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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DAFFODIL SOCIETY  
WINTER NEWSLETTER

Alameda County Home and Garden Show, February 2-4

Again this year, the NCDS hosted an educational booth in this show. It's a good place to show daffodils to new homeowners and people wanting to upgrade their landscape or garden. The problem is one of season: the Garden Show weekend comes too early for daffodils to bloom. Each year, Wayne Steele solves this. Somehow he forces many different daffodil varieties into bloom just at the right time. He brings them in their pots to the booth. As a result, the NCDS booth was awash with color. Wayne had pots of pink-cups ('Pasteline' and Sid DuBose's 'Mexicali Rose'), yellows (the best 'Meadow Lake' I've ever seen), and red-cups ('Monal'). He had scented tazettas ('Avalanche,' 'Erlicheer,' 'Golden Rain,' and 'Stars'). And he had miniatures: the trumpet 'Tanagra,' bulbocodium, and even the rare species *N. cyclamineus*. Kirby Fong added some floriferous pots of miniature bulbocodium hybrids. Thanks are due to Wayne, with help from Kirby Fong and Pat Sabin in setup, and to the many NCDS members who manned the booth and told others about daffodils during the weekend. The NCDS is fortunate to have many new members as a result.

Sutter Creek Festivities, March 1-3

This year, our Spring will start in Sutter Creek with a Saturday show on March 2. The show will be at the Gallery 10, 15 Eureka Street. This is downtown, 1/2 block off Main Street (Highway 49). Our daffodils will share the gallery space with the paintings and sculptures shown there. We'll stage show entries on Friday, March 1 from 5pm until 10 or 11pm. The Sutter Creek Business and Professional Association will provide exhibitors and helpers with a light dinner during the evening while we work. If you have daffodils in bloom - PLEASE BRING SOME TO ENTER IN THE SHOW. Sutter Creek is giving us some wonderful hospitality, let's give them a spectacular show!

The daffodil show will open to the public at 10am on Saturday, so we will accept show entries on Saturday morning only from 6 to 8am. Judging will be from 8 to 10am. We will need clerks to record judges' decisions and to affix ribbons during the judging period. If you would like to help during this time (and get a first-hand view of the judging process), let Bob Spotts (Show Chairman) know by February 28 (call 510-625-5526). The showroom will be closed to all except judges and clerks from 8 until 10am.

At 1130am, the Judges will lunch at Magdaleno's across the patio. You are welcome to join them.

The daffodil show closes at 4pm on Saturday. We would greatly appreciate volunteers to help us take the show down and box our supplies at that time.

We've made arrangements for happy hour and a group dinner in the banquet room at Teresa's Place in Jackson starting at 6:30pm on Saturday. This Italian family-style restaurant is a local favorite, about a five-minute drive from Sutter Creek. The dinner choices are the house specialty with both chicken and roast

(page 2)

beef (\$13.50), scampi (\$16.50), or vegetarian (\$13.50). The price includes tax and tip. Cocktails, wine, and beer will be extra. All members and their friends are invited to attend. Please confirm by calling Bob Spotts by February 21 (510-625-5526).

At 11am on Sunday morning, we'll meet at the picnic area at Young's Winery in Plymouth (ten minutes North and East of Sutter Creek). There we'll have coffee and rolls and visit the NCDS Daffodil Display Garden. Among its 55 varieties, the garden features many of Brian Duncan's and others' cultivars named after nearby Sierra sites and scenery. Hopefully, you'll see blooms of 'Lake Tahoe,' 'Ahwahnee,' 'Carson Pass,' 'June Lake,' 'El Capitan,' and 'Yosemite.' We'll provide you directions to the numerous nearby wineries that will be open for wine tasting. Amador County wineries are justly famous for their Zinfandel, but the wineries also produce other excellent varietals, both white and red.

For those of forty-some of you that signed up, the Sutter Creek Business and Professional Association is completing the weekend room assignments with the participating Bed and Breakfast Inns. Your B&B should be available for check-in by early afternoon on Friday, March 1.

#### NCDS Pacific Regional Daffodil Show in Livermore, March 9-10

This year, our 28th Annual Daffodil Show is also the American Daffodil Society Pacific Regional Show. In reality, this means that we can offer a couple of special ADS awards, but in practice it does give the show added prestige. The Show will be at the Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane, Livermore. (This is the corner of Home Lane and Alden Lane. Home Lane is a major street.)

Show hours are 1-5pm on Saturday and 10am-4pm on Sunday. PLEASE BRING AND ENTER YOUR DAFFODILS. Exhibits will be accepted from 5-11pm on Friday, March 8 and from 6-10am on Saturday. If you are new to entering shows, NCDS members will be there to help you. The showroom will be closed for judging from 10am to 1pm on Saturday, then will be opened to the public.

