

Washington

Daffodil

Society

F a l l 1 9 9 1 • P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

OFFICERS:

President:

Chauncey Maher (301) 656-7833

Vice-President:

John Finch (301) 933-7800

Secretary:

Kori Calvert (301) 585-1218

Treasurer:

Patricia Crenshaw (703) 759-5450

Term ending 1992:

Robert Darling (202) 483-2126

Robert Hall (301) 839-3873

Brian Lazarus (301) 721-0631

Linda Whitton (703) 549-6735

Term ending 1993:

Scott Bally (301) 907-9324

John Colwell (703) 255-1594

Mary Koonce (304) 876-2997

Dorothy Sensibaugh
(301) 799-0147

Term ending 1994:

Bernard Greenberg (301) 864-0526

Bobbie Lively-Diebold
(703) 893-4121

Harry McCrone (301) 867-3631

Janet Skidmore (703) 281-6504

Immediate Past President

Delia Bankhead (703) 668-6651

COMMITTEES:

Arboretum

Harold Winters (301) 434-8213

Club Membership

Elinor Dunnigan (202) 244-6552

Garden Visits

Marilyn Rankin (301) 371-6119

Hospitality

Pat Bennett (703) 250-7179

Membership

John Finch (301) 933-7800

Show

Dorothy Sensibaugh
(301) 799-0147

Ways and Means

Linda Whitton (703) 549-6735

WDS NEWSLETTER

Editor: Louise Millikan
(202) 857-7675

Robert Darling
Elinor Dunnigan
Nancy Generally

Dear Daffodillers,

The time is upon us! Arise from your summer torpor and greet the beginnings of our fall season. Hopefully the weatherman will cooperate with a greater degree of moderation than we have seen this past summer. Right now it is 7:00 AM and already in the upper 70s with humidity to match. Hard to feel inspired to continue working on my new flower beds.

Inspiration is a curious thing. I tend to think of it as a lightbulb going on, just like a cartoon. However, further reflection reveals that inspiration only rarely appears as a lightbulb. In my experience, it is more commonly seen as a slow accumulation of external events coupled with internal processes. The external events/circumstances are often beyond our control. We have more influence over the internal processes. With a bit of effort, the commonplace can become extraordinary; the mundane transformed to stimulating; complexities are simplified; burdensome becomes effortless. Where is my spading fork?

Chauncey

Check Your Mailing Label to See If Your Dues Are Paid.

Individual and Household Members, please check the mailing label on this newsletter to see if you have paid your 1991-1992 dues. If "to 4/91" follows your name, we **have not** received your dues. If "to 4/92" follows your name, don't worry, you are paid up. For those of you who have not paid, **please immediately send your dues** (\$10 for individuals, \$12 for households) to Pat Crenshaw, Treasurer, WDS, P.O. Box 369, Great Falls, Virginia 22066.



Spring Picnic

May 25, 1991

by Robert Darling

A lively group enjoyed the generous hospitality of Mike and Diana Nicholls at their lovely home and gardens in Gainesville. A very warm late spring day brought out many WDS members and friends. There was an abundance of wonderfully delicious culinary specialties. WDS seems to have not only very good gardeners, but also exceptional cooks. Perhaps a WDS Picnic cookbook is lurking somewhere under the mulch!

The Nicholl's large garden has been arranged into several effective garden "rooms." These are backed by a large forest and linked by paths. The whole is set in an expansive contoured lawn.

In the front the lawn sets off the house. Numerous trees and large flower borders filled with daylillies, iris, and floral rarities distinguish the property. They provide an appropriate prologue to the excitement that lies beyond.

Rounding the house a large robust perennial planting cascades down a fairly steep slope to the patio area adjacent to the house. Sitting in the cool shade of the porch/patio there were enchanting views out toward the gardens in all directions.

A feature of this garden is many plantings of iris. The Nicholls hosted the American Iris Convention the week before and the gardens still had many Tall Bearded, Japanese, Louisiana, and California iris (*Douglasiana* hybrids), in bloom. There were several varieties that had won recent awards during the convention and others that were being tested in our area.

The value of growing iris as an extension of the daffodil season is very useful lesson in garden design. While many of the Nicholl's beds were devoted exclusively to iris specialties some had mixed plantings with bulbous and perennial plants.

Other WDS members have successfully combined garden pictures that include the early bloom of narcissus and then go on to show iris and other late spring flowers to advantage. The two plant types seem to be especially compatible. Iris can give a long lasting structure to a planting. Also, many varieties do not need a great deal of summer moisture.

