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AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.

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No. 4

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS JULY 10, 1983

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THE COVER PHOTO

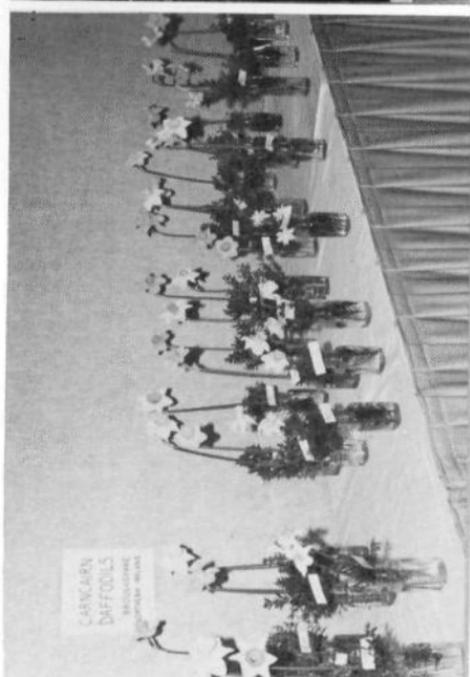
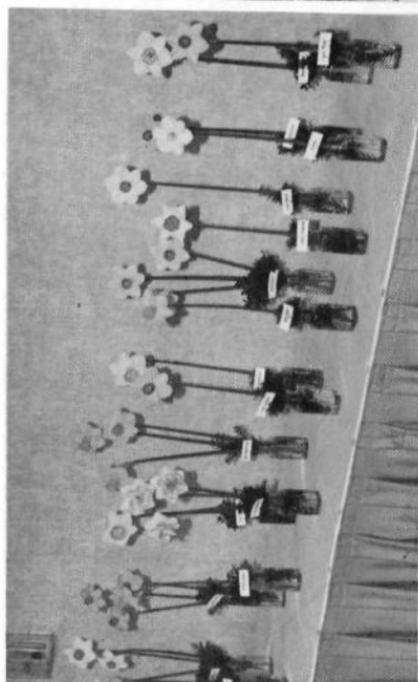
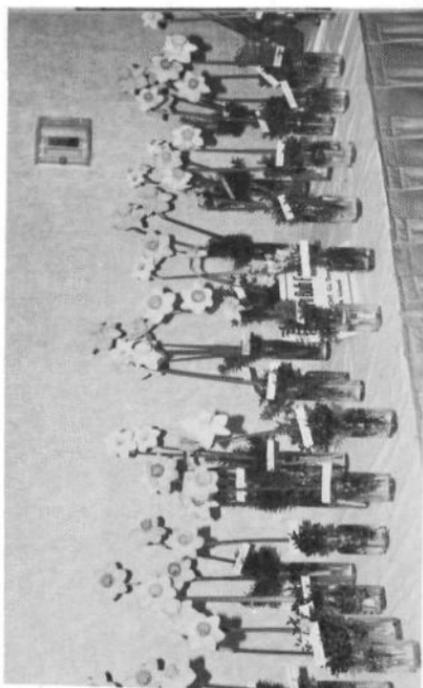
is of Newport 2 W-YOY (Pannill, 1980) and was the Gold Ribbon winner exhibited by Otis Etheredge at the National Convention. (Knierim photo)

WET BUT WONDERFUL WILLIAMSBURG, 1983

PAULINE DICKENSON, *Chambersburg, Pennsylvania*
(Photos by MARY LOU GRIPSHOVER unless noted otherwise)

April 7th dawned in a dense fog. As we headed south, the fog gradually deteriorated into a drizzle.. a rain.. a downpour. This more or less set the scene for the next three days. Anticipated hunt country vistas in the Warrenton area of Virginia did not materialize, as visibility was reduced considerably. However, we reached our destination safely—the Fort Magruder Inn, where, just as we had been promised, 500 somewhat dewy, but still beautiful, Ice Follies listed their pale white and gold faces to welcome us to the 28th Annual Daffodil Convention of the ADS.

Since all we had in Pennsylvania was a lot of foliage (striped horizontally to indicate each cold setback in the progress of spring) we arrived just in time for the opening of the show itself. Crowds of daffodil enthusiasts were waiting anxiously for the doors to open, but judging was still in progress well after the hour of opening. So we joined those who were milling around the commercial exhibits in



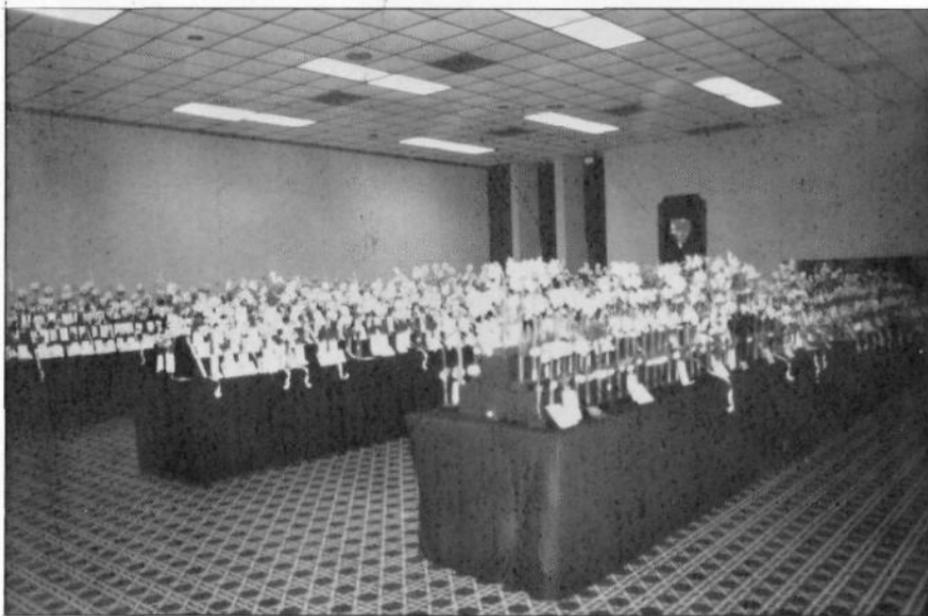
Commercial exhibits: top left, Ballydorn; top right, Mrs. Abel Smith; lower left, John Lea; lower right, Carncairn.



Commercial exhibits: top, Daffodil Mart; center, James Wells; bottom, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Bates, and Mrs. Talbot make notes at the Mitsch exhibit.

the hall outside. The first sight to greet one's eyes was the immense flowers in the John Lea exhibit. Some were almost unrecognizable as the same cultivar when grown in the United States. Canisp, Gold Convention, Dailmanach, and Croila were particularly fine. The Carncairn table covered a great many of the different divisions, providing a good selection of blooms. Ballydorn's Churchman, a 2 W-W, caught my eye. Mrs. J. Abel-Smith showed some lovely pinks, in particular a 2 W-P seedling, #00/51, which she expects to name in the near future. Brent Heath was in attendance with a very large selection of miniatures, in addition to his novelties. Also, James Wells, from New Jersey, had a table of potted miniatures, mostly species, including a beautiful pan of *rupicola*. Mr. Wells promises to become a welcome addition to our miniature sources of supply. Sadly, the airplane gremlin struck the Mitsch exhibit and it was "missing in transit." It eventually arrived in Williamsburg, but in sad shape. Resuscitation was attempted immediately, but the poor blooms never achieved more than partial life. One could still see, however, that some fine cultivars had been included.

At last, the doors opened to the show, and we could see the reason for the delay. There were more blooms than ever before—almost 2,500! Not only that, but they were all of such high quality that judging must have been difficult and time-consuming. Being a Pennsylvanian, I was amazed at the number of miniatures, but I was told that this was "miniature country" and that this was not unusual. There must have been almost 300 miniature blooms.



The show itself was well organized, well staged, well conducted, and... well attended. Many people had obviously worked extremely hard to put on a show of this size and caliber. The Throckmorton collection was outstanding. The award for this was won by Bill Pannill—who won a few other things, too, like the White Ribbon, the Silver Ribbon, the Rose Ribbon, the Larus Award, the Lee Trophy, the Mitsch Trophy, the Tuggle Trophy and the American Horticultural Society Gold Medal—all with his own originations! The Mitsch Trophy, for three stems of his seedling D 8/3, was a just reward for three impeccable true-yellow blooms, the



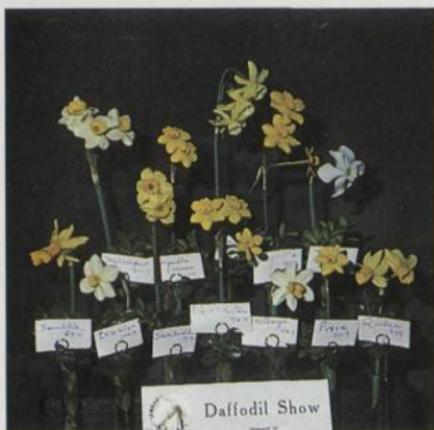
Pannill D 8/3 (Cantatrice × Empress of Ireland) won the Mitsch Trophy for Bill Pannill.

©GERARD H. WAYNE



Pannill C 34 (Mite × *calicola*) was the Larus Award winner for Bill Pannill.

WELLS KNIERIM



Polly Brooks's Gold Medal winning Watrous collection.

WELLS KNIERIM



Rapture, exhibited by Marie Bozievich, was awarded the Fowlds Medal.

WELLS KNIERIM

trumpet very slightly deeper in tone than the perianth. Marie Bozievich certainly did not return to Washington empty handed. She received the ADS Purple Ribbon for an impressive collection of cyclamineus cultivars, the New Zealand Award, the Australian Award, the English Award, the Fowlds Medal and the Green Ribbon. Polly Brooks deservedly won the Roberta Watrous Gold Medal for her lovely collection of twelve miniatures. The Gold Ribbon went to Otis Etheredge for a fine bloom of Newport, while both Irish Trophies—the Carncairn and the Northern Ireland Award—went to Sandra Solomon. There were many fine white daffodils in the show, most notably Homestead, River Queen, Mountain Dew, and, appropriately, Williamsburg. All in all, the room was bursting with color and fragrance, and many of us paid several return trips to drink in more of the beauty displayed there.



Top: Inspecting the flowers; bottom: Elise Mitsch Havens and Julius Wadekamper discuss the flowers while Donald Sauvain looks on.

The Annual Meeting was held on Thursday evening. The president's report consisted of three words: "Everything is fine." He did, however, go on to say that we now have 1,652 members covering twenty countries, which is an increase, even though dues have gone up. We do, however, need to recruit young people to take the place of those who are no longer able to take an active part.

On Friday morning, we got down to the learning process with a very easy-to-follow freshman class taught by Dr. Theodore Snazelle. We were provided with a complete script to accompany the slides all covering diseases and pests of the narcissus. Dr. Snazelle suggested that the first course of action should be selection of disease resistant cultivars. For many of the fungal diseases, benlate dip and spray will give some control. Virus diseases can be avoided in some cases by control of weeds and insect vectors. Control of affected plants is by roguing and destroying. Hope for aphid-spread virus control in the future may lie in water/mineral oil sprays. When we were all feeling rather depressed about the whole disease picture, Dr. Snazelle improved our attitude with the following quotation as his concluding statement: "We cannot remind ourselves too often that disease is a relatively rare phenomenon, and that particular pathogens are able to parasitize only a very small proportion of the plants available to them."

Next, Marie Bozievich served as moderator on a panel session on judging. The ADS judges who fielded questions from the floor were: Frances Armstrong, Betty Barnes, Mary Lou Gripshover, and Bill Roese. The highlight of this discussion was "The Case of the Xit with the Bowl-Shaped Cup." An exhibitor had shown the above at the present show and the question arose "Should this strain be renamed?" The panel resolved that this might ultimately mean too many variations. Of course, immediately following the seminar, everyone dashed to the show to view the above oddity, and great excitement was engendered!

After a delicious buffet luncheon, we were entertained by Phil "Houdini" Phillips. He first explained the term "perceptive vision" by challenging us to take a bloom, look at it for five seconds, then look away and describe it. He lured a number of participants to the podium by awarding a prize bulb for those who could



The judging panel included Betty Barnes; Bill Roese; Marie Bozievich, moderator; and Frances Armstrong.

differentiate between certain similar cultivars. Finally, his crowning act—that of donning a blindfold and identifying a group of six daffodils just by feeling the stem of each. Of course, he knew what was in the group before the blindfold, but not the order in which they were handed to him. He correctly identified five of the six—an incredible feat.

Ruth Pardue gave a very complete report on ADS test gardens—the performance, increase and decrease in number of blooms. She described the hard work and problems encountered in municipal plantings.

Finally, Dr. John Tarver discussed the test gardens on the campus of William and Mary College and invited us to view them while we were in Williamsburg.

On Friday evening, after dinner, the guests from overseas were introduced: Sir Frank and Lady Harrison, Mr. John Lea, Mrs. J. Abel-Smith, Miss Mary Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Darwin Hayes, Mr. Phil Phillips, Mrs. R.H. Reade, and Mr. W. Lemmers. Marie Bozievich then introduced our speaker, Mr. William Pannill. Mr. Pannill was the second of our speakers who missed his calling to the stage. Suffice it to say that the audience never ceased to laugh throughout his all-too-short speech. To culminate the performance, he picked up his guitar and exited, singing, “Oh, Lord, it’s hard to be humble, when you’re perfect in every way.” And he was!

On Saturday, promptly at 9:30 AM, seven buses drove away from the Inn, carrying us to a well-planned tour of Gloucester and Mathews Counties. First stop was “Goshen,” home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Frederic Lyman. This was a lovely old home on the Ware River, with naturalized daffodil plantings, a vista through old crepe myrtles with *primula veris* and *leucojum* blooming at their feet, and pine woods in the background. Next came Brent Heath’s farm, where he had numerous miniatures planted in flats on raised beds under high pine tree shade. He



Roxie Moore and Roberta Watrous enjoy the tour.

LOYCE MCKENZIE

Facing page: top, At Goshen; center, Brent Heath and son welcome visitors; bottom, at Daffodil Mart.



has built an interesting passive solar home from recycled material. On to a delicious barbecue at "The Farm," the country home of Mr. and Mrs. Tazewell M. Carrington, III. While we ate under a tent looking out over the wide Piankatchank River, we were serenaded by a delightful duo who sang to a guitar accompaniment. Last, we were treated to a visit to a beautifully landscaped and manicured estate named "Lisburne," home of Mr. and Mrs. David Peebles. This was situated on the Severn River. Flagstone walks took us under pine-tree-shaded rhododendron beds. The brick patio was edged with pink azaleas and primroses, and featured a 30-foot boxwood tree.



Left: Kitty Frank, Jaydee Ager, and Mary Cartwright at Daffodil Mart; right, at Lisburne.

The final evening of the convention came too soon. Ms. Marilyn Howe extended an invitation to all for the April, 1984, Portland Convention. Tours are planned for visits to Grant Mitsch, Murray Evans, and Mt. Angel Abbey. Next, a surprise announcement—the April, 1985, convention has already been planned for Wilmington, Delaware.

Some moments of suspense occurred when both the ADS Silver Medal and the Gold Medal recipients were announced. Mrs. Royal Ferris, Jr., of Dallas, Texas, was awarded the former for outstanding and continued service to the ADS, and Mr. Phil Phillips received the latter for creative work in the understanding and advancement of daffodils.

Mr. Phillips issued a warm invitation to New Zealand and Australia in 1984 for the World Convention. He promised to provide weather at least as good as that in Williamsburg. He also announced that he had brought 30,000 open pollinated seeds with him, and that Dr. William Bender would be the distributor.

Our featured speaker of the convention was Mr. Henry Clay Mitchell, the *Washington Post* columnist. He spoke of some of the old favorite cultivars with affection. He said that he particularly likes Ceylon, and would hate to be without it. He has grown daffodils since 1933, and offered suggestions for companion plantings such as blue brodiaea, photinia and nandina. Mr. Mitchell proved to have an inimitable dry sense of humor, and his speech brought the convention to a fitting end.

It was with mixed feelings that we said good-bye to 325 daffodil friends. The warm, southern hospitality of this convention had been outstanding. May we all meet again in Portland next year!



Lunch time at The Farm.

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PRESIDENT'S 1983 REPORT TO MEMBERSHIP

Your President is required to deliver a report each year to the membership at the Annual Meeting. This year's report can be summarized in three words: everything is fine; however, there is more to tell.

We've had a good year, both horticulturally and organizationally. Four of the highlights of the year are:

1. The schedules for about 40 ADS accredited shows have been approved for this year.
2. Color was added to the March *Journal* on a trial basis.
3. Membership is 1652, over 150 of whom are from nearly twenty countries outside the United States.
4. The roster of members' names and addresses was published in the December *Journal*.

All with jobs to do have worked diligently at their assigned tasks. Too often we take them for granted. The hard-working local show committees, convention committees, and your Board of Directors all have contributed so much as volunteers. But all would be in vain without the ADS members and their friends who enjoy growing and showing daffodils. That's you!

