

American Daffodil Society
Pacific Region
February, 1991

Dear Friends,

From what follows you will learn that this newsletter has followed quite a circuitous path. I began it in mid-August in Alaskan waters using one of the on-board computer word processing programs. Then when I returned home I found on very short notice that I was to leave for central France on September 7th. I stayed there on an archaeological project for the rest of that month. Most of the little gap between trips was filled with preparing the 1990 new cultivar input for Dr. Tom Throckmorton's ADS Databank. So I am going to ask you to pretend that you're getting this in two installments. What I have to say doesn't really much depend on the season anyway.

Midsummer is almost a time of reprieve for a daffodil enthusiast. The bulbs that are to be dug are mostly in storage until fall planting. For those who turn a hand at hybridizing, the seeds are either tucked away in safekeeping until later rains can be anticipated or already carefully planted, depending on which school of culture you subscribe to. Of course, the time is near for those newly ordered bulbs to be arriving, especially those from overseas where travel time indicates "early dispatch" as the British say. And for me there always seems to be lots of bulbs that still need cleaning or sorting or shipping off to a friend somewhere so that activity never quite comes to a complete halt. Or not for long.

Midwinter, similarly, gives a bit of a break, though one I find burdened with impatience and anticipation. But for the moment, a hearty welcome to our new members who we hope will take full advantage of the many pleasurable opportunities and associations the Society affords. I am happy to report that we have added enthusiasts from four states.

California

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Joseph Amaral | 409 Larkin Valley Road | Watsonville | 95076 |
| Betty Bunker | 5015 Double Point Way | Byron | 94514 |
| Concord Garden Club | 721 Second Street | Rodeo | 94572 |
| Robert Engelke | 2065 Walnut Blvd. | Walnut Creek | 94596 |
| Robert Gates | 1701 Cameron Road | Elk | 95432 |
| Jon Kawaguchi | 3524 Bowman Court | Alameda | 94501 |
| Carol Law | 1510 William Way | Concord | 94520 |
| Frank Lazio | 1120 Apple Creek Lane | Santa Rosa | 95401 |
| Jill Littlewood | P.O. Box 790 | Columbia | 95310 |
| Annie Lynch | 375 Roosevelt Avenue | San Martin | 95046 |
| Moraga Garden Club | P.O. Box 453 | Moraga | 94556 |
| Leland Rice | P.O. Box 873 | Fortuna | 95540 |
| Nathan Wright | 6583 Pacheco Pass Hwy. | Gilroy | 95020 |

Colorado

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|-------------|-------------------------|--------|------------|
| Merle Moore | Denver Zoological Fndn. | Denver | 80205-4899 |
|-------------|-------------------------|--------|------------|

Oregon

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------|-------|
| Ralph Durkee | 7910 S.W. Durham Road | Tigard | 97224 |
| Nell Swanson | 330 N. E. Oak | Albany | 97321 |

Washington

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------|-------|
| Jeanette Brashear | 3007 91st Street SE | Everett | 98208 |
| Delmer Riel | 808 Locust Avenue | Yakima | 98901 |

While I'm on the subject of new members, I would like to emphasize the importance of encouraging everyone with an interest in daffodils to join the American Daffodil Society. A curious thing tends to happen probably in most organizations, and that is the original members gradually age and drop out without making any provision for replacing themselves. The effect is that new members find it

increasingly a closed club even though the active members have no intention of being exclusive. And only those of us within the organization know the great extent of contacts, not only here in the United States but throughout the gardening world, that immediately await our newcomers. So make a pitch among your gardening friends and associates to invite them into the ADS.

Now for some news, both good and bad. To get rid of the unpleasant as soon as possible I'll mention the bad news first. There's the perennial problem of staying one step ahead of the Greater Daffodil Fly in areas where it's a menace to our bulbs. I remember hearing Marilyn Howe say she followed Murray Evans' advice when he said he was quick to dig his bulbs before the grubs had a chance to hatch out and dig their way safely (and destructively) inside the bulb. This seemed a sensible approach to me even though I take several precautions to destroy the pests all along the way. So this past year I made a special effort to get the bulbs out of the ground as soon as the foliage had matured. That meant a transfer of the bulbs in net bags to my carport where they traditionally have waited out the summer. I felt quite smug about having cheated the female flies of a suitable place to lay their eggs. NOT SO!!! They simply changed venue from the open field to the carport where they crept in among the net bags and directly onto the bulbs. Once I spied what was going on I was able to kill quite a number either with a fly swatter or with a net; but of course I couldn't devote my life to that in the way that female daffodil flies can to egg laying. I could only hope that the exposure to circulating air would produce conditions unfavorable for the success of the hatchling grubs. It didn't! I probably found more grubs inside the bulbs than ever before. I would be interested to know if any of you have had parallel experiences.