The Nicholls' garden also featured a new hillside planting complete with waterfall and pond. The fledgling growth gives promise for an earlier spring visit. It is possible to imagine the many small areas now defined by perennials and rocks filled with clumps of narcissus. The slope would allow some to reflect in the pond, or set off groups of miniatures in a felicitous way.

It was a beautiful day and all who were there enjoyed the lovely setting and the camaraderie of meeting with WDS friends old and new. We all thank the Nicholls for their hospitality.

WDS Board Meeting

May 25, 1991

by Kori Calvert, Secretary

The Board met in the gardens of Mike and Diana Nicholls before the Spring Picnic. The shade of a large apple tree provided an informal setting for the meeting. Board members were particularly pleased to welcome new members to the meeting. Members are encouraged to attend regular Board meetings. The WDS is your organization and is interested in your active participation.

The minutes of the March 9, 1991, meeting were approved. Chauncey Maher presented the Treasurer's report for Pat Crenshaw, who was unable to attend.

Postage options for the Newsletter were discussed. Additional ideas for new material for the Newsletter were also discussed. The Publications Committee encouraged members to write articles for the Newsletter and submit them to the Editor, Louise Millikan.

John Finch reported that WDS gained 25 new members between the Spring Luncheon and the Annual Show and that 80 members have paid their 1991-1992 dues. Paid memberships stands at 105. Sixty-eight past members have not renewed their membership [see the Presidents note on page 1 of this issue]. Scott Bally noted that club memberships need to be strengthened. The area garden clubs are an important part of our gardening network. Their members benefit by being able to participate in our bulb order, which brings together many bulbs that are unavailable elsewhere.

Delia Bankhead reported that of the 100 bulb orders, 96 contained orders for the Bozievich Collection. This one time only opportunity is an exceptional way to improve individual collections with exceptional cultivars from Marie Boziivich's garden. Several Board members offered to work on digging and bagging bulbs from Marie's collection the weekend of June 1-2.

Dorothy Sensibaugh is the new Show Chairman. She handed out volunteer forms for the 1992 show. Work is already underway to make the '92 show, planned for the National Arboretum, a great success. Delia is looking for a new venue for the 1993 show. Mary Koonce recommended a clean-up day at the Arboretum be coordinated with the Spring Luncheon next year. The purpose of the clean-up would be to prepare the collection for WDS show visitors. Robert Darling suggested preparing WDS members to be docents for the collection during the show days. Chauncey noted that an inventory of props is needed.

The '91 election slate, being unopposed, was declared valid by Delia Bankhead, chairman of the nominating committee. Because Kori Calvert has been appointed secretary, Chauncey has asked Janet Skidmore to fill Kori's position on the Board of Directors.



Miniature Daffodils Early to Late Joy for Garden and Show

Today growing the smaller varieties of daffodils attracts many. Once overlooked in the rush to create bigger and more colorful blooms, their virtues for the garden as well as the show bench are being discovered. Some may be enjoyed indoors as they naturally bloom in January and February (bulbocodiums et al). Others, especially the jonquils and their relatives, close the season in our gardens.

Many WDS members excel at growing miniatures: Elizabeth Capen has long championed their use in the garden. Roberta Watrous has led the way in introducing many new hybrids. The highest ADS award for exhibiting miniatures is named for Roberta. Recent successes by Scott Bally and Delia Bankhead in hybridizing new varieties—both won Rose Ribbons for their new seedlings last spring — attests to continuing pleasures coming from WDS members.

We include here brief introductions to the use of miniatures in your gardens. There are three lists of favorites to guide your own selection. We have also included some related reference notes on this most enjoyable aspect of growing Daffodils.

Miniature Daffodils

for the Rock Garden and more. . .

Small daffodils have been around just as long as large ones. The realization that there could be perfection on a small scale or studying less pretentious forms is quite recent. Many small forms have probably been lost. Some however such as W.P. Milner (1884), Sea Gift (1935), and Pencrebar (1929) have been saved and continue to delight. Englishman Alec Grey, whose home, *Segovia*, and wife, *Flomay*, are remembered as beautiful miniatures, tirelessly developed and promoted these small beauties.

His work and success was amplified by the work of the Blanchards, Cyril Coleman and others in the British Isles and J. Gerritsen in Holland. In this country Matthew Fowles in Canby, Orego, and especially Roberta Watrous working in her small garden in D.C. caused increased interest in the use of the small flowers.

The problem of what is a miniature was "solved" by the publication of a list by the ADS that is now continuously revised. While the list clarifies what is effective in a show, many admired flowers that have a grace and style in the garden are not noted. They must be "found" by the garden designer.