The 1958 Certification papers state in part that "The particular business and objects of the American Daffodil Society, Inc. shall be:

- "(a) To promote and encourage wide interest in daffodils and scientific research and education with respect to their culture, breeding, diseases, pests, exhibiting, and testing.
- "(b) To encourage, coordinate, and sponsor shows and exhibitions of daffodils.
- "(c) To disseminate horticultural information regarding daffodils and issue publications for such purpose."

To continue to pursue these and other ADS objectives, last summer we prepared a *Board Manual*. The *Manual* contains the ADS By-Laws, extracts from the Certification Papers, and a one-page job description for each and every member of the Board of Directors. Every board member has a copy. I believe that, having this in hand, we have a better opportunity to achieve our goals and continue to be a strong, vibrant, on-going horticultural society.

We've had a glitch or two (glitch is a term used in the missile business to describe a minor problem). The only difficult problem, as reported last year, has been balancing the budget. What else is new? Fortunately the last year's necessary increase in dues (the first in years) was accepted by the members as evident by a slight increase rather than a decrease in membership. Your Treasurer has reported the Society is sound financially and we intend to keep it that way.

The strength and continuity of the ADS, however, will ultimately depend on the members. We have the dedicated support of the hard-core daffodil enthusiasts of the—shall we say—middle-age group (that's anyone my age). Based on personal observations I believe we must try harder to increase membership from the so-called "young" group. To maintain continuity we must find, enlist, and encourage our replacements. I see this as a concern of not only the ADS, but also local societies and the commercial growers as well. This is not a major problem now; however, today's glitches become tomorrow's problems if we fail to act.

Meanwhile, the American Daffodil Society, Inc. is just fine and I thank each and every one of you for your contributions. Keep it up!

QUENTIN E. ERLANDSON

PHIL PHILLIPS' LECTURE-DEMONSTRATION ON IDENTIFYING DAFFODILS

Williamsburg ADS convention 1983

(transcribed from tape by Loyce McKenzie)

[To Gerard Wayne] Pick out one, give it to me, and then look at your watch and say "Go!" I'll look at that flower for five seconds and then I'm going to see how much I can tell you about it. I'll give it back to you, Gerard, and I'll say all the things I've seen. And afterward you'll tell me if I was wrong. And now you pick one and give it to me, please . . . any one [8 seconds pass; Phil gave it back before Gerard called time.]

Now, this is a Division 3. (You hold the flower and have a look.) And it was white with a cup that was just a shade off white. A very fresh flower. The petals had no nicks. They weren't perfectly flat; they were a little bit curved, and the anthers still had the pollen on them. And the neck was straight, the stem was straight and the pose of the flower was very good, and it was almost on axil balance . . . Was I wrong on anything?

Gerard: 9½ seconds.

Phil: Well, I only meant to look at it for four.

Well, if you practice this yourself on different flowers, you'll find that your judgment improves immensely and you'll cut down on the time you spend gathering. You'll look and see, one-two-three, just like that.

So that demonstrates, I hope to your satisfaction, what perceptive vision is. Would anybody else like to come and try themselves out? Ah, I don't blame you!

Now, in identifying daffodils there are certain characteristics about each clone that never vary and different flowers have different characteristics. Now, for instance, take these two here, and if you compare the length of the neck, from there to the seedpod, you'll see that they couldn't possibly be the same, because one is at least 3/8th of an inch longer than the other. And if you look at the back of them, you'll see that the shades of color are slightly different. This is not a very good basis upon which to base identification because color is a variable.

The botanical characteristics of one clone vary very little indeed. If a flower is large, well, those characteristics would be in proportion.

Another good means of identification is to look at the pistil and the stamen. The amount the pistil protrudes beyond the stamen, the distance the pistil is from the end of the cup or trumpet; also, the shape of the petals, whether they are spoon-shaped or spade-shaped or egg-shaped. Of course that's not a very good basis because you'll get some very good stagers who will roll them out and you'll never tell the difference.

But it's those botanical characteristics that don't vary that you must look for—the amount of green in the back; the stem, whether it's a smooth round stem without fluting on it, and whether it's hard or soft or brittle.

When you're picking cut flowers, as I do, and you're traveling down a row and picking them, you get into what you call a feel of them, and you'd be amazed at the difference in the strength of some stems. Some, you just touch them with a knife and they'll break off. Others, they're really tough; you've got to cut and pull them.

Now, this is quite an advantage in areas where you have a lot of strong wind. They'll stand up to the wind. Fortune is one that is particularly soft and easily broken, and there was one seedling of Fortune I had that was so soft if the wind blew at all, it would break off at ground level, it was so brittle and soft. So that's a good basis on which to work.

Now I've got some here that I'm going to try and show you how to identify on that basis. First of all, I'd like to tell you about some that are very similar and how you can distinguish between them. I haven't gotten any here this afternoon, but take Honey Bells and Harmony Bells. Now, they're easy to distinguish on the plant, because Harmony Bells is a little earlier and grows taller than Honey Bells. But when they're on the show bench, alongside of each other, it's rather difficult. The way to tell is to look at the pistil. The pistil on Harmony Bells is right down close near the end and in Honey Bells it protrudes all the way out, almost to the end of the cup.

This is also a good way to distinguish between April Tears and Hawera. I've got a flower of each of these here and I'd like for somebody who thinks they can distinguish between them to come up and have a look and see if they can tell me which is which. Who'd like to volunteer. (Absolute silence on the tape for what seems minutes) All these accredited judges!! Come on . . . oh, it takes a Dutchman to show you what to do.

Mr. Lemmers, from the Netherlands: This is April Tears and this is Hawera.

P. Phillips: Right! Now how did you know?

Mr. Lemmers: April Tears has a fuller more closed perianth. Hawera has a smaller perianth, is more like a star.

Phillips: Right. That's one good way. Anybody else like to tell the difference?

Well, there's a way that's a lot easier. You've got five on this one and two on that one!!

The way I tell is to look at the pistil and the anthers. This is an infallible guide. Now if you have *triandrus albus* [April Tears?] you'll find that the pistil ends very close to the end of the anthers. Then if you look at Hawera you'll find it comes about an eighth of an inch further out. Now I'll pass these around and you'll all have a look and be sure for yourselves. The one with a whole lot of bloom on it is Hawera if you're not sure.

Now I'm going to give these to you [to Gerard] and I'm going to tell you to hand them to me and I'm going to tell you which is Bridal Crown and which is Cheerfulness. [He feels the stem of each] This is Cheerfulness. Oh, I had a 50-50 chance. That could have been a guess, couldn't it, so we'll try it again. Put it in my hand, please.

You feel the stem and it goes flat [Bridal Crown] and the other one just rolls in your fingers.

Now I'm going to take a few flowers out of this jar and be blindfolded and I'm going to try to tell you what they are, and that's going to be my final thing for the day.

This requires most intense concentration and I would ask you to be very quiet and not applaud.

I'm going to name them and give them back to him, and if I'm correct he is to hold them and if I'm incorrect he's to lay them down on the table. When I take the blindfold off I hope he's got them all in his hand.

Pipit-Quail-Spanish Gold-Crepello-Doubtful-Wendover.

[Blindfold in place.]

Spanish Gold-Wendover-Quail—oh, no, let's have another "look"—Pipit-Quail-Crepello-Doubtful—no, I'm wrong, that was Crepello.

It's a bit like sex appeal. You've got it or you don't.

Some people have it and they don't know what to do with it.

Thank you all very much.

IN THE BEGINNING

HAROLD CROSS, *Geilston Bay, Tasmania*
(from the *Tasmanian Daffodil Council Newsletter*, March, 1983)

Long, long ago, so the story goes, Eve ate of the fruit of the tree of knowledge and then gave it to her mate who also did eat thereof. Since that time plants and animals of all sorts have apparently had no great bother with the mechanics of the reproduction of their species.

With daffodils the breeding of new cultivars is simplicity itself. All you have to do is to transfer pollen from the stamen of one flower onto the stigma of another flower. With a little luck your efforts will result in the production of seeds which develop in the ovary at the back of the flower. When it ripens you plant the seed and wait for four or five or six years till it develops into a bulb of sufficient size to produce a flower.

Although man has domesticated animals and grown crops for many centuries it was not until quite recent times that man began to understand what goes on when he tries to breed animals or plants with the specific aim of producing improved strains or cultivars. It is a mere 126 years since Gregor Mendel began the experiments that led to an understanding of genetic inheritance.

Today our scientists talk learnedly of DNA and genetic engineering, and those of us to whom this is all mysterious may appear to future generations to have been bumbling along in very primitive fashion. Our problem then is to find out how to bumble along more effectively. And as all the military textbooks agree, the most important step is a clear definition of the objectives to be attained. What then are our aims? Least important, because least effective in the daffodil breeding world, is what I would call the drunken bee hybridist. This person rushes around frantically slapping pollen hither and thither in the hope that something good might result. Undeniably it might. But the random nature of the pollination, together with the complex genetic inheritance of modern hybrid daffodils, means that the chances of success are very slim indeed. Thus, the first piece of advice for the would-be daffodil hybridist is that scattering pollen far and wide may be lots of fun but is unlikely to be productive of good results.

More effective hybridists have aims which need to be specific. "To produce better daffodils" is the ideal of all hybridists but is too vague to be practical. So you need to have a fairly clear-cut idea of what you aim to produce—and your ideal will change as you progress. Let me give an example. I remember some fifteen years or so ago telling Ross Glover that the ideal yellow trumpet would have the perianth of Comal and the cup of Yappa. But of course when that was achieved the flower was still far from perfect and the ideal changes to something better still.

When you are in the thick of hybridizing you sometimes feel that progress is agonizingly slow but this is an illusion. If you doubt that, then have a look at this year's prizewinners and then ask how many of them were on the show bench a mere decade ago. There will be some, but not many and a decade is not a long time.

Of course, if you want really radical changes you may have to arrange to live for a century or more. Most of you know the type of daffodil called a split corona. Apparently several people worked independently on this development. Among the most successful was Gerritsen in Holland and I understand that it took him about thirty years to get reasonably close to his dreams, another ten years to raise the quality to good and another ten years to get to top quality.

Now there are numerous divisions and sub-divisions in the daffodil world. You cannot hope to conquer them all at once. So pick those sub-divisions that appeal most to you and concentrate on those.

When you have made your choice then aim for top quality in both pollen parents and seed parents. I can not stress this point too strongly, and I learned it the hard way. When I began, I could not afford the very best so I worked on the old maxim that says "God is on the side of the big battalions." I thought that if people like Ross Glover could get top quality seedlings from a few hundred seedlings that had top quality parents, then I should be able to match him by raising thousands of seedlings from lower quality parents. But it didn't work—all I finished up with were thousands of second-rate seedlings.

Also it is more efficient to raise as much seed as you can from any one cross in any one year. If I have twenty flowers of Dear Me available I would pollinate them all with the same pollen rather than cross five with pollen A and five with pollen B, etc. If I think pollen B and so on would be worth using then I would wait till next year to use it and the following year for pollen C and so on. In that way I will, in five years time, be selecting the best from several hundred seedlings of the one cross and I will have had one and not four or five lots of records, separate plantings etc. to make.

If you are serious about hybridizing, buy a few top quality bulbs after you have asked successful hybridists which ones are known to produce good progeny. Then, if funds are limited, ask those with the top quality stuff for some top quality pollen. I wish I'd realized when I began that those at the top of the daffodil world are nearly always people with a genuine love of daffodils and a keen desire to see others successfully sharing their enthusiasm.

Another suggestion is that you consider carefully the number of crosses and seedlings you can care for—not just in one year but over a period of years. I know of people who aim to raise 20,000 seedlings each year. Now remember that once they begin to flower you will need to monitor these flowers for several consecutive years. You don't need to be a professor of mathematics to work out that at 20,000 seedlings per year you will ere long be trying to monitor some 60,000 to 80,000 flowers in a four or five week period. Good luck to those who can do it, but I know that I couldn't. I believe that Richardsons used to raise about 5,000 each year.

My experience over the past twenty-odd years suggests that most of your successes will come from relatively few crosses. A few days ago I checked on my 1980 and 1981 selected seedlings—that is, those selected for further trial. I would make some 50 or 60 crosses. I found that in 1980, 37% of my selections came from just four crosses while in 1981 just three crosses produced 38% of those selected. Other crosses which on paper looked just as likely to succeed produced little or nothing.

Sometimes the unexpected happens. For example, the flower that was awarded the 1981 Hobart Grand Championship came from a cross that was aimed specifically at the production of good quality early cut flowers for the florist trade. It was not aimed at exhibition quality at all.

So, you have your good quality bulbs as seed parents and you have access to good quality flowers for pollen. You are going to try to produce something better than both parents. You will be trying to retain all the good qualities of the one while adding to it the best qualities of the other. For example, you may have a beautiful white flower but alas the whiteness is like that of the washing in the soap ads before the lady changed to a new brand. So you seek a pollen parent that has that new brand's whiteness. Now stop. And think. And think *again*. Before you go ahead ask yourself such questions as "Is this the best flower available with this quality?"

Has it defects in some other area?" Remember that bad qualities are just as likely to be passed on as are good qualities. Indeed, in some perverse fashion, the poorer qualities seem to be strangely dominant at times. If there is the same inherited weakness in both the parents then in the words of the doctor who has not learned to speak English effectively, "The prognosis is not as favorable as it could be."

Well, that seems a lot to consider. To be frank I don't always carry out my own advice and sometimes make what I call "a crazy cross" for fun. But when I don't follow the rules I lessen my chances of success. It is a lot of work over a good many years so it is fair enough to ask if it is really worth while.

My answer to that is to promise you that if you persevere then one day you will walk down your seedling beds and a flower will stand out while you are still metres away and it almost seems to scream at you, "Here. Here I am." And when it does you will not only feel a glow of achievement but also you will realize that in a world in which so much of what humans do seems tawdry and sometimes downright ugly you have had a small part to play in the creation of something truly beautiful.

BEGINNER'S CORNER

FRANCES ARMSTRONG, *Covington, Virginia*

To dig or not to dig; that is the question. Whether you divide your daffodils frequently or whether you do not depends on soil, climate, depth of planting, and your purpose in growing daffodils.

If you grow daffodils in the colder regions and in heavy soil, as Dr. Kaplan does in North Dakota (see March 1983 *Journal*), you may never get enough increase to require separating. If, however, your soil is sandy and fertile, your climate warm, and you have planted them rather shallowly, they probably will multiply rapidly and demand frequent division.

Show cultivars grown for exhibition should be divided every two to four years to maintain good size. On the other hand, daffodils grown solely for their landscape value may be left down many years until crowding causes a decrease in bloom.

Miniature daffodils and the species, if doing well, should be divided infrequently as they seem to resent being disturbed.

Deep planting discourages increase while shallow planting encourages it. Therefore, if you want rapid increase from a new expensive cultivar, give it shallow planting in loose friable soil and divide it every year or two.

Digging is much more easily done before the foliage disappears. Early in June some years ago, we were in Murray Evans's fields in Oregon where we found him pulling his bulbs up by the foliage as if they were spring onions. Few of us are so lucky as he with his rich, loamy, volcanic soil. But in any soil the foliage guides our way to the bulbs and helps us to avoid bulb injury.

Clean the bulbs, inspect for signs of basal rot and bulb fly, let them dry in the shade in baskets or shallow boxes, and then hang them in mesh bags or store in flat trays in a cool, airy, dry place. If you have no such place, they may be replanted at once. Most of us prefer the cooler days of autumn for this chore. Poeticus cultivars prefer early replanting as their roots grow almost the year around.

Many growers swear by a benomyl fungicide soak to prevent basal rot but unless you have had trouble with losing bulbs, it is not necessary. If you feel you do need a fungicide, use three tablespoons of benomyl to a gallon of warm water, 77-110 degrees, and soak thirty minutes or more. Heavier doses and longer soaks seem to do no harm. Be sure the bulbs are well dried before storing over the summer.

CITATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE GOLD MEDAL OF THE ADS

BOURNE



The ADS Gold Medal is awarded for "creative work of a preeminent nature in the understanding and advancement of daffodils." This year's Medal is only the 14th to be awarded since 1959, an indication of the high standard the Society established. This year's recipient without doubt has met these standards after devoting much of his life to the daffodil.

The nominating and seconding letters were justifiably glowing in praise of the outstanding contributions this gentleman has made toward advancing the genus *Narcissus* through

his hybridizing and scientific work.

He is discerning hybridizer; his seedlings are scrupulously culled and chosen with a remarkable eye for the special distinction that makes the bulb worth introducing. In addition to originating many new cultivars now grown throughout the daffodil world, he has supplied quantities of open-pollinated seed for many amateur hybridizers.

With boundless energy, he has been an active and faithful member of the ADS and served on the Board of Directors, helping wherever and whenever he is able. He has never failed to be more than generous in sharing his knowledge, experience, and scientific achievements with others. He will enthusiastically help the amateur anywhere from giving the simplest tips on how best to exhibit a flower to demonstrating his latest experimental technique of twin scaling a bulb to speed propagation.

