

AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY (ADS) 2016 GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENT ANNOUNCED!

M. E. (Spud) Brogden of Hawera, Taranaki, New Zealand was awarded the 2016 American Daffodil Society Gold Medal on April 8th at the World Daffodil Convention in St Louis, Missouri.



The American Daffodil Society Gold Medal is awarded each year for Meritorious Service in recognition of accomplishments of a preeminent nature in the understanding and advancement of daffodils. The awardee this year comes from a daffodil family and made his first hybrid more than half a century ago. To date he has registered over a hundred different cultivars, the first being registered in 1956. In 1954, he made and recorded the first of his many crosses and, with the influence of his father instilling in him the importance of precise record keeping, he began his lifelong love of hybridizing and raising daffodils. His introductions are legendary and among them are the well-known cultivars 'Capree Elizabeth', 'Egmont Star', and 'Florence Joy', named for his wife.



Mr. Brogden has been involved in New Zealand's National Daffodil Society without interruption since 1957, becoming in 1973 a member of the Executive Committee and serving continuously (including being its President in 1994 for a standard three year term) in that capacity until he stepped down in 2011 for health reasons. Because of his continued service to the Society, he was honored with a New Zealand National Daffodil Society's *Life Membership* in 2001.

In 1998, Mr. Brogden won the prestigious [David Bell Gold Medal](#) for his outstanding, lifetime service and major contributions to the advancement of daffodils in the field of breeding. Spud, as he is known in the daffodil world, has been a driving force within his regional groups as well as at the national level in New Zealand. In addition, he has worked with a local high school Agriculture/Horticulture department, providing bulbs for student gardens and awarding bulbs for student exhibits at the annual horticultural spring shows. He also donated bulbs and encouraged children in the primary grades (first to eighth grades) to grow flowers.

Mr. Brogden created the New Zealand Award, and provided a display trophy, for the ADS annual convention. This award requires a collection of five different daffodils bred in New Zealand. Daffodil bulbs from New Zealand are not only awarded to the winner, but also to all who enter that class. In 2010, the New Zealand Daffodil society added a medal to this award.

The American Daffodil Society has a tradition of honoring individuals who have contributed to the betterment of daffodils and the American Daffodil Society. Mr. Brogden joins a prestigious group of individuals from around the world who continue to give their superior meritorious service to the American Daffodil Society.