ADS founder and member Elizabeth Capen as well as such venerable daffodil authorities as Carey Quinn, E.A. Bowles, and Alec Grey all extol the use of smaller daffodils in our gardens. They require a special care in order to direct the eye to their most effective use.

In "Miniature Daffodils for the Rock Garden," (Watnong Rock Garden, p. 74-75) Mrs. Capen notes that:

Miniature daffodils are naturals for the rock garden, as they first precede and then accompany alpinas and wild flowers through their peak season, March, April, and May.

No garden could be so small that some three- to six-inch gem would not enhance. In landscaping, scale is king: happily, there are daffodils to fit the smallest.

Some of her preferred garden pictures include the early trumpets with "pulmonaria as foil." She has also recommended sweeps of Beryl and the planting of an

early variety such as Little Gem with a late one like Sun Dial. Both cultivars can share the same space and provide two different periods of bloom. An ideal solution for our smaller gardens.

Judge Carey E. Quinn urges that :

Miniature daffodils should be planted in uneven small groups drifting up the slope [of a rock garden]—a drift of a dozen yellow April Tears or Hawera, a dozen white Frosty Morn below it with a space between, a nest of Tanagra or Wee Bee near the base of the slope on one end, one clump of Sun Disc near the top, flanked with a few violets and some hardy cyclamen bulbs could be inserted for later summer bloom, unless you would prefer to mass some yellow fall-blooming crocus—all of one color.

Miniature daffodils make a beautiful small naturalized effect at the edge of a kitchen or dining-room window. Use twenty-five or so each of two varieties, a yellow and a white—April Tears and Frosty Morn perhaps—with a small mass of yellow bulbocodium conspicuus poking out of the last snow, with some low azaleas at the back.

Then again try a spot of one-color miniatures where a walk between shrubs turns, with some crocus and vinca scattered through. And fill a window box with miniatures on the ledge of Grandma's window, smiling in at an old lady in her chair.

(Daffodills, Outdoors and In, p. 47-48)

Mrs. Capen notes that cultural needs of miniatures vary.:

While standard daffodils have been proven by test to use two feet of well-prepared soil, miniatures can do with eight inches—easier in rocky terrain. ...Most daffodil types include miniatures, but native habitats range from bare rocky slopes to moist river banks to near desert dryness. Fortunately, for gardeners, hybrids of these wildlings are tamed to accept what we consider reasonable soil, although we note a species preference often lingers.

The task this fall is to look about your garden. Determine where you might find a perfect niche to set off a group of the smallest daffodils. Then do some research and learn to shape your garden to their needs.



Favorite Miniatures

by Delia Bankhead

When our Editor asked me to do an article on this subject, my first reaction was, "Ye Gods, how to choose?? Every one is a tiny miracle in the early spring garden!"

Nonetheless, I do have a few in mind, whose perfection of form stands out among others of the same type. Species are not included—they are so variable—but I must sneak in a word for *N. watieri*, so white and so early.

The following have been chosen without regard to availability, price or ease/difficulty of growing (and no, I do not have them all!). They are listed roughly in order of preference within each division.

- Division 1** Candlepower 1W-W
Rupert 1W-Y
Gambas 1Y-Y
Small Talk 1Y-Y
- Division 2** Rosaline Murphy 2Y-Y
Sewanee 2W-Y
Picoblanco, form #2 2W-W
- Division 3** Xit 3W-W
Segovia 3W-Y
- Division 5** Icicle and Raindrop, both 5W-W
April Tears, 5Y-Y
Fairy Chimes 5Y-Y
Golden Drop 5Y-Y
Mary Plumstead 5Y-Y
- Division 6** Bitsy 6W-W
Junior Miss 6W-W
Snipe 6W-W
Cupid, Flyaway, and Stella Turk, all 6Y-Y
Kibitzer 6Y-Y
Zip 6Y-Y
Heidi and Mite 6Y-Y
- Division 7** Pequenita 7Y-Y
Flomay 7W-WPP
Chappie 7Y-Y
Little Rusky 7Y-GYO
Stafford 7Y-O
Clare 7Y-Y
Sun Disc 7Y-Y
- Division 8** Blanchard 61-44A 8W-O
Minnow 8W-Y
Cyclataz 8Y-O

If I had to choose one above all others, I think it would be *Pequenita*. It seems to have almost all the qualities of an ideal miniature: perfect form and size, superb substance, very long lasting, velvety texture, and a luminous sulphur yellow color. Its only drawback is that (for me) it is not a heavy bloomer (about half my bulbs bloom each year). It's also a bit too early for most shows.

