



florida daffodil society news

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IN THE GARDEN

With the help of Ruthy Chase, the Van Beck Garden has been neatened, edged and strawed so the gardens will be ready to open to the public in January on Saturdays and Sundays, except for Saturday, January 15th. As you can see in the photos on page two, the early blooming whites have already made a good show and for the rest, we just wait and see.

The photographs were taken the first week in December. Linda Van Beck was escorted away from the garden by a honey bee that did not want to share the patch of Nony flowers. It flew into Linda's face and danced there until she reached the house. New experiences every day!

FDS has ordered Autumn Yellow seedlings once and will order them again next year. All have multiplied in the Van Beck garden. The tazettas with the yellow/kissing cups show the sturdy cup design associated with Chinese Sacred Lily. The flower has been registered and may be available next year. Miss Lindsay has had her best year to date. All these tazettas benefit from eastern exposure and full sun.

The many rescued Paper Whites from Natchez, Mississippi started blooming in November -- a good two weeks before their counterparts in Monticello. The blooms are very similar with fragile pointed petals and a sweet tazetta fragrance. An old gardener in Monticello said the blooms had been stopped by the cold which explains why they all look smaller. The Natchez clock may be set earlier than north Florida, as they usually get more rain in October.

INTERESTING FACTS & OPINIONS

- Keith Kriedler thinks winter weeds have very put-together roots and thus have the potential to drain the soil of its nutrients before the goodies can percolate to the daffodil roots. Tall grasses (rye, fescues) will shade the daffodil foliage before it produces enough food to increase bulb size.

- Chemistry lesson courtesy of Ted Snazelle, daffodil guru. Magnesium is a part of the two chlorophyll pigments involved in green plant photosynthesis, i.e., the light induced manufacture of glucose. Thus, if magnesium is not available in the soil, there is no chlorophyll or photosynthesis. Glucose stores the carbon atoms.
- 2010 Bulb Sale was a success – we sold almost 30,000 bulbs!

PUBLIC GARDENS

- Jake Gaither Golf Course: Tallahassee -- 50 Carlton planted by Lori Johnson, Mary Henry and her grandson in a bed of daylilies in front of the club house.
- Kanaphaha Botanical Garden: Gainesville - - Jonathan Luber added 400 Trevithian to the bulb garden. From the last FDS donation of 500 Carltons, 100 have survived the sprinklers, clay soil and initial 4 inches of wood chips.
- Cobb Middle School: Tallahassee: Beth McBride and her students planted 50 daffodils in a bed in front of the library.
- Clarke Park: Orange Park – Steve Howard is to be congratulated on completing the 240 square feet bed of early blooming tazettas.
- Brokaw McDougal House (1850): Tallahassee- Brenda Pratt, city horticulturist, with her post hold digger planted tazettas in the large parterre in front of the house including 200 Grand Primo donated by Dr. and Mrs. John L. Williams.
- F.S.U. planted 200 Ice Follies, 50 Monal and 100 Carlton.
- FDS gives free bulbs for public plantings if they will be cared for.

VAN BECK GARDEN FLOWERS

On page 2



Autumn Colors



Local Paper White (PW)



Natchez PW



Georgia & Natchez PW



Bill's registered seedling



Small PW



Autumn Colors (cream cup)



Autumn Colors



Nony



East Flower Bed



Miss Lindsay



Miss Lindsay