Even though he has specialized in growing and hybridizing daffodils, I can say from personal observation that his knowledge of botany goes far beyond the *Narcissus*. And it may surprise some of you that his daffodil work has been primarily a hobby. He does it purely for the joy of it.

His achievements received worldwide attention when the Royal Horticultural Society in 1979 awarded him the Peter Barr Memorial Cup for his work with daffodils.

His energetic leadership in organizing and promoting World Daffodil Conventions has attracted many enthusiasts, thereby helping to make daffodil a world-wide household word.

On behalf of the ADS it is an honor to present the Gold Medal for 1983 to Mr. Phil Phillips from Otorohanga, New Zealand.

CITATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE SILVER MEDAL OF THE ADS

The ADS Silver Medal is awarded for "outstanding and distinguished service to the American Daffodil Society." This is the 16th Medal to be awarded. The list of recipients reads like the Who's Who of the ADS and this year's choice is a worthy addition to that select group.

This gracious lady has been an ADS member for more years than a gentleman will say, is a life member, and accredited judge, and the keystone for her region.

She has served on the Board of Directors as Regional Vice President, Regional Director, and Director At Large. While on the Board, she fulfilled her duties and obligations cheerfully and efficiently and, I am told, has never missed a meeting of the Board or a convention.

She has either acted as chairman or helped organize two ADS national conventions and one fall meeting of the Board of Directors. She was responsible for the first national daffodil show ever held in her region, has helped set up several judges schools, and has helped the other states in her region to organize shows.

An outstanding daffodil grower, she tries new cultivars yearly, and encourages and inspires others to do likewise.

The ADS is not her only interest. She is a member of the Federated Garden Clubs for which she is a Master Judge, a past President of the Hemerocallis Society, and the President-elect of the Dallas Civic Garden Center.

On behalf of the ADS it is an honor to present the Silver Medal for 1983 to Mrs. Royal A. Ferris, Jr., from Dallas, Texas.

GARDEN CLUB RESCUES DAFFODILS

JOAN KEILMAN, *Brentwood, Tennessee*

At the February meeting of the Foxland Hall Garden Club, it was brought to the membership's attention that several thousand daffodil bulbs, which had been naturalized years ago, were about to plowed under to make way for a new subdivision in Brentwood. The consensus of the membership was to see what could be done to save the bulbs, and at the same time, enhance the beauty of the neighborhood.

Foxland Hall subdivision is a planned community with 54 acres of common ground, including a pond in the middle. The club thought it would improve the appearance of the pond, a common ground area, by encircling the fenced area with daffodils. (We also could not stand the thought of all the daffodils being plowed under!)

We received permission from the developer to access the property and remove the daffodils before the land was cleared. Several members and their husbands dug up the bulbs to have ready for a Saturday morning work session at the pond on February 5. Many members and their husbands met to dig eight to ten holes between each of the eighty-five ten-foot fence lengths. Other members, met at the pond over the following three days to divide and replant the bulbs.

We are anxiously awaiting next year's splash of yellow blooms. Our efforts have already been rewarded as many of the daffodils are already in bloom.

We feel that this project enhanced the beauty of our neighborhood, promoted a sense of community, and conserved almost 5000 bulbs from an untimely demise. Approximately 100 man hours were spent completing this beautification and conservation project. The only cost involved was our time. We all feel that it was time well spent.

AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.
INCOME AND EXPENSES — YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1982

INCOME:				
Dues Paid in 1982				\$ 11,867.27
Life Memberships Paid in 1982				1,000.00
Contributions				1,230.00
Sale of Books, Supplies, etc.:		Income	Expenses	
R.H.S. Yearbooks		\$ 376.00	\$ —	
A.H.S. Handbooks		174.00	—	
Daffodils to Show and Grow		1,037.50	—	
Handbook for Judging		993.25	—	
Binders for Journals		238.50	—	
Old RHS and Out of Print Books		347.25	124.88	
A.D.S. Publications		201.12	—	
A.D.S. Membership Pins		247.50	—	
Data Bank Printouts and Binders		645.00	740.00	
Show Entry Cards		700.50	1,190.85	
Daffodils in Ireland		55.00	—	
Medals and Ribbons		119.00	475.80	
Registration Fees		66.00	31.00	
Barr		18.00	—	
Miscellaneous		43.01	—	
		\$5,261.63	\$2562.53	2,699.10
Advertising in Journal				435.00
Judges and Refresher: Fees				140.54
Slide Rentals				310.00
Interest Received				4,881.04
Convention Surplus				1,585.08
TOTAL INCOME				\$24,148.03
EXPENSES:				
Daffodil Journal — Printing and Mailing				\$10,129.76
Office Expense:				
Printing and Supplies			\$ 738.25	
Postage and Telephone			987.55	
Executive Directive and Clerical			4,500.00	
Social Security Tax			300.74	6,526.54
Regional Vice-Presidents (Newsletters)				908.05
Secretary				92.70
Committees				148.48
Insurance and Security Bond				203.00
Research and Education				400.00
Board Meeting Deficit				398.56
Advance to 1983 Convention Committee				1,000.00
Miscellaneous				37.40
TOTAL EXPENSES				\$19,844.49

DESIRED — WANTED — NEEDED

Double Herbaceous *Peony Roots*.

Variety, age and quantity, no problem.

Also interested in *Daylilies, Iris, Daffodils*.

Will dig, pick up, pay cash or grow for you.

Phone or write us what you have to offer.

The Terra Ceia Farms

Route 2, Box 167, Pantego, North Carolina 27860

Phone (919) 943-2865

No business on Sunday, please.

AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.
BALANCE SHEET — DECEMBER 31, 1982

ASSETS:

Cash in Bank — Bank of North Carolina		\$ 5,630.72
Moneymart Assets — Bache, from 14.0% to 8.4%		9,552.13
C.D. First Federal S. & L., Phoenix, Arizona, 12.75%, 10-6-86		20,000.00
C.D. First National Bank, Seattle, 11.50%, 12-8-86		5,000.00
Ford Motor Credit Corp., 8½% Bonds due 3-15-91		10,000.00
Accrued Interest not due on Ford Bonds		247.50
Inventory of Publications, etc.:		
R.H.S. Yearbooks, 1975 to 82/83 (232)	\$ 808.50	
Old RHS Yearbooks (151)	587.50	
A.H.S. Handbooks (876)	876.00	
Daffodils to Show and Grow (206)	288.40	
Handbook for Judging (747)	747.00	
Binders for Journals (23)	121.90	
Show Entry Cards, large, (60M)	1,051.00	
Show Entry Cards, min., (23M)	280.74	
Daffodil Data Bank Printouts (20)	200.00	
Data Bank Printout Binders (23)	66.24	
Brief Guide to Growing Daffodils (966)	222.18	
Daffodils in Ireland (22)	22.00	
ADS Membership Pins (45)	201.00	
Peter Barr Book (40)	32.00	
Advance to 1983 Convention Committee		5,504.46
Inventory of Medals and Trophies:		1,000.00
Medal Dies	\$ 15.00	
Gold and Silver Medals	851.07	
Larry Mains Silver Trays, min. (6)	270.00	
		1,136.07
TOTAL ASSETS		\$ 58,070.88
LIABILITIES:		
Dues Paid in Advance (in whole or in part)		\$ 10,066.76
Life Memberships		15,300.00
Education and Research Fund:		
John Larus Memorial	\$ 10,000.00	
Other Contributions	160.28	
Convention Surpluses	7,228.02	
Interest on Fund Assets	3,868.59	
Less 1981 Educational Grant	— 651.00	
Less Grant for Basal Rot Study	— 400.00	
		20,205.89
Reserved toward Extra Cost of Color in March, 1983 Journal		1,200.00
Net Worth		11,298.23
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$58,070.88

/ Wells Knierim, Treasurer
March 12, 1983

AUDIT STATEMENT

The above income statement and balance sheet for the year 1982 were prepared using the cash receipts and disbursements records maintained by the Executive Director. The balances were verified with the bank statement and account statements of the financial institutions indicated. The inventory of publications is shown at cost except that no value is included for surplus ADS publications. In addition to the assets shown, the Society has a substantial library of books on daffodil culture, many of which are rare and valuable, and several colored slide collections. It also has a number of memorial silver trophies awarded at convention shows. The slides, books, and trophies were mostly contributed and no value is included.

Dues received in the current year, covering periods beyond the end of the year, were prorated and amounts covering such future periods are shown as a liability as are life memberships.

Receipts for dues and other income were verified with deposit slips and disbursements were checked with suppliers' invoices and cancelled checks signed by the Treasurer and the Executive Director.

Based on this review, it is my opinion that this report presents an accurate statement of the financial condition of the Society and that the records are being maintained in a sound and orderly manner.

Jane A. Moore, Auditor



BULLETIN BOARD

COMING EVENTS

September 24, 1983	ADS Fall Board Meeting, Paducah, Kentucky (Please note this is a change in date.)
April 5-7, 1984	ADS Convention, Portland, Oregon
May-October, 1984	International Garden Festival, Liverpool, England
September, 1984	Third World Daffodil Convention, Hamilton, New Zealand
April, 1985	ADS Convention, Wilmington, Delaware

"WHERE CAN I GET. . .?"

CULTIVAR:
Bantry 3 W-YYR

Trousseau 1 W-Y
Sumptuous 1 W-Y
Foundling 6 W-P

DESIRED BY:
Mrs. Ellen Bailor, 4803 N.E. 104th Street
Vancouver, Washington 98655
Cathering Priest, 468 White Horse Pike
Egg Harbor, New Jersey 08215

LIVERPOOL '84 INTERNATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL

An International Garden Festival will take place on the banks of the River Mersey in Liverpool, England, from May 2 until the end of October, 1984. Commercial gardens, community gardens, gardens for the disabled, sponsored gardens, species gardens, and international gardens will all be a part of the 125-acre display. For further information write International Garden Festival '84, Merseyside Development Corporation, 4th Floor, Royal Liver Building, Liverpool L3 1JH England. The Daffodil Society (Britain) plans to stage a comprehensive non-competitive exhibit of daffodils for the opening of the show on May 2. For information regarding the daffodil exhibit write George Tarry, Cresta, Well Lane, Ness, South Wirral L64 4AW England.

LOOKING FOR MR. GOODBUG?

Beneficial bugs can guard your garden against the multitude of chewing, sucking, rasping insects out to spoil it. "New Ways in Pest Control," a special issue of *The Avant Gardener*, tells how to conserve and increase these natural pest controls, as well as how to use more than a score of other techniques to control insects without toxic chemicals. All the newest Integrated Pest Management techniques are detailed in this special issue, \$1.50 postpaid from *The Avant Gardener*, P.O. Box 489, New York, NY 10028.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee for 1983-84 consists of Mrs. W.R. Mackinney, Chairman, (Pennsylvania); Mrs. Cathleen D. Riley (Connecticut); Mrs. Royal A. Ferris, Jr. (Texas); Mrs. Frederick J. Viele (Maryland); and V.J. Yarbrough (Georgia). If you have suggestions for nominees for the Board of Directors, write to one of the committee members.

NYLEX-SPRINGWORLD '84

Australian and New Zealand committees have been hard at work on plans for the Third World Daffodil Convention to be held in September, 1984. The convention/show will be at Hamilton, New Zealand, with tours arranged before and after in Australia and New Zealand. Final arrangements along with costs, should be available soon. If you would like to be on the newsletter mailing list, write Phil Phillips, Box 177, Otorohanga, New Zealand.

AWARD CHANGES

Some changes in the wording of two awards were approved by the Board at the spring meeting. The new wording is as follows:

The Dr. Tom D. Throckmorton Ribbon for a collection of fifteen standard cultivars and/or species, one stem each, from fifteen different RHS classifications, each labeled with name and *complete* classification. Open to all exhibitors and available to all shows, with the exception of a small show.

The Red-White-Blue Ribbon for a collection of five cultivars of standard daffodils of American breeding or origin, any division or divisions. Hybridizer's name *must* appear on label, with the exception of seedlings shown by the originator.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG FILMS

Convention-goers enjoyed the film, *The Colonial Naturalist*, and many asked for information about rentals, etc. For information about Colonial Williamsburg films on American Folk Art, slides, filmstrips, recordings, and publications write to AV Distribution Section, Colonial Williamsburg, Box C, Williamsburg, VA 23187.

POPS SEED AVAILABLE

Phil Phillips has once again provided open pollinated seed for would-be hybridizers. Those wanting seeds should contact our Seed Broker, Dr. William Bender, 533 S. Seventh, Chambersburg, PA 17201, stating the approximate number of seed wanted (100? 1000?).

THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC. MEMORIAL FUND

A fund shall be established to be known as "The American Daffodil Society Memorial Fund."

Cash contributions or gifts may be made to the Fund to honor the memory of individuals and to further the endeavors of the Society.

The ADS reserves the right to accept or reject non-cash gifts as well as contributions or gifts for restricted purposes. The Executive Director, acting in accordance with guidelines established by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, shall make the decision.

On behalf of the ADS acknowledgement of the contribution or gift shall be the responsibility of the Executive Director.

Expenditures from either the principal of, or the income from, the Fund shall be authorized in accordance with the ADS By-Laws Article VI, Section 3.

—Approved by the Board of Directors, April, 1983

CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

The following Mitsch cultivars have been incorrectly color-coded. Please change them in *DTS&G*.

Bit O' Gold	from 2 W-WWO	to 2 W-WWY
Coral Ribbon	2 W-YYP	2 W-WWP
Smiling Maestro	2 Y-YRR	2 Y-R
Sioux	2 Y-RRY	2 Y-R
Audubon	3 W-YYP	3 W-WWP
Swallow	6 YW-Y	6 YW-W

Lindsay Dettman has informed me that the color-coding for Lynette Sholl is 3 W-ORR and for Mrs. David Calvert is 3 W-GRR.

AMY COLE ANTHONY, *Classification Chairman*

INTERESTED IN A ROBIN?

Are you interested in participating in a Round Robin? ADS has regional, as well as special interest robins on poeticus, hybridizing, and miniatures. New robins can be formed if there is sufficient interest. Write to Robin Chairman Otis Etheredge, 600 Penn Creek Road, Saluda, SC 29138.

AUTHORS, I KNOW YOU'RE OUT THERE!

Many of you are capable of writing interesting articles for the *Journal*, but are too modest—you think someone else knows more than you, or can write better, or any number of other excuses. But please—let us hear from you. New authors are always welcome!

It will be appreciated if authors submitting manuscripts follow the hints given on style below:

Please supply a title and by-line with preferred form of name.

Manuscripts should be typewritten, double spaced, with generous margins at top and sides of page, and only typed on one side of the paper.

Please do not use single quotes or all-capitals for cultivar/variety names. Please do not underline species. It is easier for me to add these things for the printer than to eliminate unwanted lines/quotes.

Photographs and drawings to accompany your article are always welcome.

All material should be sent to the Editor.

AUTHENTICATED BULBS

This autumn I shall have a modest number of bulbs to sell, mainly species and miniature hybrid crosses obtained from

JOHN BLANCHARD in England

Every effort has been made to see that the bulbs are true to name, and all will be clones vegetatively increased. The list will include some interesting species, plus a number of named and unnamed Blanchard crosses. Stocks will be extremely limited for some time.

Please send stamped, addressed envelope for my list.

JAMES S. WELLS

470 Nut Swamp Road, Red Bank, New Jersey 07701

ATTENTION BOARD MEMBERS

Dates for the fall board meeting to be held in Paducah, Kentucky, have been changed. Please make note of the fact that the new date is September 24, 1983. Hotel reservations may be made with Executive Inn Riverfront, I Executive Blvd., Paducah, KY 42001.

ADS SLIDE CONTEST

MRS. KELLY SHRYOC, *Photography Chairman*

Every photographer has perfect slides and wants a captive audience, so this is a golden opportunity for all American Daffodil Society members to share these slides and win recognition at the same time. First, second, and third place certificates are to be awarded in each class, if worthy. Lots of fun can be had by all and a GRAND CHAMPION SLIDE will be selected and duly recognized in the Society's *Daffodil Journal*.

CATEGORIES:

- A. Single stem standard cultivar (no seedlings)
Each of the twelve divisions to be a class
- B. Three stems of one standard cultivar (no seedlings)
Each of the twelve divisions to be a class
- C. Natural clump of one standard cultivar (no seedlings)
Divisions 1, 2 and 3 to be a class
Divisions 4, 5 and 6 to be a class
Divisions 7, 8 and 9 to be a class
Divisions 10, 11 and 12 to be a class

RULES FOR THE CONTEST:

- 1. Must be a member of American Daffodil Society
- 2. Limit of three entries in any one class
- 3. Each slide must be an original, no duplicates
- 4. All entries must have name of cultivar and color code on slide
- 5. Each entry must be mailed with a separate 3 x 5 index card giving full name and address of contestant.
- 6. All slides become the property of American Daffodil Society Slide Library (none to be returned to contestants) to be used at the discretion of the Photography Committee.
- 7. Entries to be judged by a competent impartial committee. Decision of the judges is final.
- 8. No member of the Photography Committee may enter this contest
- 9. All entries to be mailed to Mrs. Kelly Shryoc, 2933 Owenwood Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76109 and postmarked no later than September 1, 1983.