There are many people working with miniatures. John Blanchard in the U.K. is in top form. A dozen serious hybridizers in the U.S. join WDS founder Roberta Watrous. Her 10 introductions place her second only to the legendary Alec Gray. Others are in the Southern Hemisphere. So—this little list will undoubtedly undergo revisions from time to time.

The Best of Small Daffodils

Elizabeth T. Capen and Brent Heath

As those longest involved in the supplying of small daffodils — that is, those a third or less in height than the standards of a class — we offer the following supplement to the lists recently published in the *ADS Journal*.

All of the following have been tested for decades in American gardens in USDA climate zones 5 - 8. As with some lists of standards, this list is not limited in price, although the highest priced cost less than several of the standards. As with the latter, some have had to be temporarily withdrawn as demand exceeded supply.

While all on this list are desirable for rock gardens or small scale plantings, some are especially effective in sweeps of hundreds. We have indicated these with (M).

- Yellow Trumpets [1Y-Y]**
Bagatelle, Small Talk, Petite Buerre, Little Gem (M)
- Bi-Color Trumpets [1W-Y]**
Rockery Beauty, Little Beauty (M)
- White Trumpet [1W-W]**
Candlepower, Elka, Alec Gray, W.P. Milner (M)
- White Large Cup [2W-W]**
Green Quest
- Bi-Color Small Cup [3W-Y]**
Yellow Xit, Paula Cottell [3W-WWY]
- White Small Cup [3W-W]**
Xit
- Double [4Y-Y]**
Kehelland, Pencrebar
- Triandrus [5Y-Y or as noted]**
April Tears, Fairy Chimes, Mary Plumstead, Frosty Morn [5W-W], Hawera (M), and Dawn [5W-Y]*, Petrel [5W-W]*
- Cyclamineus [6Y-Y]**
Mite, Quince, Snipe, Viennese Waltz*, Jumble [6Y-O] (M) and Beryl [6Y-O]*,
- Jonquil [7Y-Y or as noted]**
Chit Chat, Doll Baby*, Flomay [7W-WPP], Philomath*, Stafford [7Y-O], Sweet Treat*, Bobbysoxer [7Y-YYO](M), Sundial (M), Sun Disc(M)
- Species [10Y-Y]**
N. asturiensis (especially Giant Form), *cyclamineus*, *pumilus*, *rupicola*, *triandrus* (various), *scaberulus* midget
- Miscellaneous [12Y-Y]**
Tete-a-Tete, Kenellis

*not on ADS Miniature List

The ADS Journal Recommends

Miniatures Available in 1991 for \$3.00 or Less:

April Tears 5Y-Y, Bagatelle 1Y-Y, Hawera 5Y-Y, Minnow 8W-Y, Sundail 7Y-Y, Tete-a-Tete 12Y-O, Baby Moon 7Y-Y, Clare 7Y-Y, Bobbysoxer 7Y-YYO, Chit-Chat 7Y-Y, Sun Disc 7Y-Y, Little Gem 1Y-Y, Pixie's Sister 7Y-Y, Jumble 6Y-O

Now is the time for you to select some miniatures and include them in your garden



Reflections on Hybridizing Miniatures

by Roberta Watrous

WDS Founder Roberta C. Watrous wrote an article, "Why Hybridize Miniatures? A Personal View" for the December 1979 issues of *The Daffodil Journal*. That article has been excerpted here, as her musings on miniatures and hybridizing are sure to inspire. Ed.

Why hybridize daffodils at all? To produce flowers that are near perfect for shows, more distinctive, more suited to special climatic conditions, or more resistant to disease. Another reason may be "to see what will happen if...." My reason for hybridizing miniatures has been the pleasure it has given me—a selfish motive, no doubt. I recommend my selfish approach to many who have not yet made crosses with miniatures—or any crosses at all. They will reap rewards in enjoyment within four or five years.

One of the pleasures of growing miniatures is the length of their season, and new seedlings blooming before the rush of the main season are always welcome. Trumpets and *N. cyclamineus* are, of course, the mainstay of this early crop, unless one has made crosses using the winter-blooming bulbocodiums. (I must admit that my occasional efforts with bulbocodiums have produced next to nothing.) I like to use the miniature white or bicolor trumpets as seed parents, with *N. cyclamineus* as pollen, hoping for another Snipe or Mitzy, but almost any trumpet/cyclamineus seedling blooming so early is welcome. Then I like to cross some of these again with *N. cyclamineus*, to emphasize its distinctive characteristics.