Even if you don't have daffodils to enter, come by the showplace on Friday night or Saturday morning to watch the staging of the exhibits, socialize, and enjoy a cup of coffee. You are always welcome. If you would like to help during the judging, we always need clerks to record judges' decisions and affix ribbons. Call Wayne Steele (Show Chairman) at 510-447-5261 to volunteer. Clerking will allow you a first-hand view of the judging process.

#### Annual Membership Dinner, March 9

The annual NCDS Membership Meeting and Dinner will be on Saturday evening, March 9. Here we will greet our new members, congratulate show winners, elect officers, talk about daffodils, and just have a good time. The dinner will be at the Cattlemen's Restaurant, 2882 Kittyhawk Road, Livermore - just off the 580 Freeway. Happy hour (no-host) starts at 6:30pm with dinner at 7:30. Entree choices are prime rib, teriyaki chicken, and broiled fresh salmon. The price is \$16.50 which includes tax and tip. Cheesecake and wine/beer are optional at

(page 3)

added cost. To reserve space, please call Betty Steele (510-447-5261) by February 26 with your entree selection.

Visit to the Daffodils at Melrose Gardens in Stockton, March 10

Sid DuBose and Ben Hager have invited us to see their daffodils on Sunday morning, March 10, from 9am 'til noon. You'll see about an acre of daffodils, mostly seedlings bred by Sid or Ben. There are all colors and forms, but the predominance will be pink-cups and red-cups. The daffodils grow in rows in the field, which will be muddy from rain (or irrigation). Be sure to bring boots or sturdy OLD shoes - you'll need to walk in the mud. Melrose Gardens is at 309 Best Road. Best Road intersects Copperopolis Road (Main Street) a couple of miles east of Stockton. For directions, call Sid at 209-465-8578.

Fortuna Garden Club Daffodil Show, March 16-17

If you are looking for a pleasant Spring weekend in a beautiful setting, build a trip to Northern California around the daffodil show in Fortuna. You can bed-and-breakfast in Ferndale, eat delicious seafood in Eureka, and take in the scenery and sights of Spring in the Redwood Country and California coastline. At the same time, enjoy the daffodil show and wonderful Fortuna Garden Club hosts. Call Dian Keesee (707-725-3122) for information on lodging and the show.

Oregon Daffodil Society Shows

This year, our Oregon neighbors to the north are presenting three weekend shows. The ODS show in Amity on March 23-24 is the central feature of a weekend daffodil festival involving the entire town. For information, call Karen Fanning at 503-835-6522. On March 30-31, the ODS primary daffodil show will be in Albany. It is the largest daffodil show in the West. You could also take a day and visit the nearby spectacular fields of daffodils at Grant Mitsch Daffodils. Together, this certainly makes a spectacular weekend (plus a day) trip. For information, call Len Forster at 503-491-3874. To conclude their season, ODS presents its late show in Hillsboro on April 13-14. Here you can see many exquisite daffodil varieties we find hard to grow because of our April sun. A strong draw for this show is the gigantic plant sale sharing billing at the Hillsboro Fairgrounds. For information, call Steve Vinisky at 503-625-3379.

Special Kudos for NCDS Members

This past year, several of our NCDS members have accomplished extraordinary things and deserve special recognition.

\* Rich Hunt for organizing and promoting our Daffodil Weekend in Sutter Creek. He found the location, garnered the sponsors, planted the display garden, and coordinated the planning of what we anticipate will be a great annual event.

(page 4)

\* Wayne Steele for his organizing, promoting, and staging the booth at the Alameda Home & Garden Show. The NCDS is an educational society and Wayne's efforts help keep us focused. Wayne is also Show Chairman for our Livermore Show, this in itself a busy task!

\* Nancy Tackett for getting the American Daffodil Society and the NCDS into communications on the World Wide Web of the Internet. If you have WWW access, visit the ADS 'Home Page' (<http://www.mc.edu/~ads.www/>). Through Nancy's efforts, you can see color pictures of daffodil cultivars for each Division, read the list of daffodil shows and events across the country, and locate other daffodil clubs.

\* Jan Moyers, NCDS President, for keeping the NCDS on course while at the same time undertaking a significant new teaching project which greatly increased demands on her time.

\* Kirby Fong for his photography at daffodil shows across the country. The results are slides of the species and show cultivars for educational presentations and historical records. Kirby's photographs are helping to untangle the confusion over miniature daffodils that have similar appearance (eg, 'Sundial,' 'Sun Disk,' 'Clare.')

\* Mary Smith for hosting the Fall Party and Bulb Raffle. Her hospitality is always a high point of the year.

Bob Spotts

Bob Spotts  
409 Hazelnut Drive  
Oakley, CA 94561-2403



Marilyn Howe 94  
11831 Juniette Street  
Culver City, CA 90230