This is a perfect time to show other American Daffodil Society members what you can do with your camera and at the same time add needed slides to the ADS Slide Library for all members to see and enjoy. By using the ADS slide programs it is very easy to show others the pleasures that can be gained from growing DAFFODILS. Mail your entries today . . . who knows . . . yours may be a first place winner . . . and then go on a step forward and become the GRAND CHAMPION.

TAZETTA TALK

WILLIAM WELCH, *Carmel Valley, California*

As I write this in mid-March, the tazetta season is about over, with only Sir Winston Churchill still coming into bloom. This is the double version of Geranium, inheriting the large sweet-smelling florets, two to seven on a strong stem, that have made Geranium one of the most popular. Tazetta doubles are the best type of double daffodil for warm climates since they are not prone to the greening or blasting often seen on others in Division 4. Similar in season to Cheerfulness, it seems likely that Sir Winston Churchill will in time take the place of the white form of Cheerfulness, which lacks some of the sturdiness. Cheerfulness has too much of the poet in it to do well here, while the Sir Winston Churchill seems perfectly satisfactory. Perhaps the reverse would be the case in the coldest climates.

Another that was particularly good this year was Silver Chimes. This seems to improve in vigor each year but although the virus symptoms seem to lessen, they have not disappeared. It is really not much more noticeably virused than many (or most) of the others. The number of florets in a cluster increases each year as does the strength of the stems. Bulb increase is slow but steady, and as it flowers just after the other polyanthus types, it is a very useful flower for the beginning of March here. There seems to be a plentiful supply of pollen on it each year. Although as a seed parent Silver Chimes has not yielded any viable seeds here, it has given an occasional open pollinated seed for others, of which Venice Brink reports at least one seedling, not yet of flowering size. Les Hannibal got several seeds last year, first time ever, which he passed on to me. At least two or three came up and are looking good. Lindsay Dettman reports someone in Australia having a seedling from Silver Chimes \times Paper White but there is no word yet on flowering. Perhaps more effort should be put into using the most fertile tazetta pollens onto Silver Chimes.

Another that was particularly good this year is Highfield Beauty. Here it has mainly 1-3 on a stem, occasionally four. This blooms at the same time as Silver Chimes. There is good increase in bloom each year, and always a good supply of nice-looking pollen.

Plentiful pollen was also seen on Chinita, which has grown well but multiplies a little slower than the others above. This shows a strong poet influence and flowers in mid-March. It is unusually tall and generally has but one flower on the stem, the size of an extra-large poet, pale yellow with darker wire-rimmed cup.

Several seedlings flowered this year for the first time. One that has tazetta only in its distant ancestry came from Jumblie o.p. This did not reflex as does Jumblie; it was all-yellow with narrow star-shaped petals, just one flower on the slender 3-inch stem, 3/4" from tip to tip. There was the usual cyclamineus fragrance. Foliage was very narrow and dark green. One would never guess there was any tazetta ancestry in it. This was only its third year of life so one cannot expect it to be of any great size, but it seems safe to say this will continue to be a miniature. I am amazed though at how small it is.

In my September article, I mentioned a Matador \times *N. jonquilla* seedling which was the only survivor of its batch. This flowered with the first stem at the end of February and the secondary in mid-March. Much like Golden Dawn, it was shorter and more slender. This one looks like it will be a good increaser, in common with many of the others from this cross. The first stem had five florets, the second had three. There was no pollen, but there never is much on these hybrids. They seem to be highly sterile.

In 1980 there was a large batch of seed from Polly's Pearl × Galilee (Paper White). Nearly all the plants look like Paper Whites, having grown along at the same quick speed, and in fact even the seeds looked like they had come from Paper White, being the usual extra-large size. Two of them bloomed in December. They looked like quite normal Paper Whites, with no visible sign of their Polly's Pearl ancestry. One was quite good, at a height of a foot with nine florets. Having that number of florets when only in its third year seems promising for the future. Florets were about 1-1/4" across, somewhat like Ziva. The other was shorter, about eight inches, rather rounded. They did not set seed but conditions were not good at flowering. I got good pollen from both, and now have many fat pods from crossing the best one back onto Polly's Pearl.

One major problem has cropped up for the second year in a row in my efforts to use Polly's Pearl as a parent. It now seems likely that there are two clones in the stock, one of which is the true thing and the other an extremely similar imposter. My problem is that apparently only the slow-multiplying individuals will set seed while those which are the most productive of flowers and bulbs are nearly sterile. I know the stock includes a batch collected several years ago from an old garden near Santa Cruz and which had seemed identical to those from Polly. It is probably not the first time stocks have been combined prematurely. Sometimes it takes years for differences to show up between similar clones.

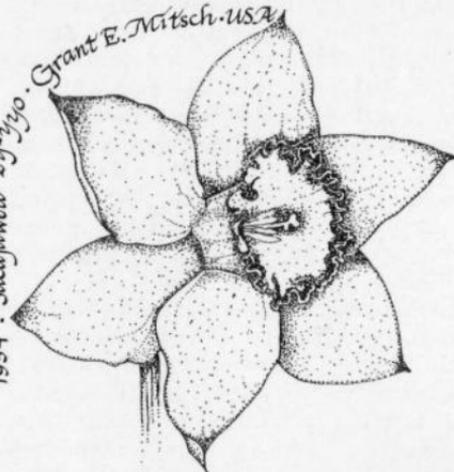
There is an important thing I want to add to what I wrote about storage of pollen from year to year as described in my December article. It appears that once the pollen is brought forth from the freezer, it will only last a few hours, rather than the weeks or even months that would be the case with freshly collected pollen. A capsule of pollen must be used promptly, without the convenience of putting it in the refrigerator along with newly collected pollen. Word of this comes from Dr. Koopowitz, and is backed up with this being the only year I've had poor seed set on the early yellow tazettas (Newton, Israeli Sol, etc.) Most pollen that was used had been frozen, and in most cases not used immediately. The usual good set of seed came when freshly collected pollens were used.

BITS AND PIECES

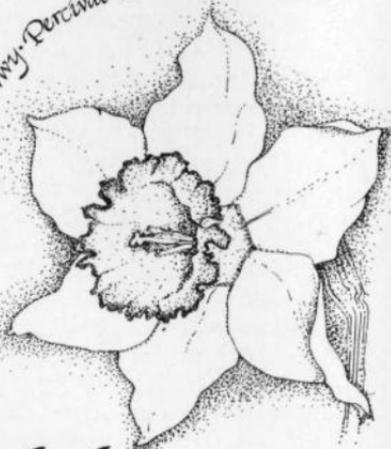
Severe drought holds the southern half of the continent of Australia in its grip. In the township of Baddaginnie, population one hundred and five people, where I live, there is no reticulated water, only rainwater tanks to provide all the water for house and garden. Between the first of February, 1982, and the first of February, 1983, less than nine inches of rain fell. Our usual annual rainfall is twenty-six inches. Lawns are non-existent and ailing shrubs get the bathwater. Much water is being carted here, but at one-and-a-half cents per gallon, not a lot of it goes onto my daffodil garden. The result has been surprising. At peak of bloom in September, the daffodils were glorious, flowers fully up to size though the stems of some cultivars were shorter than normal. Those cultivars dug up at Christmas showed normal increase and good sized bulbs. As might be expected of perennial plants under dry conditions, fertility was excellent and pollen extremely viable. Seed was obtained from each of the ten different crosses attempted. In fact only four of the twenty-five flowers pollinated failed to set seed. The best performer was Ablaze, a 2 Y-R bred by the Fairbairns of Skipton, Victoria. Two bulbs produced three flowers which yielded one hundred and twelve seeds when crossed with pollen of Jack Deller, bred by Lt. Col. L.P. Dettman. When dug up later it was found that the two bulbs had increased to four.

—LANCE HICKS, *Victoria, Australia*

1954 · Sacajawea 2y-3yo · Grant E. Mitsch · USA



1927 · Junis 2w-wvy · Percival D. Williams · England

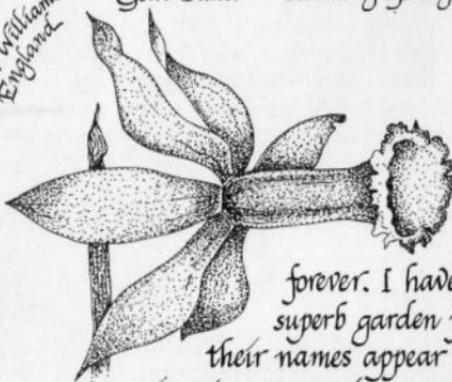


Garden Reliability

Gene Bauer · Running Springs · California

Part 1 · Earlies

1948
Peeping Tom 6y-y · Percival D. Williams · England



Year after year after year
after year.

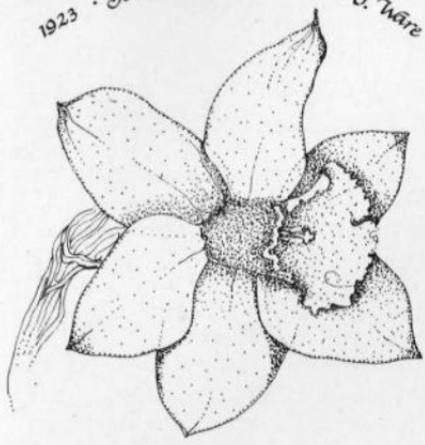
A good garden flower
is forever. Well, almost

forever. I have chosen 8 cultivars that are
superb garden flowers and at times some of
their names appear as show winners. All are

growing in my garden and 4 of the older cultivars have
been growing in large drifts blooming abundantly for 25 years. I am
confident they will continue to grow and bloom for the next 25 years.
No artificial watering, no fertilizing, no digging, no dividing and
no coddling. Once planted their only care is removal of spent blooms.

Equally outstanding early garden flowers are Aranjuez, Bodilly,
Brunswick, Carlton, Ceylon, Chapeau, Chickadee, Diolite, February
Gold, Glad Day, Linn, Polindra, Rustom Pasha and many others.
Grow a few and enjoy their colorful faces year after year after year.

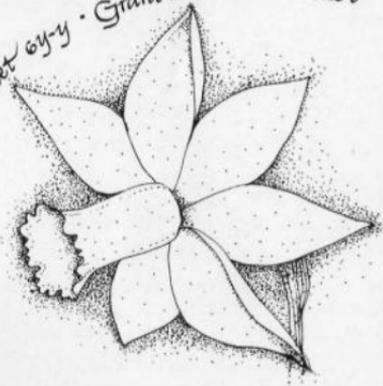
1923 · Fortune 2y-0 · Walter J. Ware · England



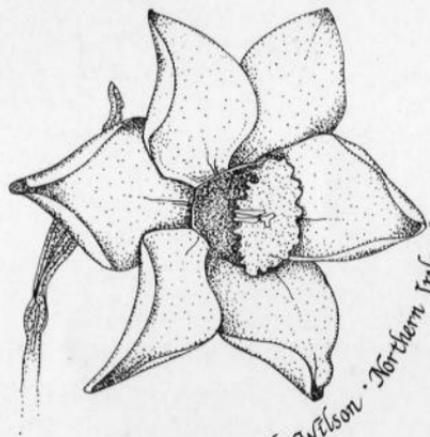
1949 · Tête-a-Tête 6y-0 · Alec Gray · England



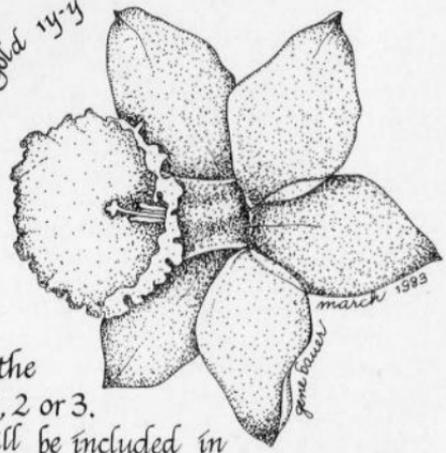
1966 · Willet 6y-y · Grant E. Mitsch · USA



1936 · Rouge 2y-r · Guy Le Wilson · Northern Ireland



1965 · Inca Gold 1y-y · R.N. Kanouse · USA



On a scale of 1-6 (early to late) the blooming season of these cultivars is 1, 2 or 3. Cultivars blooming during 4, 5 or 6 will be included in Part 2. All drawings made from flowers in my garden.

TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF A DAFFODIL GROWER

BILL PANNILL at the Williamsburg Convention
(transcribed from a tape recording)

I won't say most of you, but many of you have heard me more times than you wanted to and I'm sorry to say you're going to hear me again tonight. And since I can't remember what I've said before, and hopefully I won't remember what I say tonight, I'm hoping that those of you who have heard me, if I say anything I've said before you will have already forgotten it.

The main thing I'm speaking to tonight are the new people, and what we call in the Daffodil Society the non-growers. Most of you who have attended the meetings today have been well educated; you heard earlier this morning how to detect diseases in your daffodils; you've learned the idiosyncrasies of the judges; and you have learned about the test gardens; and those of you who can understand what Phil Phillips says have learned how to identify daffodils. But I can assure you that anything I say tonight will contain no useful information. It'll just be meanderings. The topic that I'm supposed to have, or that they gave me, I guess it's 'cause they didn't know what I was going to say and knew I didn't, was the "Trials and Tribulations of a Daffodil Grower," but I'm going to use that and give it another title, and that title is "What Is a Nice Boy Like Me Doing in a Place Like This?"

And so I'm mainly talking to the non-growers who probably are sitting around wondering to themselves "What am I doing here?" or "what are they doing here?" I want to tell you about how I first got my, I guess you'd say exposure to the daffodil world. Now being in Virginia, I guess I'm lucky because we've got the Garden Club of Virginia which is probably the most, the highest order of garden clubs and daffodil people. I mean, they're not ADS, because they're still loyal to the Queen! In fact, all you people from England and Northern Ireland, you'll know you're well at home here because Williamsburg and Richmond are the only two places in the United States that are still loyal to the Queen.

Years ago, thirty-odd years ago, I was the vice-president of our local country club. Now in most local country clubs through this area, they spend all their money on the golf course, so the president takes credit for that; the vice-president is the one who takes the abuse because they never spend any money on the club itself, the clubhouse. So the Garden Club of Virginia was having their annual meeting in Martinsville, not the annual meeting, I beg your pardon, I mean their annual daffodil show, at our clubhouse in Martinsville, and I was the vice-president of the club. Well you wouldn't think that meant anything, 'cause the ladies had the club reserved, but our club was unique in that the ballroom was upstairs, and downstairs was the men's locker room and their shower. And they operated on the same thermostat. So the ladies, of course, had it very cold for the daffodils which didn't please the golfers much when they got ready to take a shower! The golfers would sneak upstairs to the ballroom and turn up the thermostat, I would get a call at my office to come out immediately—it was getting hot, and the flowers couldn't take it. So I rushed out and turned the thermostat back. Well after about three times like that I decided it would be better for me just to stay out there, so I got a chair and put it by the thermostat and sat there to keep the golfers away. So I didn't want to sit there without paying attention, and so I looked around and said I've got to learn about what's happening here. They were some nice ladies, fine ladies, the finest ladies in Virginia belong to the Garden Club of Virginia, and I couldn't help

overhearing what they said. And what problems they had—I didn't realize what problems daffodil people had, but the first thing I overheard one of them say to the other, was "I'm having so much trouble with my Jenny. She's not happy anywhere I put her. I've had her three places and she's just not happy." Well, I realized immediately that that woman had an ungrateful daughter in some boarding school! I want to tell you non-growers that you've got to realize that we're talking daffodil talk now. See now, in those days I didn't realize (see my mother was a garden club lady) everybody but your garden club ladies called them buttercups. Everybody in the garden club knew better than that so they called them jonquils. I couldn't figure why they were having a daffodil show for all these jonquils. So anyhow, these ladies were having a nice conversation, about her Jenny, and they got that settled, and then this other lady walked by, and one of them pointed to the other and said, "She has the biggest *hemerocallis* you've ever seen!" Well now, I felt real sorry for her, I mean, that was in the days before Preparation H. I thought she was real brave to come and put in so many flowers, and I understood why she didn't sit down, she walked around a lot.

I really didn't know what was going on much except over in a corner in one of the entrances this nice young lady came in and everybody was very much in a stir and reverent; they pointed her out, she was one of the big wheels in the Garden Club of Virginia, as well as the daffodil world, and her name was Kitty Bloomer. Today she's known as Kate Bloomer, but in those days she was Kitty Bloomer. And that was of particular interest to me because at that time my company was the largest bloomer manufacturer in the world! And I had always wondered where they got their name! Well, I'll cut that a little short, because that was my first brush with the daffodil. I, like everybody else here, when all the golfers left I walked around and looked and made notes of all the ones that I liked and took it home and put it in a drawer and forgot about it and never saw it again, just like everybody does at all these show.