Once the Mitzy x *N. cyclamineus* cross gave me a tiny creamy white version of *N. cyclamineus* itself that lasted two or three years before disappearing. While I had it, I used its pollen on several small white or pale trumpets or cyclamineus hybrids, but the few seeds that resulted did not develop into bulbs. While the chance for something more distinctive are better when white or bicolor trumpets are used, the self yellows are not to be despised. The unassuming *N. minor conspicuus* (Lobularis) crossed with *N. cyclamineus* is what gave me Kibitzer, one of the few of my cultivars that have been distributed commercially.

It was really a picture of some *jonquilla/cyclamineus* hybrids produced by Dr. S. Stillman Berry in California that first inspired me to make crosses. The picture was in *The Daffodil Year Book* for 1942, a wartime joint production of The Royal Horticultural Society and The American Horticultural Society. I wrote to Dr. Berry, but the bulbs were not available, and I decided to try to duplicate the cross. My first opportunity came in 1946, when I was able to bring home a bloom of *N. jonquilla* from Williamsburg and put the pollen on the one bloom of *N. cyclamineus* I had. Seven seeds resulted, and four seedlings bloomed, one eventually being registered as Flyaway. The *cyclamineus/jonquilla* combination, in pure or diluted form, remains my favorite area, but nothing to rival Flyaway has resulted.

After the trumpets and cyclamineus hybrids comes the triandrus group. *N. triandrus albus* x *N. jonquilla* gave me

a nice batch of seedlings, of which #3 seemed to be the best. After some years I registered it as Cricket, and I hope Brent Heath will be able to build up a good stock.

If *cyclamineus/jonquilla* and *triandrus/jonquilla*, why not *cyclamineus/triandrus*? I tried this several times, but the seed collected did not develop into bulbs.

How can we get a wider range of color in miniatures? Most of the modern cultivars in Divisions 2 and 3 with orange, red, and pink are too large to give miniature seedlings, even when crossed with the smallest species. Marionette is the only miniature 2 Y-YYR. The deepest color I have succeeded in getting came from Ruby (Cave, 1907), a 3 W-R of modest size, crossed with *N. juncifolius*. One cultivar from this cross has been registered as Crispin. The same seed parent with *N. scaberulus* has also given some fairly bright seedlings. Seville, another oldtimer (P.D. Williams, 1908), x *N. watieri* has given me a number of charming little flowers that can pass as a 3W-Y.

Hybridizers usually like to use their own seedlings in continuing programs. Because so many of mine carried the sterility factor inhibiting fertility in *triandrus* and *jonquilla* hybrids I have not been able to do this to any great extent. Chances improved when I could begin to use Kibitzer and its siblings as seed parents. From *N. jonquilla* pollen they have given several promising seedlings like sturdier Flyaways. From Kibitzer x Acme (a smallish poet) came some blooms of which I noted "all like smaller, more reflexed Beryls; two had two florets." There have also been some pleasing blooms from (little Beauty x *N. cyclamineus*) #6 x *N. jonquilla*. But Bill Pannill hit the jackpot in this area with his Junior Miss (Jenny x *N. jonquilla*).

A hybridizer of miniatures should not neglect growing on stocks of any of the small species he has, especially those that depend more on seed rather than bulb division for increase. I have found that for me *N. cyclamineus* does not usually set seed unaided, so I try to use a little brush to self-pollinate any blooms that I am not using in crosses. They sometimes bloom in three years from seed; very small, to be sure, but as the bulbs grow larger so do the flowers until they decide that it is time to go. In England I was particularly impressed with the size of some in the Savill Garden that must have been so well pleased with their situation that they had decided to stay indefinitely.

I have never stopped to analyze all the reasons for the many losses I have had. With such small bulbs there is less to resist any trouble that comes their way: drying out, too much or too little heat or cold, disease, over-medicating, too deep or too shallow planting. I have learned to use sand to insulate any small bulbs out of the ground during the summer. I find planting in plastic mesh berry basket cages an invaluable aid in keeping track of what ought to be there when I dig. I have not paid enough attention to summer baking of certain kinds reputed to need that, although at times my intentions have been good. There has always been something else to look forward to and I have ignored the spilt milk to dream of things to come.

Although Mrs. Watrous has retired from active hybridizing, Little Rusky 7Y-GYO and Sewanne 2W-Y were introduced this year by Mitch/Havens. This enables us all to dream of adding some of her fine hybrids to our own gardens.



Miniature Daffodil News

by Delia Bankhead

The ADS Miniature Committee, under the direction of Nancy Wilson, is working to benefit miniature growers, exhibitors, and judges. As a recent member of this committee, I will report on current developments.

