (2b yellow seedling × Accent)
- Pink Flare** (Evans) 2b PPP; late midseason; H. 32 cm.; F. 95 mm.; P. segs. 42 mm., white; C. lgth. 30 mm.; C. diam. 35 mm., pink. H-45 (Rose of Tralee × Rose City)
- Pitta** (Mitsch) 2b PPP; late midseason; H. 50 cm.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs.

- 43 mm., milk white, very rounded and flat; C. lgth. 22 mm.; C. diam. 46 mm., light salmon pink, shallow bowl shaped. Resembles Precedent but pinker. F 34/2 (Precedent × Debutante)
- Precocious (Mitsch) 2b PPP; late midseason; H. 48 cm.; F. 98 mm.; P. segs. 45 mm., ivory white; C. lgth. 27 mm.; C. diam. 62 mm., salmon rose, very striking rich color with crown heavily ruffled, fluted, and frilled. G 13/1 (Precedent × Eclat)
- Queen Size (Mitsch) 3b LLL; late midseason; H. 35 cm.; F. 120 mm.; P. segs. 52 mm., white, very large round, flat and overlapping; C. lgth. 17 mm.; C. diam. 47 mm., lemon, saucer shaped, frilled. Resembles Bit O'Gold but with a smaller cup. D 47/2 (Pretender × Aircastle)
- Rapture (Mitsch) 6a YYY; early; H. 33 cm.; F. 79 mm.; P. segs. 36 mm., soft clear yellow; C. lgth. 35 mm.; C. diam. 20 mm., soft clear yellow. Strongly reflexed but rather broad and very smooth perianth segments with long well balanced crown. G 78/1 (Nazareth × *N. cyclamineus*)
- Rimride (Pannill) 3b GYO; late midseason; H. 45 cm.; P. segs. 41 mm., white; C. lgth. 13 mm.; C. diam. 35 mm., green, yellow, orange. Resembles Redstart. D 52/ Precedent.
- Rival (Mitsch) 6a YG-YYY; midseason; H. 36 cm.; F. 92 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., vibrant glowing yellow, green as it joins the corona; C. lgth. 37 mm.; C. diam. 30 mm., rich yellow. Resembles Prefix but considerably larger, later flowering. EO 6/1 (Jenny o.p.)
- Saberwing (Mitsch) 5b WWG; midseason; H. 34 cm.; F. 75 mm.; P. segs. 30 mm., white; C. lgth. 17 mm.; C. diam. 30 mm., white. Very rounded perianth, bowl-shaped crown with typical triandrus smoothness. Normally one bloom to a stem. F 152/ 5 (Easter Moon × *N. triandrus albus*)
- Scholar (Havens) 2d L-LWW; late midseason; H. 46 cm.; F. 115 mm.; P. segs. 45 mm., luminous lemon; C. lgth. 43 mm.; C. diam. 47 mm., luminous lemon, becoming white as it ages. A large flower having the appearance of a trumpet; rolled crown. FEJ 4/3 (Bethany × Butterscotch)
- Seraph (Mitsch) 9 GYOR; late; H. 44 cm.; F. 64 mm.; P. segs. 26 mm., white; C. lgth. 4 mm.; C. diam. 22 mm., green eye, yellow band with orange red rim. Resembles Angel Eyes but much more circular in form and considerably smaller. D 95/10 (Quetzal × Smyrna)
- Skookum (Evans) 3a YYY; late; H. 50 cm.; F. 95 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., yellow; C. lgth. 11 mm.; C. diam. 30 mm., yellow primrose. I-12 (Green Island × Actaea)
- Sioux (Mitsch) 2a C-Or; early midseason; H. 45 cm.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., deep gold; C. lgth. 24 mm.; C. diam. 38 mm., orange red. Resembles Chemawa, larger, but yellow edge not as noticeable. B 45/26 P 50/1 ((Narvik × California Gold) × Flaming Meteor)
- Square Dancer (Kanouse) 11 YYY; midseason; H. 47 c.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 25 mm., golden yellow; C. lgth. 34.9 mm.; C. diam. 76.2 mm., deep golden yellow, deeper than perianth, ruffled and fluted. (Hillbilly × Mabel Taylor)
- Star Trek (Throckmorton) 3b GYR; late midseason; F. 105 mm.; P. segs. 50 mm., crystalline white tending to some shading later; C. lgth. 9 mm.; C. diam. 28 mm., deep green eye with a sharp limey lemon cup rimmed in sharp vermilion scarlet. Rather star shaped perianth tends to reflex somewhat, bringing added prominence to a most colorful cup. T 67/24/9 (Old Satin × Altruist)