But it was a few years later, maybe five or six years later, that, also through the Garden Club of Virginia, I ended up with a collection of bulbs that they sell each year—one of my sisters had gotten it for me and I got a little abuse from my friends for planting the bulbs, but that's another story which most of you've heard, but the next year they had a little show, and they said, "Well you're going to enter, aren't you?" and I said, "Of course I'm going to enter," so the same sister, probably Dell, who's sitting right out there, helped me put them in the show in the coke bottles with their names on them. I'd kept the names very carefully. I had six of them in bloom, and I won five blue ribbons, and one red ribbon, which made me realize right away that I'd always wanted to be great at something, and I'd found my field—it was daffodils! I didn't realize at the time that the judges knew even less about daffodils than I did, and when they saw daffodils with the names under them, they figured anybody who'd put the names on them, must know what they were doing so they should give them an award! But I checked into it and there were a few daffodil greats, but it was a pretty wide open field! I figured I could, that would be what I should do. So I got into it in a big way after awhile and I started going to daffodil shows all over the state and had several in, and I got to be a real ardent show-er of daffodils and I would win trophies and just have the best time. One morning, as always,—I never went the day before, I would always go that day of the show,—I was riding down a super highway and it was the Petersburg Turnpike not far west of here going to the daffodil show in Petersburg. I'd gone to bed at midnight after packing my flowers, and I'd gotten up at two o'clock and was driving to Petersburg down a four-lane highway squirting water on my daffodils as I rode along and that's when I asked myself, "What in the world are you doing this for? Are you crazy? Why are you doing this? What reward do you get?" And so, I didn't

have a ready answer until later that day. I swept the show—as usual. And when they got ready to give the awards, I knew everybody was happy for me, as I walked up and got about eight or ten sterling silver julep cups. I carried them around proudly for a few minutes before I put them down, and one little nice-looking, fine-looking, blue-haired lady came up to me and said, “You’re Mr. Pannill, aren’t you?” and I said “Yes, ma’am,” and smiled and stood back waiting for my accolades, and she looked at me and said, “We wish you hadn’t come!” And there was no humor in what she said! Well it was at that moment that I realized—that made it all worth while! I realized that the day they were glad I was coming, would be the day I would quit coming!



He swept the show—as usual—at Williamsburg!

But I realized also that I might be becoming unpopular, and not loved as much as I felt that I should be. So I went on what I would call the speaking circuit to the garden clubs, and went all over Virginia speaking to the garden clubs, which is not a rewarding thing to do, I mean they had very nice lunches and they were nice ladies, but about two out of the thirty or forty that attended cared anything at all about daffodils. The rest of them came because they were supposed to come to garden club. And I would start out addressing my remarks to the older ladies who would sit in the front row, but they would fall asleep. So then I would shift it to the young girls in the back row, and they would get up and go get their car pools! And then I decided I wasn't going to make any more speeches to garden club ladies, I was just going to speak to daffodil societies. Which I have done more than I should have to groups such as this.

But now, in doing this I have found that I've gotten a lot of friends, and my friends that have gone to these shows—and I want to talk about the Tidewater area which we're in now—they have one of the greatest shows, and that's the show we had here, but they have a great show every year in this area down in Hampton or the Newport News area. And they seemed a little bit glad when I would come and do fairly well, more than the Garden Club of Virginia ladies did. The Garden

Club of Virginia ladies would ask me to judge a lot. I love the Tidewater show, and I would come as often as I could. I would come often, but I wouldn't try to put in everything and win, because I didn't want to be the villain anymore. But luckily for me, several years ago, there were a couple of guys in Richmond, that reared their ugly heads and decided they would become big daffodil contenders—that's Fred Pollard and Joe Stettinius. So I started getting phone calls from ladies saying, "Please come to our show. We think Fred Pollard and Joe Stettinius are coming and we want you to beat them." So I went from being the villain to being the dragon-slayer. And luckily, not luckily, but as good judging I would call it, would have it at this show, they were both here. They were both planning to stay for the whole time, but they both left last night! Both of them got phone calls that they had to be back in Richmond in a hurry! Now the only reason I'm saying this—we're all three good friends—I know this will get back to them is the reason I'm saying this! So I want to tell you, the non-growers, that being around these daffodil people, they're the greatest people in the world, and I've enjoyed being with them, travelling all over the world with them, well I literally haven't been all over the world with them, but all over the United States with them. They've been all over the world together, I've missed some of those trips, but I'm hoping maybe I can go on some more later. Anyplace you go in the United States to a daffodil show or a daffodil meeting you'll meet great people, fine people, interesting people, and I want to thank the ones that came tonight, or today, to this meeting, specially the ones that came tonight and stayed for my talk, but I've got a couple more little things I want to say to end it up, . . . just a minute [gets ukelele] . . . you didn't think you were going to get away that easy, did you? [plays and sings] Oh, Lord it's hard to be humble, When you're perfect in every way, I can't wait to look in the mirror, 'Cause I get better looking each day, To know me is to love me, Well I must be a hell of a man, Oh, Lord it's hard to be humble, But I'm doing the best that I can! Yes, I'm doing the best that I can.

Thank you very much.

THE DAFFODILS AT ORCHARD HOUSE

DON BARNES, *Yorkshire, England*

(from the *Journal of the Daffodil Society* [England], February, 1982)

Even the pouring rain of a typical May afternoon could not dampen the attraction and color of the daffodils at Orchard House. Coupled with the infectious enthusiasm of Barbara Abel Smith, the rain seemed unimportant as we examined the named cultivars and the beautiful things shining out of the seedling beds.

Orchard House is, to many people, associated with some super pink flowers and indeed there have been many such as Dulcie Joan (2 W-WP), Kirklington (2 W-P) and Ruffold (2 W-P). The search is still going on for a small cupped pink (Division 3) and a pink version of Kimmeridge has flowered for the first time (the precise measurements have still to be taken) bred from an unnamed seedling and Jewel Song. However, Park Springs is considered by Barbara to be her best flower to date largely because of its reliability. The concentration has, by a quirk of fate, been limited to Divisions 1, 2 and 3 and judging by their colors on a wet and overcast day there could be some interesting flowers to be introduced within the next few years, perhaps the most promising being an Emily × Silver Howard seedling showing good form and color with just a hint of an orange rim to the corona.

However, the visit was prompted by the reliability of the stock sent out over the years from Orchard House. Indeed, since commercial activities commenced in 1967, there have been very few bulbs despatched which were subsequently found not to be true to name. Seeing the facilities and listening to the detailed program of activities (backed up in most cases by extensive records of events each year) give some clues as to the secrets of better bulbs and hence better flowers.

The ground is blessed with a favorable water table and is of a good loam. Although the ground is relatively flat, drainage is good. The land has been fallow for a number of years with some grazing by cattle and sheep and when new beds are required, usually each year, to replant in new ground the land is ploughed to break up the compacted surface and give aeration. The beds, varying between six foot and eight foot wide, are marked out in a north/south direction and a dressing of Bentley's No. 1 Bulb Fertilizer and peat is applied. After a thorough rotovating to produce a fine tilth, to assist planting, the beds are made-up which raises their surface some 4 inches above the pathways. After this basic treatment, planting out can begin when stocks are known and sales completed.

Cultivars are grouped by approximate flowering periods. All planting is done by hand using a trusty trowel. The bulbs, still wet from their dipping in an Aldrin solution, are spaced out across the bed in straight rows, checked for straightness and then a hole is dug for each bulb which is inserted to a depth appropriate to its size (usually some four inches of soil above the nose of the bulb). Rows are six to eight inches apart, again dependent upon the size of bulb. As each long bed is planted, it receives a top dressing of peat and is then sprayed with a pre-emergence herbicide. All bulbs of each cultivar are planted together and mixed sizes of bulbs are alternated across the rows to encourage evenness of growth.

The favored practice is to leave bulbs down for two years, but some cultivars are lifted each year as they then produce bulbs of better shape and size for selling.

In January or early February, the beds are top dressed with Bentley's No. 2 Bulb Fertilizer. Then, in the spring, as the flower buds emerge from the ground the beds are dressed with a generous sprinkling of a mixture of one part dried blood to two parts Sulphate of Potash (by weight). This top dressing is usually applied about a month before flowering and thus the earlier cultivars are treated at a different date to the later cultivars.

All growth is generally unsupported, the distance between each bulb being sufficient to allow strong plants to develop. Any staking which is done, using split canes, is for identifying and supporting flowers which are being used as seed parents or to mark a bulb of a cultivar which has somehow found its way into the wrong bed.

Sections of the beds can be covered with an aluminum framework which is then covered with heavy white calico over the top and down the sides (a gap is left around the sides so that the calico is about twelve inches from soil level). The covers are positioned when the cultivars are coming into flower and necessitate regular watering to ensure a cool humid atmosphere is maintained for the developing blooms. As soon as the cultivars have finished flowering the calico is removed to allow growth to proceed naturally.

Many of the blooms on the trade stands come from the open beds. However, as an insurance some protection is practiced and some cultivars are grown in pots. Both clay and plastic pots are used and these are filled with J.I. type mixture and three bulbs of the better cultivars are grown per pot (9") whereas those that are to be in reserve for the trade stand are usually five bulbs per pot (9" or 10"). The pots are stood under a north wall of one of the sheds and covered with mulch of straws. Towards the end of February the pots are checked each week and where sufficient growth has been made they are moved to the greenhouse and stood under the staging. Two layers of newspaper (*Financial Times* it must be) are placed over the

growth, one layer is removed after three days, the remaining one removed fully after about one week. Each pot is then dressed with Bentley's No. 2 and they are placed onto the staging. After about two weeks each pot is given a dressing of dried blood and potash and apart from regular watering and juggling of positions to get into bloom at the time required, they receive no extra treatment for the remainder of the season. After flowering, the pots are stood against a south facing wall and kept watered until the foliage dies back.

Deheading, by cutting off the faded blooms just below the neck, is considered an important operation not only for conserving 'power' for the bulb but as yet another check on the correctness of the cultivars to the label and a time for examining all growth for signs of disease (any suspect bulb is dug up and destroyed—the very occasional gap in the deheaded earlier cultivars showed the success of this method).

Recognizing that some bulbs will be exported all of the stock is inspected, in growth, by the Ministry of Agriculture officials on two or three occasions. Again opportunities to ensure that everything is as healthy as possible.

After deheading the aim is to keep good growth for as long as possible. If the weather is dry some watering, using an overhead oscillating sprinkler is practiced. A balance is struck on the question of length of growth period to ensure that the despatch and replanting schedule is not to be too disrupted. Lifting dates are recorded each year and show a remarkable consistency. Most of the lifting is done in a three to four week period.

Batches of bulbs, carefully segregated in wire trays and netlon bags are dipped, as soon as practicable, after lifting for twenty minutes in a Benlate solution. They are subsequently dipped in a Nemaphos/Formaldehyde solution (using, as is the case with all chemical treatments, full and recommended protective clothing) before being allowed to fully dry-out ready for cleaning and sorting. To ensure that all bulbs for sale are fully protected they are given approved hot water treatment using commercial equipment.

Attention to detail and very comprehensive records are integral parts of the routines adopted. The results show in the methodical plantings and healthy growth backed up by a wealth of complimentary correspondence.

It is clear that above the routine treatments the bulbs and their blooms receive, they are blessed with a high degree of love and care from a person whose green fingers will not rest in their search for the ultimate goal.

DAFFODILS IN THE PERENNIAL GARDEN

Not all daffodil lovers want to show daffodils or are willing to devote a whole bed or more to daffodils. Some of us have established perennial gardens, and must fit daffodils into the overall plan. The daffodils have their time of glory in the spring, but then must give way to other bulbs or perennials.

When Joe and I started our garden, the daffodils were planted around the perimeter of the garden so the maturing foliage would be hidden by the growing perennials. This was effective, but did not allow enough space for the many varieties seen and desired.

Now daffodils are planted in most of the beds, interspersed among the hemerocallis, hostas, and in back of the peonies, all of which obscure the dying foliage. No matter how or where we plant them, we all love "Daffodil Time."

—MARILYN FITCH, *Columbus, Ohio*
Cods Corner, October, 1982

DOWN UNDER TO TOPSIDE IN WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS

JEAN MANFREDI, *Amherst, Massachusetts*

So many differing characteristics of daffodils and so many differing climates of their initial and ultimate growers have to be taken into account when undertaking acclimation of down under bulbs that it is not surprising that no one method seems to prove totally reliable. On the other hand, probably because of the sturdy perseverance of many daffodils and/or the benign climates of some topside growers, widely differing methods can have apparently equal success.

In summarizing my experience with acclimation in a less than benign climate¹, I acknowledge that the cultivars I have attempted have been too limited in quantity lots, too varied in normal growth characteristics, too varied in size relative to the cultivar's norm, too variously treated, and too briefly tested to make more than tentative conclusions and recommendations possible; but I hope that other growers in the northern states may find enough helpful encouragement to join in the accumulation of data.

I join those who recommend early planting but not those who plant directly in the garden. Like Richard Brook (*Daffodil Journal*, September 1982) I think that container culture permits immediate planting of bulbs received when the ground in the garden is still frozen and that it also allows more control of the climate of the bulbs during their season of active growth and senescence. However, unlike him, I also pot bulbs received in May and June and allow them to "get badly out of step," refrigerating them for the summer at 40°F, then allowing them to grow actively from early September outdoors, through the fall and winter in the house, prolonging growth as long as possible so that the bulbs may complete a transitional growth cycle not otherwise likely in western Massachusetts.

Like Bonnie Bowers (*Daffodil Journal*, December 1982) I recommend the chilling of bulbs that are to be encouraged to grow in the spring and early summer. However, I refrigerate bulbs only after they are potted and that may be why I have also been able to hold chilled bulbs through the hot summer months for fall growth and bloom.

Initially I considered ordering from down under growers because of reports that many species and older topside cultivars were available from them, but early on I found myself also ordering down under cultivars at attractive prices. I have found flowers with special virtues in all three areas and can certainly understand why those who breed and show daffodils are interested in down under bulbs.

My first small order of eight bulbs came from Dettman on June 25, 1977. It was held dry, open to the air, at 60°-70°F in the house through the summer and planted late, in mid-October. I ignored, disastrously, the presence of a half-inch shoot on Erlicheer and the early designation of this cultivar. We had warm weather that year through the greater part of December and when deep frost and snow finally came at the end of the month it covered about eight inches of Erlicheer foliage that I found laid out, dark green and translucent, when the snows melted in the spring.

¹The most recently published figures that I have for Amherst are those for the years 1951-1973 which give the average daily minimum temperature for January, our coldest month, as 13.4°F with a record low of -30°F and the average daily maximum temperature for July, our hottest month, as 83.0°F with a record high of 99°F. Average precipitation for those years was 41.36 inches, fairly evenly distributed in terms of monthly averages.

There was no further growth from the bulb. (I have since grown Erlicheer from an American source in a protected spot with a heavy mulch. It blooms for me around the beginning of May near the peak of my season. Lindsay Dettman has referred to it as in bloom on June 5th. Equating this to a topside date of December 5th may serve to point up the complexity of acclimation—not only is there the hemisphere factor but the climate differential as well).

The other seven bulbs from that late fall planting all showed some fresh green in the spring. However only Agnes Webster bloomed that first year, 1978. In 1979 Rowella, Rawene, Pigeon, and Rosario bloomed and they have survived to bloom again but Bonnington, Agnes Webster, and Ann Cameron disappeared after their first year.

By the time my second order from Dettman arrived on June 19, 1979, I had decided that I should pay more attention to shoots and plant all bulbs showing them on arrival in pots, water them thoroughly, put them in plastic bags and hold them at about 40°F through the summer in an old refrigerator. I argued with myself that, if sprouting indicated a push toward growth, refrigeration would not be responsible for triggering a process already started but would merely support the built-in intentions of the plant and allow root growth in moist conditions safe from the threat of rot in summer heat and then, once root growth had been established, act like a late spring in holding back the upward push of green.

The bulbs showing shoots on arrival in this second order were mostly tender or semi-tender cultivars that I wanted to see but was not really expecting to have survive western Massachusetts winters if planted in the garden. However, I decided also to pot even hardier bulbs if or when they showed shoots. I argued that the disadvantages of pot culture would be offset to some extent by the maintenance of bulb health in avoiding the withering of started growth and by a prolonged season of growth in a cool sunny window. I felt also that prolonged indoor growth in a pot, although it might not fully renew the bulb, would retard its time-clock by three to five months bringing it more into line with that desired for its future and therefore make the first winter planted in my garden less traumatic.

Of the sixteen bulbs in this order only six had not sprouted and been planted by October. These six were planted in the garden although I felt that one or two were of doubtful hardiness. Only one of them, Noelle, survived the winter. (The non-survivors were Camelot, Rippling Waters, Tresamble, *N. p. Praecox* and "Campernell Hort.") Of the potted ten, the six potted and refrigerated for the summer months, were, with the exception of one that failed to grow, brought into active growth as soon as they showed two-inch shoots in September and October and kept in growth after bloom as long as possible in sunny windows in the house. The other four were potted in mid-October and given a chilling period in a cold basement. Their active growth period began in January and their growth was similarly prolonged. Of the ten bulbs potted, one, as noted above, failed to grow, two were virused and were destroyed, four were considered too tender for later outdoor growth leaving three, Falaise, Bunnies, and Pink Cloud for planting in the garden. All three have survived there and in 1982 Bunnies and Pink Cloud bloomed.