A complete list of the species with all current revisions is due to be published soon. This will probably follow the Blanchard system, as the RHS recommends. There is some debate within the committee on whether to add the miniatures on this list to the ADS Approved List of Miniatures (ALM) or to omit species from this list altogether, as they are so variable, and to allow any small species to be entered in miniature sections of the show if it meets the current criteria for a miniature daffodil: "Any diminutive daffodil which appears graceful, with all its parts in proportion...." Though I am on record as preferring a system of measurement to any list, I believe including miniature species on the ALM is an important learning tool for both growers and judges, as so few are really familiar with more than the most common species.

Second, 'miniature candidate' status for a number of named cultivars is being clarified, and several which were registered in 1989 or before will be 'grandfathered,' and will be eligible for any ADS award. A complete list of these will appear in a future ADS *Journal*, and this should make it easier for them to receive the three recommendations required for permanent addition to the ALM.

The RHS has proposed division changes for some widely-grown cultivars (not, I fear, very widely grown in England, where interest in miniatures is just beginning to become widespread). Those that would affect us most are:

Jumblie, 6Y-O, and **Quince**, 6Y-Y to Division 12

Segovia, 3W-Y, **Yellow Xit**, 3W-Y, and **Xit**, 3W-W, to Division 7

Several committee members have objected to these proposed changes, and I expect ADS will protest them to the RHS, which I believe does not have adequate justification for such changes. The RHS has already made other changes: For example, all double species such as *N. eystettensis* and *N.j. flore pleno*, have been put into Division 4, as the RHS contends they have never been found in the wild. This is probably true, and I expect this change to stand, though if they are not to be considered species, they should be renamed. All changes ultimately agreed upon will be published in the [ADS] *Daffodil Journal*, so a word of caution to exhibitors — read your *Journal* carefully before you enter your minis next season!

If anyone has suggestions or ideas on these, or other miniature matters, I will be glad to relay them to the committee. Also, I have copies available of the form for recommending a cultivar for addition to the ALM.

Cultivars currently under consideration (and need of additional recommendations) are:

Moncorvo, Sabrolsa, Chappie, Loyce, Odile, Little King, Midget, Yimkin, Oz, Toto, Little Lass, Little Sentry, Little Soldier, Fairy Circle and Green Ginger.

Those under consideration for *removal* are:

Arctic Morn, Frosty Morn, Marionette and Rockery Beauty. If anyone has yea or nay votes on these, write directly to : Nancy Wilson. [address below]

Miniature Bulb Sources

The following is a partial list of reliable miniature bulb sources in the United States. All have catalogues or lists. When you request one, be sure to indicate you are a WDS member or a member of the ADS.

The Daffodil Mart
Rt. 3, Box 794
Gloucester, VA 23061

Springdale Gardens
RD 3
Boonton, N.J. 07005

Grant E. Mitsch
P.O. Box 218
Hubbard, OR 97032

Nancy R. Wilson
6525 Briceland-Thorn Rd
Garberville,
CA 95440

For Members Only
don't forget ADS, WDS
WDS Spring Bulb Sale — Fall Bulb Exchanges



More Miniature Information

There are many informative books and articles on growing and using miniature daffodils. Their best use is to guide explorations and discoveries applicable to your specific garden situation.

Miniature Daffodils, John Blanchard, 1990

Modern Miniature Daffodils, James Wells, Portland, OR: Timber Press 1989.

Daffodils & Narcissi, Michael Jefferson-Brown, 1969

Miniature Daffodils, Alec Gray, 1955 [the first book devoted exclusively to miniatures]

A Handbook of Narcissus, E.A. Bowles, Chaucer Press, 1934, reprint London:Waterstone & Co., 1985.

Journals

Daffodil Handbook, American Horticultural Society, January 1966

Daffodil & Tulip Yearbooks, Royal Horticultural Society 1953, '56, '59, '62, '63, '68, '69, London

Daffodils, Royal Horticultural Society 1974, '76, and 1985-86, London, England.

The Daffodil Journal, American Daffodil Society, Inc., Volumes 5: #4, 1969, V16:3, '80 V18:1, '81, V27:1 '90, V27:4 '91 [June '91, has three detailed articles.]



The 1991 Show—Final Report

by Harry McCrone
1991 Show Chairman

In the last issue of the WDS Newsletter, a rewrite of my report included only a small group of show workers. Many people who worked very hard to make the 1991 Show a success were not mentioned. I would like to take this opportunity to thank ALL of the show workers, who are listed in alphabetical order. If I have left anyone out, please forgive me.

