



Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society Newsletter April 2015



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, NORTHEAST NORTH CAROLINA DAFFODIL SOCIETY

This short newsletter to our members communicates the results of the eighth annual Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society Show held in the auditorium of the NCSU Currituck Extension Center in Barco, March 28.

The minutes of our Feb. 28, 2015 Spring meeting are attached.

JUNE MEETING



The Summer NENCDS Meeting will take place at John and Lesley Miner's home in Elizabeth City. The meeting will start at 10 a.m. on Saturday June 6. Additional

directions will be sent closer to the date. Dress casual and comfortably, please bring something for the pot luck picnic.

The Miners' address is 1117 North Side Rd, Elizabeth City, NC 27909. Phone 252-335-5257 in case you get lost.

This is an important meeting as we will be discussing officer candidates for next year, a review of the show and how to improve it, and a discussion of the fall meeting and bulb exchange.

At this meeting I will give any member or master gardener one batch (about 45) bags for storing daffodils, and yellow 2x3 labels with ties to label the bags with the bulbs. We would like for more of our members to dig bulbs and make them available for the Fall Bulb Sales as well as the bulb exchange.



FALL MEETING

Our fall meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 31, 2015 at 10 a.m. We will have a guest speaker, TBD.

We were very happy that we had a larger turnout of locals entering daffodils in our show. We hope all who

attended had a good time, enjoyed the social with all their old and new friends, and had fun putting daffodils in the show.

We still encourage buying bulbs that are labeled *Early or Early Mid Season*. However, if you want to hedge your bets, go ahead and buy some of the mid to late-season bulbs and it will extend your blooming season.

Our weather is hot and dry in the summer and mulch, or shade, is needed to keep the heat from "cooking" the bulbs and causing them to dwindle.

Assuming that I get some help again this year in digging bulbs, we are going to have another large number of bulbs at the exchange.

SHOW REPORT

The Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society Show co-sponsored by the NCSU Currituck County Extension Center and the Master Gardener volunteers of Currituck County held it's eighth annual Daffodil Show at the Currituck County Center in Barco, NC on March 28, 2015. The show was chaired by Clay Higgins and co-chaired by Peggy Lilienthal



The Master Gardeners were everywhere and again were the engine that made it run. The overseeing of the information booths, exhibitor registration, providing support to the judges, and the breaking down of the show at the end was critical. Thank you. Lesley Miner and Gail Hasselbacker and others were the main focal points of setting up the sections and laying out the classes on the tables.

The Master Gardeners were very efficient in setting up the show hall. Everyone worked hard. I'd like to name them all but space does not allow.

Special thanks go to the Design Committee, chaired by James Fincher, with Shelly Murray. It takes a lot of people to pull off a successful show like we had this year.

Cora Wade deserves a loud “Thank You” as she set up all the Clerk’s supplies, the ribbons, and made up the yellow ribbon strips to separate the classes. It was a big job and had to be done and we appreciate Cora’s dedication and helpful spirit.

Special thanks to all those who helped at the show! There are more than I can name, but to name a few Debbie Kelso, Fran Higgins, Ken Ferguson, Cora Wade, and all those who manned the information and registration tables, and those who stayed to break down the show. As the show chairman, I truly appreciated the help.

Daffodil Show Exhibitors

We had Pizza night again on Friday night which was also our big night for exhibitors. Others who we thank brought snacks for the exhibitors. We socialized as we staged our daffodils, talked to people we haven’t seen for a while and prepared blooms for the show bench. We all worked together and helped each other until the last daffodil was entered in the show. Much thanks goes to Richard Ezell, and members of our own group who helped new members and small growers. And, we had a lot of fun!!!

Judging

Thanks to those who brought “goodies” for the judges’ coffee, and for the exhibitors. Most of the judges were from Virginia, with two from Maryland, and one each from Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Our judges are essential to the success of the show and for keeping the show certified under the American Daffodil Society. .

Daffodil Show

The 2015 show was a super success. It provided a total of 941 daffodil stems entered. Our largest show by a wide margin. We had a total of 414 entries or exhibits in the show. Our number of exhibitors was larger than previous years with 41.

Thanks to James “Jim” Fincher with the help of the extension center, Shelly Murray, and Jim’s design committee for an outstanding effort in the design classes.



AWARDS Design Section



Best in Show - James “Jim” Fincher for his floor design “Guarding the Seaside.” (His entry in the assemblage class was voted “Most Creative” by the judges.)