These results in the 1979-80 season were enough to encourage me to continue early potting of bulbs if they showed shoots. Once more, in 1980, I planted in the garden in the late fall bulbs that had not put forth shoots, Revelry, Doss Cowie and Prince Ki, and only Revelry showed in the spring, a weak looking shoot or two. But again, my potted bulbs, several of tender species, produced enjoyable bloom in the 1980-81 fall and winter months and the five cultivars that were considered hardy enough for planting outdoors had by early summer bulbs that were firm and not

greatly diminished in size. Planted in the fall of 1981 they put forth healthy-looking green without bloom in the spring of 1982.

Although by 1981 I had become unhappy with the results of holding unspouted hardy bulbs for fall planting in the garden, immediate planting had not seemed a likely alternative with bulbs received either in June as my season was winding down or in early April when the ground was unworkable. That early shipment, however, and my success with potted bulbs suggested that with even earlier shipments I might pot hardy bulbs for indoor growth in February and March and so bring them enough ahead of their season to have bloom and mature development only slightly later than that of bulbs already growing in the garden.

My first order from Hancock arrived on March 24, 1981, but it contained mostly tender things that I planned to enjoy in the fall so that it was not until my first small Jackson order arrived on March 27, 1982, that I tried immediate potting of bulbs that appeared to be completely dormant. None of these was designated as very late in habit and therefore all seemed likely candidates for what would, in effect, be forcing. I potted them in Redi-Earth potting mixture well laced with steamed bonemeal in standard 7-inch terra cotta pots, watered them, and placed them in a cold room in the house to start root growth. When most of my daffodils outdoors were sending up three or four inches of green and the Tenby Daffodil was in bloom, about the middle of April, I placed the six pots outside in an eastern exposure in a pachysandra bed in which the snows of our April 6th blizzard were slowly melting. I mulched them heavily with leaves both to protect them from late frosts that might, combined with the snow they were sitting on, reduce the temperature too much for bulbs with barely started root growth and to preserve the coolness provided by that snow as long as possible. I gradually lightened this mulch as the shoots began to appear and allowed surrounding pachysandra to take over the job of keeping the pots cool.

Energetic growth did not begin until the end of May about eight weeks after planting. One thing that worried me was that the mother bulb shoots seemed more reluctant to grow than the offset shoots. However, during the first two weeks in June growth began to equalize and by June 12th Lawali burst into bloom, the first bloom of four from the bulb. Pia came next with two perfect flowers opening on June 22nd. Then on June 24th Prado opened in perfect form, a delight in texture and color, only slightly hooded. Tranquil opened one perfect bloom on June 28th and Vixi two good-looking flowers rather short-stemmed relative to foliage. Brano opened one perfect flower on June 27th, a small well-formed bloom on June 29th, and another larger one on July 2nd.

I know that the quality and endurance of the blooms and the sturdy growth of the foliage of these bulbs owed much to the unusually cool and rainy June here last year but I must say, as others have done, that the bulbs received from Jackson were of superior size and quality. To my joy the bulbs I removed from dried-off pots in September seemed to be almost as large and firm and healthy. I planted them in the garden in October with great hopes for their future.

The ground outside was just becoming workable when I received my second order of Hancock bulbs on April 13, 1982. Six of them were bulbs that I expected to be hardy in the garden so I decided to follow the Breens recommendation of immediate planting in the garden. They were placed in a sunny bed but heavily mulched to keep the ground as cool as possible for as long as possible. Of the six, only Toorak Gold and Ithica sent up green and bloom in June, and in spite of the cool rainy month their bloom and growth in the exposed bed was not as sustained as that of the Jackson bulbs in their more shaded and root-cooled position. For the four that did not appear (Chromis, Tranquil, Lyric, and Nevoise) I can only hope that daffodil durability has saved them for another season.

I may never have another April in June as I did last year but I can hope for earlier shipments from Australia and New Zealand. I am now convinced that pot culture permits nudging ahead an Antipodean season into my earlier New England one of the same calendar year and that it is likely to be the best way for me to treat bulbs of early habit if they are received before the end of March. My present plan is to pot and refrigerate all healthy bulbs whenever they are received. For those that are early in habit and show one-and-one-half-inch shoots in the pots by the end of May I will risk forcing. All others I will refrigerate until late August or early September and then encourage into an active growth cycle that can be prolonged in the house to save the bulbs for another season.

Getting bulbs before the end of March remains something of a problem. Normal shipment dates mentioned in the catalogs that I have received show a February-March range. Only Phillips showed his date of dispatch narrowed to Mid-February. (I have not yet ordered from Phillips because of a minimum order suggestion higher than I have felt prepared to meet before having more experience.) A large part of the problem stems of course from arrival of the catalogs too late for placing early orders for the season of the catalog. An order airmailed to Bell the day after his catalog was received on February 22, 1981, was too late for lifted stocks and was not held over by him for the following year because of uncertainties about the availability of certain cultivars. Fortunately my first Jackson order was held over and dispatched SAL the following year on February 15, 1982, to be received by March 27th. Holdovers do not always result in early shipment. My order of November 25th, 1977, to Dettman and held over with my consent for the 1979 season was not shipped until May 31st, 1979. A delightful correspondence with Lindsay Dettman over the years has revealed that he operates without any help and this probably accounts for the lateness of some of his shipments.

Until 1982 my experience with SAL was fairly good, averaging 18.5 days on four deliveries. But in 1982 my average on two shipments jumped to 37 days. This may have been mere chance but is probably more likely to have been because of deteriorating postal services. I requested Air Mail on my Jackson order for 1983, an order placed on the basis of the 1982 catalog in July of 1982. This order was airmailed on February 16th and received on February 28th. As far as I know Air Mail is the only option for early delivery of New Zealand bulbs.

In conclusion let me emphasize that those of us in the northern states do have the advantage of later and less intense summer heat than southern growers with their longer more or less frost-free seasons. We stand equal in terms of our chances of early shipment of bulbs and are, with our freezing winters and late springs, perhaps better able with pot culture, to force bulbs into growth and maturity closer to the cycle of our gardens in their first year. For all of us, north and south, the climate control permitted by pot culture can help meet the problems posed by late shipments. Finally, the range of offerings of the down under growers makes the effort put into acclimation well worth it. Where else can one obtain at moderate prices the outstanding cultivars developed by these breeders or the tender species delights such as *N. tazetta odoratus*?

May 9, 1983. All of last year's pot-grown Jackson bulbs bloomed in the garden this spring. While all were on the small side, all have vigorous and healthy-looking foliage and seem to be on their way to a good future. The six Hancock bulbs sent up foliage, but it was not as sturdy or healthy-looking as that of the bulbs pot grown last year.

HERE AND THERE

One of the pleasures of this job is receiving letters and newsletters from around the world. Recently the postman brought a letter from Alice Snell, Blue Mound, Illinois, which said in part: "One of the English whodunits I brought from the library and finished instead of working outdoors today had this in its last paragraph: '. . . The newspaper on the floor held white narcissi with bright red perianths. . . ' Wunderbar!! Jefferson-Brown's listing also came this morning so that I could check hastily to see if the English have created something we don't know about. They hadn't." A new kind of reverse bicolor, perhaps?

The arrival of spring in the South is heralded by myriads of daffodils blooming around abandoned homesites, country roads, and many fields and lawns—a beautiful sight indeed. It prompted a letter to the editor of the *Nashville Banner* praising the Tennessee spring gold—buttercups! To the non-daffodil growing populace, our favorite flower is called a buttercup! (Imagine my chagrin when my husband explains to business associates that I "grow daffodils—you know, buttercups—as a hobby.")

The local McDonalds had a nice planting of daffodils, and the *Ohio State University Alumni Magazine* featured daffodils prominently on the cover (referred to as "floral landscaping"—they take no chances!)

The Nantucket Daffodil Show has proved to be the catalyst for a whole series of daffodil related events. Now comes word of a song, "It's Daffodil Time on Nantucket," written by Kay Lande and dedicated to Jean MacAusland, which will be sung at the Antique Car Parade by grade school children who live on Nantucket. (Kaneil Music Co., 106 Highland Ave., Staten Island, NY 10301.)

Following the lead of the Nantucket project, where a trail of one million daffodils are planted, a group in Sherborn, Massachusetts, is planning a trail of 10,000 daffodils to honor the memory of Richard and Mary B. Saltonstall.

A note from Matthew Zandbergen on the number of hectares planted in narcissus in Holland indicates that the total area is down by 1.8%.



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Vol. 38, No. 4 of *Plants and Gardens*, under the title "Of Daffodils and Such", quotes our list of top ten show winners from the December, 1981, *Journal*, and comments on the foliage-cutting trials at Wisley which we reported in our June, 1982, issue.

From Virginia comes word of the death in October, 1982, of Mrs. Littleton H. Mears. Mrs. Mears planted the daffodil test collections for the Garden Club of Virginia yearly and her miniatures were known to all.

Several of our members have been honored by the Garden Club of America. Richard Colburn Butler, Little Rock, Arkansas, was presented the Florens DeBevoise Medal for "horticultural achievement in the fields of hybridizing, collecting, or nurturing with preference to plant material suitable for rock gardens." He is an award-winning iris breeder.

Mrs. Earle MacAusland, Nantucket, Massachusetts, was the recipient of the Garden Club of America Zone 1 Creative Leadership Award. Mrs. MacAusland first conceived the idea of the Nantucket Daffodil Festival, which began with a simple daffodil show and now encompasses a roadside planting of over one million daffodil bulbs by civic groups, a parade of antique cars—all bedecked with daffodils—decorated store window competition, a Daffodil Ball, and over 1500 visitors to the show.

The Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland have honored Mrs. Merton Yerger for her creative horticultural achievement in hybridizing miniature poeticus cultivars. The daffodil show of the Somerset County Garden Club was dedicated to her with its theme of "Hats Off to Meg and Wag-the-Chief."

A last minute news flash from overseas reported that John Lea was again winner of the Engleheart Cup in London, with Brian Duncan a close second. Watch for details in the September issue.

ACCLIMATIZING NARCISSUS BULBS

P. PHILLIPS, *Otorohanga, New Zealand*

Bulbs transferred between the Northern and Southern Hemispheres have to adjust their growing and flowering period to correspond with the difference in seasons between the two hemispheres. As one hemisphere is having winter when the other is having summer, this means a complete reversal of the bulb's normal growth cycle.

In order to comprehend the stresses and changes necessary to be made by the bulb, it is desirable to know something of how a bulb performs under different climatic conditions. Bulbs, even in the dry state, are never dormant; there is always some form of development taking place. After lifting and during storage, the embryo flower bud develops inside the bulb over the summer period, and warm temperature assists in this process. But warmth, combined with high moisture content—either high humidity in storage, or warm moist soil conditions for bulbs left in the ground—can result in losses due to *Fusarium* rot (basal rot). As cooler weather develops, the bulb prepares to form roots and this can be seen by the formation of a white "halo" at the base of the bulb on the outside edge of the base plate, caused by the development of the root buds within the bulb. If offsets are

detached at this time the newly formed roots about 1/8" long can be seen at the point of detachment of the offset from the bulb. Root development in the ground takes place soon after ground temperatures fall below 70°F and is at its optimum around 48°F. As temperatures fall progressively lower, root development and plant metabolism decreases correspondingly. As ground temperatures rise and daylight lengthens, so activity within the bulb increases and foliage appears above the ground making good growth in the warm spring conditions. Flowering takes place, followed by more foliage growth and the development of the embryo flower bud within the bulb before the foliage dies down due to soil temperatures increasing with the onset of summer.

Bulbs should be examined as soon as they are received and if offsets are detachable these could be carefully removed to prevent sweating at the junction of the basal plates as this can be a cause of basal rot.

The object of successful acclimatization is to enable the bulb to adjust to the totally reversed environment with as little inconvenience as possible by trying to make growing conditions similar to what it would experience in its native hemisphere. Obviously there are two alternatives, either to encourage the bulbs to make growth at once and continue this growth in an extended season until the normal growing season or to retard growth until the normal planting season, a period of about six months. This can be done by storing the bulbs out of the ground at a temperature of 68-70°F, but as this tends to dehydrate the bulbs they are better stored in some DRY medium such as sand, vermiculite, or untreated sawdust. It is essential that the storage material be dry or root growth will occur. The bulbs are then planted at the normal planting time and should make normal growth.

Alternatively, the bulbs can be planted as soon as they are received, provided the ground is not frozen or water-logged. They will then make root growth and produce foliage as the summer approaches, but should be shaded from the warm summer heat in order to maintain the foliage growth through the summer. Planting in a situation that does not receive the midday and afternoon sun and shading with burlap about eighteen inches above the beds are big helps in keeping the soil cool enough to maintain foliage growth through this most trying period for the bulbs. It is under these adverse conditions that the foliage sometimes appears to have virus, but this is merely environmental and will disappear in the following season when the bulbs are growing under normal conditions. Planting the bulbs in pots, plunging the pots in a cool situation, and relocating them to the most suitable area as the season changes is also a good method but is more labor-intensive, but as the quantity of bulbs is usually not great it is probably well worth the extra trouble. Pots should be big enough to provide five inches of soil beneath the bulbs and the noses should be one inch below the surface of the potting mix with a good mulch added after the pots are plunged in the ground.

The immediate planting method probably gives more increase in the bulbs and this is important as increase in the first years is compounded in succeeding years.

Different cultivars respond in different ways to the acclimatizing process as do bulbs from different sources. Even bulbs sent from one part of the country to another take a year or two to settle down; how much more will bulbs from another hemisphere take to adjust?

It is very fascinating watching the growth and development of imported bulbs and a challenge to get them "turned around" and flowering normally in their new situation.



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THE RICHARDSON RECORDS

DR. DAVID WILLIS, *New University of Ulster, Northern Ireland*

Ireland has been blessed with a wealth of plant breeders, who not only improved the quality of food crops, such as the potato, but also worked extensively on the improvement of ornamentals such as *Potentilla*, *Escallonia*, *Viburnum*, roses and daffodils.

Two hybridists who became world famous for their work of daffodil improvement, which approximately spanned the half century between 1910 and 1960, were Guy L. Wilson and J. Lionel Richardson. Some four years ago, I was fortunate in being able to borrow the complete set of breeding records of Guy Wilson which spanned the period from 1912 until his death in 1962. About one year ago, I acquired those belonging to the Richardsons, which cover every cross made at Waterford between 1928 and 1969.

It was most interesting to compare the styles of these great hybridists for they were very different. In life, I am told by those who knew them personally, Richardson was an extrovert whereas Wilson was just the opposite. Yet the records show these two men in reversed roles—Wilson only too eager to record, often in great detail, the characteristics of even the most unpromising seedling, while Richardson's comments were terse, often abbreviated and always very much to the point. Additionally Wilson wrote at length on the seasons, people and places visited, and the daffodils which he saw—especially those new developments which caught his eye—these reports appearing regularly in his record books between 1912 and 1924. Thereafter Wilson wrote extensively in *The Daffodil and Tulip Year Book*, so that he became perhaps more widely known to the general daffodil public than did Richardson. Richardson in fact seldom wrote about his breeding work, and on one of the few occasions on which he did, Wilson commented, "Something of this kind from you was long overdue, and we could certainly do with some more of it."¹

The scarcity of material written by this great hybridist has given added value to the recently acquired records, as they provide a considerable source of information hitherto unknown or which has earlier been either misquoted or misunderstood.

The records themselves consist of various types of material, of which a brief resumé is given below.

1. CROSS BOOKS

There are four of these and they show every cross made at Waterford between 1928 and 1969, and so in addition to recording crosses made by J. Lionel Richardson, also list those made by his wife between 1962 and 1969.

Cross Book No.	From	To	Total No. of Crosses	Raiser
1	1928	1938	975	J. L. Richardson
2	1939	1950	1007	J. L. Richardson
3	1951	1961	686	J. L. Richardson
	1962	1965	329	Mrs. Richardson
4	1966	1969	155	Mrs. Richardson

The Cross Books show that during the forty-two years of recorded crosses, which began in 1928 and incidentally coincided with the arrival of Jack Goldsmith at Prospect House, a total of 3152 crosses were made. These records, however, provide a great deal of additional detailed information which gives an indication of the actual amount of work which took place at

Waterford, for every seed sown was recorded and in all but eleven years the number of seedlings raised is also noted down. The total numbers of seeds sown during the periods covered by the Cross Books are: 1928-38, 56,601; 1939-50, 77,843; 1951-65, 82,127; 1966-69, 18,640, giving a grand total of 235,211.

Most of the seedlings which resulted from this seed were also recorded—in fact all those from 1928 to 1950, 1957 to 1960, and 1965 to 1966—giving a total of 99,633. It is possible to arrive at a figure for the whole of the period 1928 to 1969 by utilizing the known percentage germination for the fully recorded periods. The approximate number of seedlings handled by the Richardsons at Waterford was 147,000.