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Frances Armstrong | Bobbie Lively-Diebold |
| Scott Bally | Chauncey Maher |
| Delia Bankhead | Kathleen McAllister |
| Pat and Bobby Bennett | Bonnie Mirmak |
| Boots Blair | Clare Moelk |
| Jane Bradford | Margaret Oswalt |
| Gail Brooks | Mary Pamplin |
| Sarah Burton | Virginia Perry |
| Kori Calvert | Joy Peters |
| Marion Cambel | Mary Reynolds |
| Pat Crenshaw | Dorothy Sensibaugh |
| Robert Darling | Janet Skidmore |
| Elinor Dunnigan | Anne Donnell Smith |
| Julie Evans | Wanda Thompson |
| Susan and John Finch | Joy Walker |
| Nancy Generally | Linda and Chip Whitton |
| Anne Handerson | Harold Winters |
| Kassie Kingsley | Chuck Wirth |
| Mary Koonce | Sidney and Trudi Wolin |
| Brian Lazarus | |

It's All in the Bag

by John Finch

It's late October, the ground is cooler than you would like, colder weather is predicted, and you still have a mountain of bulbs to plant. Sound familiar? Your enemy is time, and one of the more time consuming chores for the daffodil gardener is writing markers.

Ideally, of course, you would know exactly what bulbs you are receiving in the fall, and you would have made up the requisite number of markers—all properly classified and color-coded—during your leisurely summer. Unfortunately, that is not at all what happens—in my garden at least! That's because summer is just so precious a time to be bothered with making markers! Or, perhaps, your markers are made and you suddenly find yourself the recipient of a daffodil windfall, or a shipment you ordered arrived late. Whatever.

So now there are perhaps a hundred or so bulbs ready to go in the ground, and you have no labels made up. Now what? Well, the secret's in the bag.

Each bulb you received comes in a bag with the name and classification written on it. Take the first bulb you wish to plant out of the bag, write 1 on the bag and 1 on the marker, put the marker behind the planted bulb and

The 1992 WDS Show

By Dorothy Sensibaugh
1992 Show Chairperson

A great deal of planning and preparation has been accomplished this summer for the 1992 show. The staff at the National Arboretum has been very helpful and supportive, and we certainly appreciate their efforts. However, there is still a great deal to be done. As the lyrics of a well-known song remind me, "We've only just begun." There is a job for each and every member who is willing to help. A special thanks to Kathryn Duvall and her son Carlton who helped move the show props from the storage area at the Botanical Gardens nursery. I couldn't have done it without their help.

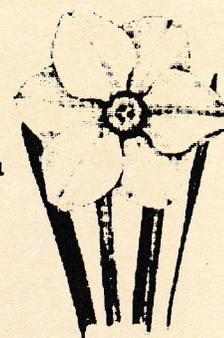
With the change in the show location, we face some concerns we have not encountered in recent years. However, with the help and support of ALL our members, I know we will produce another great show. Please take a moment to fill out the enclosed form and let me know how you can help.

We look to the coming year with great anticipation that the show will not only continue to be one of the premiere shows in the area, but will continue to grow and improve with each year. Last year we had a large show—1722 blooms! Our goal for the 1992 show is 1750 blooms! We need your flowers to reach that goal. I hope that every member will try to enter blooms. Mark your calendar and plan to be at the National Arboretum for the show, April 17-19, 1991.

Notes

Long time member **Marylin Rankin** is ill. Members may cheer her with cards and remember her in their prayers. (but please no flowers). Her address is 6130 Jefferson Blvd., Frederick, MD 21701.

Mrs. Capen notes the passing of **Jon Gerritsen** of the Netherlands. He was instrumental in creating an entire new division of daffodils: the split coronas now acknowledged as Division 11 by the RHS. Gerritsen also introduced two very fine miniatures, small trumpets that should be in everyone's collection, Little Gem 1Y-Y and



SAVE THE BAG! Do this with each bulb you plant, numbering consecutively. On a winter evening before a roaring fire, pull out the bags and transfer the information to the markers, and voila!

Yes, this is the procrastinator's way of going about things. But, just as there is an art to growing daffodils, there is, as the bard said, an art to keeping up with yesterday. It's called procrastination!

Come To Fall Pot Luck Picnic & Bulb Hunt • Sunday, October 6

The 1991 Annual Fall Picnic and Bulb Hunt will be held Sunday, October 6, at Delia Bankhead's "new" home in Hillsboro, Virginia, a tiny village between Leesburg and Harper's Ferry. Overlooking Catoctin Creek and 2 1/2 acres of brushy woods beyond, the large, 18th-century stone house and daffodil gardens have been the subject of endless blood, sweat, and tears as for the last two years Delia has labored endlessly, moving in and fixing up. For those who have not been there, it's a MUST see! In addition, there will be several absolutely BRAND NEW BULBS hidden for you to find!