Now on a much livelier note I am very pleased to report that several of those stunning flowers that Sid DuBose has been showing through the years have been registered and should gradually become available in the future. Sid doesn't intend to offer the stocks commercially himself but will, instead, release them through Handy Hatfield's catalog one day soon. His 1990 registrations were:

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|-----------------|----------------------------|--------|
| Bryce Canyon | (Accent x Salmon Trout) | 2W-P |
| Crystal Chalice | (Pretender x Salmon Trout) | 2W-WYO |
| Desert Sunrise | (Salome x Carita) | 2W-PPY |
| Dove Song | (Rainbow x Carita) | 2W-WWP |
| Geometrics | (Precedent x Camelot) | 2W-Y |
| Gilt Complex | (Aircastle x Salmon Trout) | 2Y-Y |
| Nob Hill | (Daydream x Sabine Hay) | 2Y-WY |
| Random Event | (Glenwherry OP) | 3W-YOY |

These have been worth waiting for, and we hope there will be more to come!

On a slightly different note I want to mention just a few of the flowers that were new to me this past year and that I found of particular interest. It's never possible to do justice to all the fine flowers at a show; but a word about some of the most impressive may be helpful. One of the flowers that seems to have caught the eye of everyone who has seen it is Corbiere from Clive Postles. This is a spectacular yellow trumpet with a marked orange influence, that I think will make quite a mark on the show bench. With its remarkable pedigree of Gold Convention X Glenfarclas it could make a major contribution as a parent for further 1Y-R's as well. Another exceptional flower from the Lea-Postles line (and so far one that I haven't seen noted except in Clive's catalog) is Areley Kings, a 2W-W. The catalog description of this flower cautions as to how very fine indeed a bloom must be to try to make an addition to this high quality class, and this one meets that challenge in spades. If you like a sturdy, floriferous, green-eyed, pure white flower without a hint of a wrinkle anywhere, this one might be for you. I haven't seen anything in this class that I've liked as well since Misty Glen. And my guess is that Areley Kings will be rather a better grower. Still another one should watch for at the coming shows is Watercolor, a 2W-P of unbelievable smoothness.

Now and again something exceptional appears that is quite in a class by itself, and this one is a red-cupped tazetta with an Ambergate red flush in the perianth from Bob Spotts. I don't have either the seedling number or the parentage on this, though I am reasonably sure Matador is the seed parent. This

flower was first seen on exhibit this past show season, and it's to be hoped the bulb increases as well as most tazettas. Bob was rather self-effacing about this flower; but I think it may have been the greatest innovation I saw this past year. Not only has the flower color, but it has ample size and quality in the tazetta vein. There is always an element of risk in the first few years a flower blooms that something will destroy the stock. Let's all keep our fingers crossed on this one.

In spite of a virtually rainless winter in California, the foliage is up and blooms will be with us soon. With them come the shows as follows:

Southern California Daffodil Society Descanso Gardens, La Canada, CA March 9-10
Information: Mrs. Nancy Cameron, 410 S. Paseo Estrella, Anaheim Hills, CA 92807
Northern California Daffodil Society Heather Farms, Walnut Creek, CA March 16-17
Information: Mr. Wayne Steele, 1777 Spruce Street, Livermore, CA 94550
Fortuna Garden Club Monday Club, Fortuna, CA March 23-24
Information: Mrs. Christine Kemp, P. O. Box 212, Fortuna, CA 95540
Oregon Daffodil Society Lynn County Fairgrounds, Albany, OR April 6-7
Information: Mrs. Betty Foster, 31875 Fayetteville Road, Shedd, OR 97377

My best wishes to everyone, and I hope to see you at the shows.



Bob Jerrell
Regional Vice-President