2. STOCK BOOKS

These number thirty-nine and cover the years dealt with by the Cross Books, with the exception of 1930, the book for this year being missing. The Cross Books and Stock Books have proved to be an invaluable source of information and perhaps at this point it is worthwhile to give a few examples. It was exciting to locate some of those crosses which subsequently made daffodil history—to see, for example, the actual entry made in 1929 which gave rise to Falaise.²

Similarly, it was exciting to note the crosses which gave rise to Kilworth and Arbar and the crosses which were made between these two cultivars. Also of great interest was the cross which gave rise to the first pink cyclamineus-type hybrid in Ireland, named Kelpie. Although never catalogued, it proved to be the forerunner of a kind for which Irish hybridists have recently become well known. There is also a record of a pink double seedling which arose from a cross made as early as 1956 and this flowered in 1962, probably making it the first daffodil of this type to appear in the British Isles and Ireland.

These records have also been useful in tracing parentages previously unknown and the information so gained has been passed on to Dr. Throckmorton for inclusion in the American Daffodil Society Data Bank.³ Without these books it would have been impossible to name accurately the collection of colored slides of both seedlings and cultivars, most of which only bore a number.

The system of recording used at Prospect House was almost perfect. The only fault which I have found in the system was the use of the same number for several different daffodils over the forty years during which recording was carried out. This happened when an old cultivar or unsuitable seedling was discarded, its number being re-allocated to a new daffodil. Hence No. 150 was Tiercel in 1928, Cicely in 1938, and Revelry in 1948, 1958, and 1968. In 1928, No. 434 was referred to as a seedling of unknown parentage, in 1938 the number was unused, in 1948 it was a cross between Kilkenny and Kingscourt. In 1958 it was a red and white double from Falaise × Arbar and in 1968 No. 434 was described as “a super Green Island” from No. 359 selfed, this cross being made in 1959. The next step was to find out what No. 359 was and it perhaps seemed reasonable to begin to look for this in the 1968 records, but there it is found to be a red and yellow from Cambodia × Vulcan. If one progresses to 1959, when the cross was actually made, No. 359 is found to be unused, but on going to 1958 a seedling from Kilworth × Green Island was described as “a super Green Island” and so it becomes obvious that one is on the right track.

If there is a lesson to be learned from this it is surely to always use con-

secutive numbering, no matter how large the numbers become and never re-allocate numbers once they have been used.

3. PHOTOGRAPHS AND SLIDES

The photographs are all black and white, the most interesting being of daffodils. The earliest of these are predominantly of cultivars purchased by Lionel Richardson from R. O. Backhouse, P. D. Williams, Brodie, and others, as the basis for his breeding stock during the 1920s and early 1930s. Among these are to be found such famous names as Hades, Red Sun, Penquite, Port-hilly, and Forfar. The photographs also feature some of the earliest of Richardson's cultivars such as Alroi (1926), Master Robert (1927) and Cashel (1928) and continue through to the cultivars of the 1950s—Rose Royale (1952), Perseus (1953) and Flamboyant (1956).

It was during the 1950s that the color slides of daffodils were taken and these number 250, about one third being of cultivars and the remainder of seedlings which apparently were never named. While most of the slides are of excellent quality and provide a useful record of the appearance of each flower, it is unfortunate that they did not cover a wider time span or relate more to the cultivars than the seedlings. It is only now that those of us concerned with the conservation of garden plants are coming to realize the value of photography in identification and perhaps it is time that conservation organizations gave advice to those involved in plant photography on a standardized system which would not only ensure that the characteristics of shape were captured, but also comparable details of color and relative flower size.

4. LETTERS

Two files of letters are included among the records, these being to and from Guy Wilson between 1941 and 1961, and to and from The Brodie between 1928 and 1943 and thereafter his relatives until 1957. Much of the material is concerned with business transactions, but some letters did give an interesting insight of the breeders themselves and one useful piece of information was a record of the daffodil stock at 'The Knockan' in 1961.

5. SALES BOOKS

These provide intermittent and probably incomplete records of the Richardsons' business transactions between 1931 and 1977. The records are thought to be incomplete in view of the relatively low value of sales recorded in them, for example, only 7808 pounds in 1968 which was the best year (the catalogue value of the stock in that year was approximately 33,000 pounds). Based on the known stocks of bulbs at 'Prospect House,' the average price per bulb, and the many references in the correspondence to not having enough bulbs to meet orders, it can only be assumed that the annual sales figures shown elsewhere in this paper are low.

6. CATALOGUES

These number forty-five and cover most of the half-century during which Richardson catalogues were issued, from the first list in 1923 to the final booklet in 1973.

THE RECORDS AND THE WATERFORD DAFFODILS

The hybridization work carried out by Lionel Richardson at Waterford was responsible for the development of certain types of daffodils, from the often poorly colored and flimsily formed flowers of the early 20th century, to new levels of perfection. Among these the pinks, white and red, and doubles readily spring to mind. As mentioned earlier, the appearance of certain cultivars and the making of particular crosses have come to be looked upon as

milestones in the history of daffodil breeding. The appearance of Falaise which gave rise, either directly or indirectly, to almost all modern double daffodils was one such notable event, others being the raising of Salmon Trout, Kilworth, and Arbar and the crossing together of this last pair. Much has been written in the past about these cultivars and the part they have played in subsequent developments. Invariably the comments made by authors, other than Richardson himself, have contained errors, probably because they were based on hearsay. The acquisition of this new information now allows the record to be corrected. In at least two articles, for example, it is stated that the seedpod found on a plant of Mary Copeland, which subsequently gave rise to Falaise, was discovered during World War II⁴ and only Richardson himself has indicated the correct date in print as being 1929.⁵ Falaise in fact first appeared under this name in the record book for 1944 when the stock consisted of 105 bulbs of various sizes. This seedling had first been recorded in 1935 as No. 427 when it was described briefly as "best double, very late," the stock at that time consisting of one double nosed bulb and one offset. The Cross Book reference is also given as No. 1119 and if this entry is consulted it will be seen that the cross was Mary Copeland (selfed) and produced one pod containing eight seeds which were sown on 11 July 1929, giving rise to six seedlings.

Rose of Tralee first appeared in the Stock Book for 1935 and was named as such in the index of the 1936 Book. It arose from Cross No. 1072, also made in 1929, which gave rise to 124 seeds (13 pods), sown on 29 June 1929 and ultimately produced 107 seedlings.

Kilworth was first named in the Stock Book for 1939, having been recorded in 1935 as Seedling 472. No comment was made when it first flowered but in the following year it was described as "a good red and white incomparabilis." It arose from Cross 1374 made in 1931 between White Sentinel and Hades, which gave rise to 74 seeds and when sown on 16 July 1931, fifty-three seedlings. The partner which was to make Kilworth famous, namely Arbar, was later in coming. It was first named in the Stock Book of 1948, being first noted as Seedling 466 in 1943. It was from Cross No. 2064 (Monaco x Forfar) made in 1939. No comment was made on this seedling until 1945 when it was described as being very good in that year and a "better Monaco." The pairing of these two cultivars proved to be one of the most productive daffodil crosses of all time, which has been written about extensively and has even merited an article devoted solely to it.⁶ These accounts seem to carry one recurrent error, that the cross was carried out on five occasions between 1949 and 1956, producing 2,400 seeds. An earlier cross was made, however, in 1948 (No. 2763), but has apparently been overlooked by earlier writers because the pollen parent, Arbar, was shown only as Seedling No. 466. Details of this and subsequent crosses are:

Year	Cross Number	No. Seeds	No. Seedlings
1948	2763	172	132
1949	2861	329	231
1950	2963	1069	540
1952	3037	357	—
1954	3184	432	—
1956	3345	210	—

Seedling numbers for the 1952 to 1956 crosses were not recorded. Total number of seeds sown was 2569.

Lionel Richardson raised several cyclamineus hybrids, such as Joybell and

Titania, about which there is little doubt concerning their status as true cyclamineus hybrids, in the accepted, botanical sense.⁷ Others, however, such as the interesting Kelpie, are much more reluctant to demonstrate any ancestral links with *Narcissus cyclamineus*, although all exhibit some degree of reflexing of the perianth segments. The link which Joybell and Titania have with *N. cyclamineus* is through the hybrids Jenny and Dove Wings, raised from Mitylene crossed with the species itself. The pink centered Kelpie may well be a hybrid of garden origin which shows some tendency towards *N. cyclamineus* characteristics; however it is hard to believe that it is a "cyclamineus daffodil of garden origin" or that the "characteristics of *N. cyclamineus* predominate" in its flowers, and the same can be said for many of the similar flowers which arose before it and since. It is probably more correct, botanically speaking, to say that the origins of Kelpie and many similar cultivars are to be found in the reflexing types of *N. poeticus*, as all the available evidence points to this. The parentage of Kelpie is given as Cymbeline \times Debutante, both of which are large-cupped white and pink daffodils. Is there any reason to suspect a cyclamineus ancestry in either of these cultivars, and if not, where did the reflexing of the perianth come from? Both Cymbeline and Debutante have the same parentage of Wild Rose \times Rose Caprice and their ancestries give no hint of a cyclamineus connection. There is, however, a strong link with *N. poeticus* and particularly with the form of var. *exertus* known as Ornatus, which is to be found in the ancestry of Wild Rose through the influence of Mitylene and possibly Blizzard, and in Rose Caprice through White Sentinel. Although the background of these cultivars is not fully given in the Daffodil Data Bank, it is now known from correspondence between Engleheart and Brodie, and more recently discovered letters from Engleheart to F. W. Burbidge in Dublin, that these daffodils did contain *N. poeticus* Ornatus.⁸ Indeed in that part of the ancestry of Mitylene and White Sentinel shown in the Data Bank, the seed parent, Beacon, itself had as its own seed parent another *poeticus* with recurving perianth segments—*N. poeticus* var. *recurvus*. It therefore seems likely that many of the "cyclamineus-type" daffodils have much closer links with *N. poeticus*, and it is from this source that the recurved perianth segments came. Recently discovered material has also indicated the very wide use of *N. triandrus* in daffodil breeding in Victorian times, not least by Engleheart himself and it is highly likely that the recurved perianth characteristic came in some part from this source.⁹

During his lifetime, Lionel Richardson produced double daffodils in almost every conceivable color combination. One combination, however, appeared to elude him, namely white and pink, only to be introduced after his death by his wife. Lionel Richardson obviously was attempting to raise a pink double when he crossed a double seedling with Salmon Trout in 1948 (Cross No 2836). The double seedling had been raised from the earliest use of Falaise which I have been able to trace, as Seedling 427 \times Limerick, this cross being made in 1944 and numbered 2491. The cross between this seedling and Salmon Trout produced only two seeds and one seedling which apparently did not survive as I have been unable to trace it in any of the subsequent record books. Several other crosses were made by Lionel Richardson which did result in white and pink doubles as follows:

1956	Seedling 604 (Falaise \times Broughshane) \times Debutante	Cross 3404
1959	Falaise \times Debutante	Cross 3509
	Falaise \times Rose Caprice	Cross 3510
1960	Falaise \times Imogen	Cross 3624

A plant from the 1956 cross flowered in 1962 when it was described as a "white and apricot double with a very full flower and Swansdown centre."¹⁰ Although never named it was almost certainly the first double flower with a "pink" center to be bred in the British Isles and Ireland, and was thought highly enough of to be used in Mrs. Richardson's breeding program which gave rise to a clearer pink coloration in the early 1970s through Marietta x Irani (cross No. 3987).

THE LETTERS

The most touching letters are those written during 1960 and 1961 at a time when Wilson's health was deteriorating rapidly. Richardson first heard of Wilson's decision to dispose of his daffodil collection from W. J. Dunlop in late March, 1961. He subsequently wrote to Wilson saying, "I am terribly sorry to hear of this; are you wise to part with the whole thing? If you do not keep some of your good things to amuse yourself with you will regret it later. If I were a younger man I would take on some of your best things, but I am far too old now."¹⁷ John Shaw, Wilson's foreman, had earlier written to Richardson, "It is very sad for Mr. Wilson to have to give up his daffodils . . . I myself feel very sorry about it as I will be with Mr. Wilson 40 years in May this year and had a good interest in his flowers . . ."¹⁸ Richardson privately sympathized with Shaw saying, "I cannot say how sorry I am for you in this unfortunate position."¹⁹

During late March and early April 1961 Richardson assisted with the compilation of Wilson's stock list, prepared in connection with the sale of the business, and was dismayed by the large numbers of bulbs which had been allowed to build up. He wrote to Shaw, "I was very much shocked by some of your stocks of the more expensive varieties and cannot think what is going to happen now—they will only fetch a matter of shillings if they are forced onto the market . . . I cannot understand why Mr. Wilson let these stocks get so large—170 one year and 78 two-years plants of Empress of Ireland at 10 pounds each . . . and Glendermott equally as bad."¹⁹ Richardson's forecast proved to be very near the mark, for although the value of his bulb stocks (catalogued cultivars only) was approximately 32,000 pounds, their sale made considerably less.²⁰

CONCLUSION

Lionel Richardson's connection with daffodils spanned over half a century, from 1910 to 1961, during which time the quality of white and red and yellow and red flowers was improved to a remarkable degree. The modern pinks and doubles had almost been created from scratch and other kinds such as the pink cyclamineus-type daffodil had made its first appearance.

Perhaps Guy Wilson summed up these developments perfectly in 1941 when he wrote, "Waterford Daffodils will be as famous as Waterford Glass."²¹ How true this proved to be.

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- The Richardson Records are now in the Library, New University of Ulster, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, N. Ireland.

Since being typeset some months ago, the above article appeared in the *Newsletter* of the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group, October, 1982, under the title "Some New Light on Waterford."

MINIATURE BUSINESS AT WILLIAMSBURG

PEGGY MACNEALE, *Chairman, Committee on Miniatures*

An important piece of business taken up by the Committee on Miniatures in Williamsburg was the matter of additions to the Approved List. The final decision will be published in the December *Journal*, but meanwhile I can report that Heidi, a Matthew Fowlds 6 Y-Y listed by Havens, and Hummingbird, a Mitsch 6 Y-Y, have received very favorable reports. Several were brought to the National Show, but could not be entered as miniatures this year. We hope they may be seen at future shows. As always, the Committee is interested in reports from members who are growing any new small flowers, but we have ruled that *new additions*, from now on, *must have been recently listed by a commercial firm before being accepted on the Approved List.*

Another matter under discussion at our annual convention breakfast meeting was the problem of miniatures which none of us has ever seen, and which we believe may be extinct. During the next year we are undertaking a search for those bulbs which have remained on the Approved List but probably no longer exist. A list of missing miniatures will be published in the *Journal* next March, and unless we receive word that someone is growing one or more of these, we will assume they have been lost forever, and will drop the names from the Approved List.

An interesting suggestion from James Wells was proposed. He had brought, for display at the show, a table-full of pots of blooming miniatures. An eight-inch pan of *N. rupicola* was indeed an eyeful, but we also drooled over the sight of

CRITERIA FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADS GARDENS

DISPLAY GARDENS

1. ADS member assigned responsibility for affairs associated with the garden and liaison with ADS Test Garden Chairman.
2. Garden accessible to the public at all times without restrictions.
3. Purpose: Show various correctly labeled cultivars for the public's education and enjoyment.
4. Annual report of status of the planting.

TRIAL GARDENS

1. ADS member assigned responsibility for affairs associated with the garden and liaison with ADS Test Garden Chairman.
2. Garden accessible to the public under pre-established conditions.
3. Purpose: Study the performance of daffodil cultivars in the local environment.
4. Annual report of performance of daffodil cultivars.

TEST GARDENS

1. ADS member assigned responsibility for affairs associated with the garden and liaison with ADS Test Garden Chairman.
2. Garden accessible under limited conditions.
3. Purpose: Scientifically study the effects on daffodil cultivars of: *environmental factors* (e.g., soil, weather, etc), *cultivation techniques* (e.g., depth of planting, time of planting, soil preparation, etc), and *chemical agents* (e.g., herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, and fertilizers).
4. Annual report on experimental results.

These gardens shall be located in areas where good daffodils can be grown and where the soil, weather and growing conditions are normal and typical of the area.

Test and Trial Gardens must be operated by persons, organizations, or institutions that are entirely disinterested and unbiased in so far as the daffodils on test or their hybridizer or introducer are concerned.

All bulbs will be planted in soil conditioned with nutrients and according to the best known practices prevailing in the horticultural world.