Don't miss the company, the food, or the bulb prizes!



The vital details: Sunday, October 6, 1991

Delia Bankhead's
Hillsboro, Virginia
(703) 668-6651

- **Gather** 3:00 pm
- **Bulb Hunt** 4:00 pm.
- **Supper** 5:00pm

Pot Luck Notes

Occasionally we've had trouble with having enough substantial food to eat. Everyone brings delicious deserts and we haven't a main course. PLEASE bring a main dish or a salad. Of course, you may bring a desert too. Drinks will be served, but, if you feel so inclined, you may bring along your own. Also, please bring chairs.

To find your way to Delia's:

From Routes 495 or 267 (toll road) . . .

Take Rt. 7 West to Leesburg. Take bypass around Leesburg, marked Rt. 7 WEST (2nd exit.) Stay on 7 West past Leesburg. Take Rt. 9 (Hillsboro-Charles Town), and go 8 miles into the village of Hillsboro. Delia's is the large stone house with the green shutters on the left side of Rt. 9 just west of a large pink Victorian house and just east of Hunt Country Jewelers.

NOTE: There is space for about 4 cars in front, 2-3 cars in the driveway, and perhaps 2 cars across the street. There is also a gravel parking area at the west end of town, beyond the Hill Tom Market, that is not a far walk. Car pooling would be a good idea!

The important thing is -- COME!! Even if you decide at the last minute!

Members Volunteer Services

Do you have skills or interests that could be applied to WDS?

Do you own a pickup truck or van, can you work or do you own a computer, are you a writer, editor, carpenter, or photographer, would you help on the newsletter, or serve at a booth?

Please let us know if you would be willing to use your expertise to help WDS!

SOME SERVICE NEEDS

- Speakers Bureau
- Arboretum
- Club Membership
- Newsletter

Show Committees (please fill in form)

Please Mail or bring to the picnic or fall meetings

Show Volunteers

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

Show Committees:

We are particularly looking for help in the following areas

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Arboretum Prep. | Clerks: |
| Publicity: | Records: |
| Staging: | Information: |
| Design Section: | Arboretum Docents |
| Educational Exhibits: | Clean-up/Dismantling. |
| Hospitality: | Properties: |
| Pages: | Other? |

Washington Daffodil Society
P.O. Box 369
Gret Falls, VA 22066

1991-1992 Calendar

September

- Prepare beds and check bulbs.
- Prepare labels and planting charts
- Prepare for Fabulous Fall Bulb Hunt & Picnic at Delia Bankhead's Hillsboro Home.
- Check mailing label to see if your dues are paid (see page 1 for details.)

October 6 (Sunday)

WDS Fall Picnic and Bulb Hunt

Home of Delia Bankhead
Hillsboro, Virginia

- Bulb Hunt and Picnic 3:00—7:00 (see enclosure)

October 20 (Sunday)

WDS Fall Meeting

- Bulb pick-up, Exchange & Auction
- Guest speaker
- Fill out enclosed form to volunteer for the spring show - see Dorothy Sensibaugh
- Plant bulbs and water if dry

November

- Write an article on your Narcissus experiences for the Newsletter - Winter Deadline November 25th+.

Jan or Feb

- Full Board meetings
- Bulbs must receive 1" of water each week

March

- Luncheon preceded by Board Meeting
- Arboretum Clean-up
- Articles due for Spring Newsletter.

April 18 - 19

- Show at the **National Arboretum**
- Ready your blooms and enter! Sign-up and volunteer NOW! See: Dorothy Sensibaugh

May

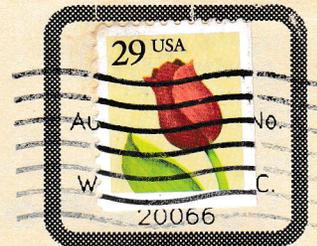
Annual Picnic Meeting

- Deadhead your daffodils and/or plant your seeds
- Update your blooming records
- Mark what you want to move

June

- Dig bulbs and dip (if you are going to)
- Store bulbs and separate some for the Fall Bulb exchange at the October meeting.

P.O. Box 369
Great Falls, VA 22066



*"Fair harbinger of spring, we wait with bated breath
Thy coming; or, reluctantly we bide our time
And, in our fancy, now beholding winter's death
See thy return with beauty's garb sublime."*

Grant E. Mitsch