- Suave (Throckmorton) 3a YYY; late; H. 53 cm.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., soft toned yellow; C. lgth. 13 mm.; C. diam. 35 mm., soft toned yellow, slightly deeper than perianth. Flower opens with inner 2/3 of cup an opalescent grayish lavender pearl color, rim a soft golden buff. Entire flower soon becomes a soft toned yellow with cup slightly darker than perianth. T 66/12/1 (Aircastle × Irish Coffee)
- Sun Ball (Evans) 4 YYY; midseason; H. 37 cm.; F. 105 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., yellow; C. center yellow to deep yellow. Resembles Fiji, blooms later, form more symmetrical. L-42 (Falaise sdl. × Dawnlight)
- Swallow (Mitsch) 6a Y-WYW; Early; H. 38 cm.; F. 80 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., pale yellow with white halo. C. lgth. 30 mm.; C. diam. 22 mm., pale yellow becoming paler. G 78/3 (Nazareth × *N. cyclamineus*)
- Taffy (Havens) 2d Y-YWW; midseason; H. 54 cm.; F. 115 mm.; P. segs. 52 mm., yellow slightly tinged buff; C. lgth. 44 mm.; C. diam. 56 mm., yellow with strong buff shading, eventually fading to white, striking and very good form. FEJ 6/3 (Nazareth × Butterscotch)
- Tart (Mitsch) 9 W-OR late; H. 40 cm.; F. 68 mm.; P. segs. 30 mm., white; C. lgth. 3 mm.; C. diam. 16 mm., vivid solid orange red, most vivid in color. D 94/4 (Quetzal × Smyrna)
- Turntable (Simmons) 2a Y-GWY; midseason; H. 50 cm.; F. 105 mm.; P. segs. 45 mm., opens white, turns light greenish yellow; C. lgth. 20 mm.; C. diam. 38 mm., green, white, yellow. (White Spire × Green Island)
- Two Step (Kanouse) 11 WWW; midseason; H. 46 cm.; F. 92.1 mm.; P. segs. 31.8 mm., white; C. lgth. 34.9 mm.; C. diam. 63.5 mm., white, slightly ruffled; resembles Doll Dance, differs in shape and color tone. Split corona, flat flower. (Hillbilly × Mabel Taylor)
- Wakefield (Pannill) 2c; H. 45 cm.; F. 101 mm.; P. segs. 41 mm., white; C. lgth. 35 mm.; C. diam. 38 mm., white; 62/24 (Easter Moon × Glendermott)
- Wapiti (Simmons) 2a YOY; midseason; H. 50 cm.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 40 mm., yellow; C. lgth. 30 mm.; C. diam. 70 mm., opens orange yellow, turns yellow. ((Hillbilly's Sister × Paricutin) × (Hillbilly's Sister × Paricutin))
- Wheatear (Mitsch) 6a L-LWY; midseason; H. 45 cm.; F. 100 mm.; P. segs. 43 mm., luminous bright lemon; C. lgth. 39 mm.; C. diam. 28 mm., luminous bright lemon fading to pure white with deeper rim. Striking color. ES 7/5 2nd generation from (Mitylene × *N. cyclamineus*)

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- Whirlaway (Throckmorton) 3a GYO; late midseason; H. 52 cm.; P. segs. 45 mm., soft toned beige yellow; C. lgth. 13 mm.; olive green center with a toned luminous yellow cup with rather strong margin in orange pink. Resembles Lalique, with somewhat more colorful cup. T 65/2/8 (Gosamer × Aircastle)
- White Satin (Evans) 1c WWW; midseason; H. 39 cm.; F. 105 mm.; P. segs. 42 mm., white; C. lgth. 43 mm.; C. diam. 36 mm., white. L-71 (Yosemite × (Beersheba × Zero))
- Wizard (Evans) 2d YYY; midseason; H. 38 cm.; F. 97 mm.; P. segs. 42 mm., white; C. lgth. 35 mm.; C. diam. 33 mm., chrome yellow. L-9 (Effective × Festivity) open pollinated.
- Zip (Mitsch) 6a Y-YYY; early; H. 29 cm.; F. 62 mm.; P. segs. 26 mm., clear golden yellow; C. lgth. 27 mm.; C. diam. 19 mm., clear golden yellow; a small flower probably eligible for miniature class. C 47/1 (Wee Bee × *N. cyclamineus*)

GRAND EMPEROR AND DOUBLE GRAND EMPEROR

Enthusiasm knows no age and Mr. Culpepper's ancient eyes can glow at the sight of a glowing pink. Fortunately for our Society, younger people can also succumb to daffodil fever. S/Sgt. Allen Meyers is such an enthusiast and his military career does not stop his interest. Another such is William Welch of California, who is on his way to becoming the Society's authority on tender tazettas. He is a sort of specialized Harry Tuggle with his persistence and enthusiasm.

S/Sgt. Allen Meyers of California was kind enough to send me several bulbs that he had taken from his grandmother's childhood home in California. He named them, correctly I believe, as Grand Emperor, and they have other names such as Sacred China Lilies, Chinese Grand Emperor, and so on. Planted late in my garden they waited until late March to bloom for me. Late for them, this was early for my daffodils, which are at their peak just past the middle of April. The blooms were beautiful. Only three to a stem, they had large florets, powerfully and pleasantly fragrant. The cups and perianths both were large for pure tazettas as I grow them and the cups were bright non-fading orange. The clear white perianths reflexed attractively and for a tazetta were rather smooth. I suspect larger bulbs would have produced more florets. While we admired these charmers a very close relative in another RHS Division asked for our attention.

Bill Welch is avidly searching the world for tender tazettas — no poetaz desired. He is not only anxious to acquire but he is happy to share. He sent me some massive bulbs labeled Double Chinese Grand Emperor. Deliberately planted late, they too missed their normal blooming season, nevertheless they flirted with fatal frosts and came up quite early. Each stem sported about five or six heavy pendant florets. The florets had a clear white reflexing perianth. Each floret was double, but to varying degrees. Some florets had six or a dozen long white petaloids in its center, and scattered among these were bright orange short petaloids. We could tell at a glance that the double was a sport, and not too stable a one, of the Grand Emperor. The double was charming and interesting but will not take the place of Erlicheer, the double sport of White Pearl.

— WILLIAM O. TICKNOR

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* * *

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