LIST OF CURRENT GARDENS

University of Minnesota
Landscape Arboretum
Box 132-1, Route 1
Chaska, Minnesota 55318

Director Dr. Francis de Vos
ADS Contact: Michael L. Heger

University of Arkansas
Horticultural Section
University Farm
Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Dr. Gerald Klingman
ADS Contact: Victor M. Watts

River Farm
American Horticultural Society
Mt. Vernon, Virginia

Mr. Steven Davis
ADS Contact: Marie Bozievich

Brookside Garden
1500 Glenallen Avenue
Wheaton, Maryland

Paducah, Kentucky

Denver Botanic Gardens
909 York Street
Denver, Colorado 80206

Whetstone Park
Columbus, Ohio 43212

Charlotte Sawyer Memorial Garden
Memphis Botanic Garden
Memphis, Tennessee

Ehove Vocational School
Box 250, Mason Road
Milan, Ohio 44846

Kingwood Center
Nine Hundred Park Avenue West
Mansfield, Ohio 44906

Princeton, NJ and
Johnsons Park
Middlesex County, New Jersey

Mississippi College
Clinton, Mississippi 39058

College of William & Mary
Biology Department
Williamsburg, Virginia

The Link Garden
Brooklyn, Indiana

Hilltop Garden
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana

Mr. Bill Corse

ADS Contact: Marie Bozievich

ADS Contact:Carolyn Roof

Gayle Weinstein

Central Ohio Daffodil Society
ADS Contact: Ruth Pardue

Mid-South Daffodil Society
ADS Contact: Frances Bradley

ADS Contact: Bill Schrader

ADS Contact: Charles Applegate

ADS Contact: Adra Fairman

ADS Contact:
Dr. Theodore E. Snazelle

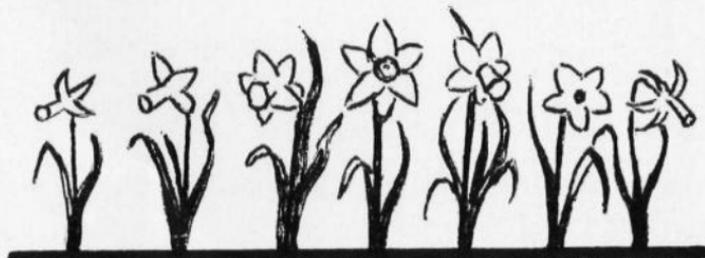
Dr. Martin Mathes

ADS Contact: Dr. John L. Tarver

Mrs. Goethe Link

ADS Contact: Mrs. David Frey

For information and assistance in establishing a garden in your area, contact Test Garden Chairman, Ruth Pardue, 2591 Henthorn Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43221.



A DAFFODIL DIARY

JIM KAPLAN, *Fargo, North Dakota*

(from Teta-a-tete, newsletter of the Daffodil Society of Minnesota, Summer, 1982)

It was a gray and damp Sunday morning when I was picked up on March 7th in San Francisco to go on the Northern California Daffodil Society's excursion to Melrose Gardens outside of Stockton. Sid DuBose has owned Melrose for about ten years. It is the largest daffodil farm in California, but he and his partner (Ben Hager) also raise iris and daylilies. Even though it was still damp and gray when we arrived about one and half hours later, the drifts and masses of flowers quickly perked us up. It was a movable feast walking through the muddy rows and exulting in the multitude of beautiful flowers—a veritable embarrassment of riches—more than any home gardener could dream of! In addition to growing named varieties, Sid does his own hybridizing and has some very impressive seedlings.

The first daffodils we saw were the tazettas. They offered a veritable hedge of bloom so thick that one could scarcely see the stems through the leaves. The most impressive to me was Grand Monarque: huge, thick, breathtaking torches of bloom, really extraordinary. I so envy Californians who can naturalize tazettas and enjoy masses of flowers from them every February.

I love spectacular and unusual flowers and found many to admire at Melrose. The most impressive double that I saw was Replete, a huge and full pompom of bright, clear pink and white. An unusual double, Acropolis, was just opening when we got there. Normally, it is white and red, but in the early stages of opening, as we saw it, it was green and red and quite striking. Furbelow, a very showy orange and yellow double, is a recent introduction and still quite expensive.

They had some great split coronas too. One of them was aptly named King Size, a huge bright yellow split corona on lighter yellow petals; easily the largest daffodil I have seen anywhere. Another flower in this division is Pick-Up; it sports a very ruffled, bright orange corona on a creamy white perianth. A somewhat similar ruffled split cup is Tiritomba. Phantom, one of Grant Mitch's greatest successes, is a beautiful pink split cup. Mol's Hobby has a pale yellow perianth with a ruffled, bright yellow split cup.

While neither split corona nor double, Paricutin impressed me as the most brilliant orange-red long cup I saw. It has a nice yellow perianth as background and is one of Grant Mitsch's earlier hybrids.

It was pleasant and interesting to talk with Sid about his daffodils. I found him to be most down-to-earth and helpful. He participates fully in the activities of the Northern California Daffodil Society and donated all the flowers that the Society used for the flower arrangements in its spring show, so he is a good "daffodil community citizen," as well. One thing he said was encouraging to me. They already have many customers in Minnesota and the Dakotas and, after particularly cold winters in the Upper Midwest, he always gets large orders because people lose a lot of plants to the cold. Its consoling, somewhat, to know that I'm not alone in that boat!

A trip to Melrose Gardens makes a wonderful excursion, if you happen to be in the Bay Area in February or March, but it is quite hard to find and you'll need a car to get there; writing or calling in advance would be a must. If you want Sid's daffodil list, send a long SASE to: Melrose Gardens, 309 Best Rd., S., Stockton, CA 95205. If you want the illustrated iris and daylily catalog, send a dollar.

After our visit to Melrose Gardens, the whole gang went to Beecher's Nursery, an idyllic garden spot in the middle of flat and featureless fields. They had drifts of

beautiful daffodils naturalized out among the trees and flowering shrubs. Many of them were the same cultivars as we had just seen at Melrose, but in a more natural setting.

Just one week later, on March 1, the Northern California Daffodil Society Spring Show was held at the Marin County Art and Garden Center in the pretty (and wealthy) little town of Ross. I must say that I was dazed by the profusion of daffodils. Since this was my first show, I just found it difficult to cope! Since I can in no way do justice to this large show, I will merely note some flowers that most impressed me. Among the doubles, my favorites were beautiful examples of Tahiti and Gay Challenger. Impressive also was Twink which had the fullest petalage I have ever seen: it looked more like a tuberous begonia or a camellia. Among the long-cupped, the most special were Inverpolly 2 W-W, Immaculate 2 W-W and Falstaff 2 Y-R. My favorite in this group was Dr. Alex Fleming 2 W-R with its lovely, ruffled orange cup—very dainty. Among the trumpets were beautiful examples of Harewood 1 Y-Y and Helsal 1 W-Y. Overall, I was impressed at how well some of the old standbys like Mt. Hood and Ice Follies fared in comparison with many newer and more expensive varieties. Sid DuBose, of course, won the prize for the best 12 stems.

In the commercial exhibit, I was impressed by Grant Mitsch's Allafri 2 W-P — it's just as striking "in person" as its picture in the catalog. Also of note was his El Capitan 1 W-Y with its enormous frilled lemon trumpet on white perianth. Among the short-cupped daffodils, I especially like Audubon 3 W-YYP which had an unusual tortoise shell mottled cup. I could go on and on, but invite you, rather, to imagine long tables bedecked with perfect flowers.

Along the walls one found the flower arrangements, many of which were quite fanciful and unexpected. The most successful, I thought, was an old wagon wheel mounted vertically and fronted with daffodils and what looked like *Fatsia japonica* leaves (with the ends clipped off) cascading down around the hub. The Northern California Daffodil Society has done a good job promoting daffodils and the show attracted a big crowd. The members were helpful, circulating among the visitors giving explanations of the different classes and answering questions. If you happen to be in San Francisco and would like information on club activities, call the President, Bob Spotts at (415) 223-6499. If you'd like to join their group and receive their interesting newsletter, send \$3.00 annual dues to: Betty Fawkes, 445 Beverly Avenue, San Leandro, CA 94577.

Several days later at a garden club luncheon in San Francisco, Jack Romine, the best known of the Bay Area amateur hybridizers, and a National Judge who had flown in for the show, gave an educational program on daffodil raising and showing. They talked about exciting new developments on the lavender daffodil front and gave several cultural hints, such as not planting King Alfred with your other daffodils as it is infected with a virus disease. They spent some time emphasizing planning before planting your daffodils. Jack pointed out that many gardeners often place daffodil beds on the south side of their property, forgetting that the flowers will face toward the sun—and their neighbor's garden. Another intriguing hint was to feed your daffodils chelated iron, which can have sometimes remarkable and unexpected effects on the flower's color.

My visit to the Northern California Daffodil Society was a pleasant and educational experience, but most of all because I got to meet such friendly and helpful people.

.....

Going round and round all alone? Get yourself organized. Join a Round Robin.

.....

TOM BLOOMER

BRIAN DUNCAN, *Omagh, Northern Ireland*

(from the *Newsletter of the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group*, April, 1982)

The social, friendly, honest man
Whate'er he be,
'Tis he fulfills great Nature's plan
And none but he!

—Burns

I understand the object of this new series which is largely biographical is to pay tribute to the personalities selected and to outline their main achievements. Emphasis is to be on human aspects, to attempt to portray the character, personality, and philosophy behind the success and achievements.

This is a difficult task but I am nevertheless honored to be invited to write about Tom Bloomer. It is appropriate that he should be the first personality of this profile series. His name is well known at home and wherever daffodils are grown and exhibited as the raiser of *White Star*, arguably the best white trumpet in existence at this time. Though *White Star* may be regarded as the pinnacle of Tom's achievements and the flower to ensure his place in the record books, there is much more that is not so well known.

I first met Mr. Bloomer in 1963 when he honored my wife and me by coming to tea prior to giving a talk and demonstration to the Omagh Horticultural Society. I remember that evening well; the yellow fever long had taken its first bite and my search for knowledge of daffodils had begun. It was with awe and nervous anticipation that the great man's arrival was awaited. I already knew of his successes in raising new daffodils and as the man from Ulster who blazed the amateur trail to London with great success. Would such a man, who was also a reputed businessman in Northern Ireland, bother to listen and talk to a young whippersnapper wanting to pepper him with questions and seeking the secrets of



GRIPSHOVER

Tom Bloomer with *Woodland Star* in the Guy Wilson Garden.

daffodil hybridizing which had begun to fascinate? I need have had no fears. Mr. Bloomer rolled up in his snazzy red sports car and out stepped the immaculately dressed, tall, silver-haired, modest, and friendly gentleman I've come to know so well. That evening set the seal on my fate as a daffodil grower. In his quiet, modest way Tom encouraged and inspired me to proceed and I hung on every word during his lecture/demonstration. Such flowers as he brought for his demonstration had never before been seen in Omagh. The meticulous care with which he demonstrated his art in grooming, selecting and staging blooms was a tremendous illustration of a perfectionist at work. That meeting, in fact, inspired the development of the Omagh Daffodil Show which has since become one of the best in Northern Ireland. In this, and in many other ways, Tom Bloomer has largely been responsible for the revival of interest in daffodils in Northern Ireland.

Appropriately Tom Bloomer was born at daffodil time, on the 17th April "something over 70 years ago" and a few Happy Birthday celebrations have upset the decorum of the R.H.S. as the Ulster contingent cut the cake, sipped champagne, and broke into sincere if unmusical choral tribute during mid-staging breaks. In 1932, Tom married Miss Florence (Flo) Cowdy, a kind and gentle lady who was his constant companion and aide at daffodil Shows everywhere. Mrs. Bloomer was greatly respected and loved by the daffodil fraternity and we all shared Tom's loss when she died three years ago.

After marriage, Mrs. Bloomer's mother, who was a keen horticulturalist, lived with Tom and his new bride because of her ill health and immobility. As a result social activities were somewhat curtailed and Tom found gardening taking the place of rugby as he set about landscaping the 2½ acres around his new home just before the outbreak of the War. Tom was a well built rugby forward for Ballymena. At the Omagh Horticultural Society meeting referred to earlier, the vote of thanks was proposed by an opposing contemporary light-weight scrum-half who remarked with feeling that he just couldn't believe that Tom Bloomer could possibly have a gentle enough touch to smooth a daffodil petal!

The landscape design included a long border for bulbs, and as Tom was acquainted with Guy L. Wilson who lived nearby, it was natural to go to him for supplies and advice. When these bulbs flowered a gardening friend suggested that some should be taken to the Ballymena Spring Show. Only modest success was achieved by "yellow fever" had taken its grip. Tom immediately started to improve his stock of bulbs, to learn about growing, grooming, and staging. He recalls with amusement that the next year he gave some of his "reject" flowers to a friend who with total disregard for the "grown by exhibitor" rules exhibited these rejects and beat Tom's first choices in several classes. He also recalls that in these early days he exhibited his first choice flowers in the Novice Section at Coleraine and entered his spare flowers in the Open Section. He won the Open Cup—and very little in the



Golden Jewel.

Novice Section. "That shows you what I knew about daffodils," he laughs.

His enthusiasm increased however and he made regular visits to Guy Wilson, who supplied cherry cake to the Bloomer children and was irreverently referred to as Mr. Buffin. W.J. Dunlop was also a friend and adviser at this time, and once said during a discussion about the merits and placings of flowers on the show bench, "Tom Bloomer — you have nicks on the brain." When it is revealed that Tom examined every flower in minute detail before a 100 watt electric lamp and rejected every flower, however well grown or otherwise perfect, if it had the slightest nick or blemish then perhaps the remark had some justification. Certainly Tom never forgot it and uses the story to illustrate that in selecting and judging daffodils a balanced approach is necessary and all the faults or merits must be given due consideration and without prejudice.

I doubt if there has ever been a more meticulous stager of daffodils than Tom Bloomer. Every flower is groomed to perfection and staged to best advantage. His group classes and trade displays in London were models and examples of how flowers should be exhibited. Every flower perfectly poised, placed, and spaced, backed by clean, well-arranged leaves, uniform colored and well trimmed moss in polished vases were the hallmark of his exhibits. Many of us try to follow his example but do not seem to have the patience and skill to achieve comparable results.

With such dedication, perseverance and natural aptitude it is not surprising that Tom achieved such outstanding success when, after conquering all within the confines of Northern Ireland, he ventured to London. He became the first person to win the top amateur award—the coveted Bowles Cup—on three successive occasions in 1955, 1956 and 1957. The R.H.S. *Yearbook* report of 1958 is worth quoting. "The Bowles Cup was won for the third year in succession by Mr. Tom Bloomer, a remarkable feat, considering that it is awarded for twenty-four varieties, three stems of each, drawn from not less than four divisions. I believe I am right in saying that Mr. Bloomer has broken all records in achieving this." The report might also have added that the achievement was all the more remarkable considering the handicap of growing the flowers in the cold North of Ireland, with the resultant difficulties of pot growing, and losses during transit to London.

The measure of Mr. Bloomer's success in overcoming these handicaps is summed up in another quote from the Report of the 1956 London Show. "The entries for many of the single bloom classes were large and of unusually high quality. The biggest aggregate of points won was gained by Mr. Tom Bloomer who carried off the Barr Silver Vase, a remarkable achievement, seeing that he won the Bowles Cup and the Silver Gilt Williams Medal. Mr. Toal ran him close in these classes and actually had more firsts. These Irishmen take a lot of beating!"

After these London successes, Mr. Bloomer concentrated on raising his own seedlings. He made his first crosses in 1950 when Mr. Jim Bankhead encouraged him to do so and gave him a flower of a 3 W-R seedling which had been Best in Show at Coleraine. Crosses were made regularly between 1950 and 1973. I am privileged to have copy records of all Mr. Bloomer's daffodil raising activities from which I note that he made 869 crosses and sowed 14,954 seeds averaging 17.2 seeds per cross. Crosses per year and number of seeds sown ranged from 27 to 108 and from 194 to 2,425 respectively. Averages would be about 60 crosses and 1,000 seeds per year which must be quite enough for any amateur to cope with when the full flood of flowering and selection processes and recording get under way.

That these hybridizing efforts were attended by considerable success is now well known, though perhaps the best are yet to come. Tom Bloomer would be the first to admit that in naming almost 100 seedlings he may have been unduly ambitious and optimistic about the futures of some of his daffodil children. He was not the first and is certainly not the last, as I can personally testify, to register too many varieties.

I have the pleasure of growing on and making final selections from the seedlings of the last years of Mr. Bloomer's crosses. There 110 seedling stocks still under trial and I confidently predict that there are some which will match the standards set by White Star, Midas Touch, Silent Valley, Golden Joy, Lancelot, Silent Cheer, Dress Circle and Poets Way. There are excellent pinks, some brilliant and smooth 2 Y-R's and 3 Y-R's, beautiful yellow/pinks and of course some more really good trumpets.



Left, Silent Valley; right, Dress Circle.

GRIPSHOVER

Bulbs of the best of these are returned to Ballymena where Tom grows them in pots for fun and for a possible further Engleheart Cup entry. If correct timing of a good range of these seedlings as well as his best named varieties can be assembled on the day in London then Mr. Lea's flowers will need to be at their best to meet the challenge.

In the space available this pen picture cannot possibly do justice to the man to whom I, personally, and many others of the daffodil fraternity, owe so much. Tom Bloomer is a man well liked, respected and admired by all who have the pleasure of knowing him. I am privileged to regard him as a true and loyal friend, almost indeed as another father. He is modest to a fault, of quiet and even temperament, understanding and slow to criticize and with a sense of humor which endears him to adults and children alike. He will be embarrassed by these remarks and I know I will be chided, but Tom Bloomer is the kind of man I'd like to be!

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