People’s Choice Award – Eleanor Matney for her Illuminary Design entry

Horticulture Section

- 1.Small Grower Award: Carolyn Jennings: Polly’s Pearl 8W-W
- 2.Wild Goose Award for the most blue Ribbons for a small grower: Timmie Scott: 9 Blue Ribbons
- 3.Best Youth Bloom: Katelyn Potter: Fellows Favorite 2YYW-O
- 4.Youth 3 Stems Award: Katelyn Potter: Ceylon 2Y-O
- 5.Youth Best Collection of Five: Ryan Potter
- 6.Best Photograph: Ken Ferguson: Name of Exhibit: White/White
- 7.Best Novice Award: Lesley Miner: Magic Lantern 1Y-O
8. Best Historic: Janet Hickman: Sweetness Y-Y 1939
- 9.Historic 3 stems: Janet Hickman; Sweetness 7Y-Y
- 10.Classic Best: Peter Timms: Dallas 3W-W 1942
- 11.Classic 3 Stems: Ceci Brown; Jetfire 6Y-O 1966
- 12.Best in Show: Pacific Rim 2Y-YYO Clay and Fran Higgins
- 13.Most Blue Ribbons in Show: Clay & Fran Higgins

It’s encouraging to see our members venturing out into Historics, Classics and into the “standard” classes at the show, instead of just exhibiting in the Small Growers. It also indicates that our daffodils are getting better than those house “bedding” daffodil bulbs planted in our yards. That bulb exchange in the fall is beginning to pay off with improved quality.

Clay & Fran

Chairman of the NE NC Daffodil Society

Email Clay & Fran at: clayhiggins@centurylink.net



Ken Ferguson snapped this photo of Clay & Fran hard at work at the ADS National show in Williamsburg.

Minutes of the Feb. 28, 2015 NENCDS Meeting

The NENCDS Spring meeting was held in the auditorium of the Currituck Extension Building. We met at 10 a.m. and President Peggy Lilienthal welcomed us and asked that we introduce ourselves and comment on the state of our daffodil bulbs. Answers varied but we have hopes for the future!

OLD BUSINESS

A. Summer meeting: Lesley Miner will host our summer meeting at her home in Elizabeth City on June 6 at 10 a.m. Address and directions will be sent closer to the date.

B. Treasury Report: Clay reports a balance of \$1,232.00.

C. Minutes from Fall Meeting: The Treasurer's report and the Fall Minutes were accepted as presented. Refer to past reports for specifics.

D. James Fincher gave a summary of the Artistic Design section of the Daffodil Show and opened the registration for the Design exhibits.

E. Class Changes: Clay reviewed changes and reminded entrants to bring their show schedules (passed out to members at the meeting).

F. Clerks and Show Help: Fran Higgins and Cora Wade spoke briefly about the duties of clerks in assisting the judges and encouraged members to sign up to help either online or with the existing sign-up sheets.

G. Show set-up and tear down: Clay Higgins explained the set-up and show tear down, reminding us that many hands make light work.

H. Entry Cards and Staging daffodils: Fran explained how to fill out an entry card, how clerks should fill out the green class cards and that clerks must remain "on duty" until the Gold ribbon has been awarded. Clay promised to send out an info sheet on "Staging Daffodils 101."

NEW BUSINESS

A. Members present at the summer meeting will be reminded that June is the (approx) time to divide large clumps of bulbs. This would be the time to dig, label and store bulbs to be sold at the MG Fall Plant Sale if we decide to do so.

B. Our Fall meeting location will be the Currituck Extension building, Saturday, October 31, 2015. Members are reminded that Dues are due in October but new members may join at any time.

C. Clay announced that the Mid Atlantic Daffodil Society National Convention will be held Williamsburg on April 9-12 and NENCDS members are eligible to enter.

After a break for Lunch, members gathered for a Design Class presented by Francis Thrash. Ms. Thrash explained the basics for assembling a Sculptural Form Design and an Assemblage Design. She emphasized that the instructions and directions for these specific designs must be followed to the letter and she provided us with a work sheet listing the requirements. Ms. Thrash made two designs to illustrate and let members draw names to take them home. Her class was fun and informative, her design hints will be helpful and members enjoyed her presentation.

With no further business, our Spring meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lesley Miner, Secretary

Lighter Side of Gardening...

Felder Rushing was the keynote speaker at the closing dinner of the ADS World Convention in Williamsburg on April 12, 2015. While he has all the requisite degrees (and maybe because of this) he rebels against many of the "rules" of gardening and offered a Gardeners Bill of Rights. It should be noted that he prefers to use the word "dirt" rather than soil.



A Gardener Shall Have:

- * The right to garden at any hour, day or night.
- * The right to plant stuff in the front yard, away from the foundation.
- * The right to have no grass at all, except maybe a little patch to lie on your back and watch the sky.
- * The right to plant any color flower next to any color flower, even if they clash.
- * The right to cultivate plants others consider "weeds."
- * The right to more potted plants than we can water, and to plant too many tomatoes every year.
- * The right to a leaf pile.
- * The right to as many wind chimes as we can afford. Bird feeders, too.
- * The right to mispronounce plant names (and to use the H in herbs).
- * The right to show our behinds to neighbors as we bend over digging and planting—even in gated communities.
- * The right to grow stuff in any container that we can keep standing upright. Including recycled stuff.



March 28,
2015
Barco, NC

