



Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society Newsletter

Fall 2016



FALL 2016 MEETING

The 2016 Fall meeting of the Northeast NC Daffodil Society will be on **Saturday, October 29, 2016 at 10 a.m.** at the Currituck County Extension Center, 120 Community Way, Barco, NC 27917. Please RSVP to Clay & Fran (252) 491-9268 and leave a message, or contact Sarah Watts at (252) 232-2262 or send an email to Clay and Fran, clayhiggins@centurylink.net.



Invite your friends-- You don't have to be a member to attend this meeting.

SHOW CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Our Daffodil Show date for 2017 is set for the last weekend Friday and Saturday March 24-25, 2017. Please note this.

We had a great year in 2016 at the show. There were 839 daffodil stems in the show, 439 exhibits and 39 exhibitors. This was our most successful show since we started and a lot has to do with the local Northeast residents coming and showing their flowers. We thank you for that. We also had many more exhibitors outside our area than in a normal year, but success is success. Again we had attendees from a wide range of locations: Virginia, Raleigh and Wilmington, NC areas, in addition to other towns like Edenton, Elizabeth City, and Manteo who exhibited at our show.

Many thanks to Sarah Welsh and the Master Gardener Volunteers of Currituck County for carrying the heavy burden of setting up the show and providing the Clerks, Registration and Information Desk personnel.

Additional thanks to James Fincher and his committee for performing the Design Section of the show. Thanks also go to Mechelle Murray for being the Show Reporter/Tabulator and to Peggy Lilienthal for all the work she did as the Awards Chairperson.

We need each year a lot of people to make the show work. **Thank you.**

Respectfully submitted:
Clay Higgins, Show Chairperson

FALL 2016 PROGRAM

The fall meeting this year will be a little different. Clay is going to talk about bulb planting and the need to amend the soil each time you plant bulbs. In this process, Clay is going to “murder” a couple of bulbs so that you can see that the bloom for next year’s flower is already in the bulbs.

A couple of different type bulbs will be used so you can see the difference in the various divisions of daffodils. The bulbs will be sliced in half from top to bottom, placed in baggies so you will not get the daffodil juices on you and passed around for everyone to view.

If we can we would like to call on a couple of the members to talk about how they plant their bulbs, in addition to Clay’s talk. It should be a good talk and show and tell.

2016 Annual Raffle: We will have a bulb raffle again where you can take a chance on great bulbs for a \$2 donation or three for \$5. The donation supports our NENCDS expenses and our efforts to put on a quality show.

Bulb Exchange: With the help of Kerie O’toole, Clay did a lot of digging daffodils this year and has a lot of bulbs for the exchange. We also want to thank Doris Flattum, Ken Ferguson and Sarah Welsh for helping dig bulbs.

At the end of the meeting there will be a Bulb Exchange and Giveaway. Anyone who has named bulbs or plants (they don’t have to be daffodils) that they would like to share are encouraged to bring them. **You must be a member to participate in the bulb exchange. That’s the membership advantage.** 😊

New Member Bonus: As in the past, all new members of NENCDS will receive a minimum of three separate varieties of daffodils in addition to the bulb exchange/give-away.

Please, new members, let Clay know you are coming so he can make up the proper number of bulb packages.

Pot Luck Lunch

The fall meeting runs to and sometimes through lunch, therefore we plan a pot luck lunch. Please bring a

covered small dish of your favorite food (to serve 5 or 6) to share with others.

Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society Minutes of the June 4, 2016 Summer Picnic

The summer meeting of the NENC Daffodil Society was held at the lovely home of Nellie Healy. The meeting was called to order by President Lesley Miner who welcomed attending members.

Old Business:

Clay Higgins presented the treasurer report which was accepted as presented. Balance on hand is \$1,320.42.

1. Minutes of the spring meeting were previously e-mailed and accepted as presented.
2. Shelly Murray discussed the design section of the 2017 Daffodil show. The design committee has selected a theme of "It's a Small World After All". Possible ideas are fairy tales, toys, board games, children's party, seasonal wreaths.... (Design rules can be found at the end of this newsletter.)
3. Clay will purchase a ribbon for "Most Creative" in design section for the 2017 show.



The design committee met at Doris and Buddy Flattum's home.

4. Ken Ferguson wants to add a section to Photography to match the Design theme of "It's a Small World After All" for the 2017 show.
5. Clay said now is the time to dig your daffodils. Refer to the most recent newsletter Sept. 2016 for directions. Anyone can bring bulbs for the fall bulb exchange.
6. Clay as our 2016 show chairman had several comments to wrap up the show:

a. There were two winners for the most blue ribbons for small grower which is the Wild Goose Award—Timmie Scott and Peggy Lilienthal

b. Winners in all categories were announced in the newsletter and also on daffnet.org.

c. Considering it was Easter weekend and the weather, we had a good show.

New Business:

1. The 2017 show will still be the last weekend in March. For the 2018 show, we will have our show the third week of March to accommodate scheduling of other local shows.
2. The fall meeting will be Oct. 29 at the Extension building at 10 a.m. which will include the bulb exchange.
3. The present officers have agreed to serve another year and will be voted on at the October meeting. Other nominees can be presented and voted on at that meeting as well.

Lesley Miner President
Ken Ferguson Vice President
Peggy Lilienthal Secretary
Clay Higgins Treasurer

4. Proposal was made and passed to elect officers for a period of 2 years.
 5. Fran showed a wreath made of gloves and seeds as a possible fundraiser at a later date.
 6. Lesley shared her pictures from a recent trip to Amsterdam at the Keukenhof gardens.
- The meeting ended at 12 noon and a lovely potluck lunch was enjoyed by all as well as a tour of the Healeys' beautiful yard. Many thanks for their hospitality!

Respectively submitted:
Clay Higgins for Peggy Lilienthal

DUES DUE

NENC Daffodil Society Membership
Renewal is due in October 2016. The small membership dues are \$15 individual, \$20 family. New as well as existing members more than recover the \$15 membership fee with free bulbs.

Directions to the Fall Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society Meeting: The meeting is in the auditorium in the County Cooperative Extension Agency center located within the Currituck Community Park, off of Aviation Parkway at 120 Community Way, Barco, NC 27917, at US Route 158.

When to Plant, Water, and Fertilize Your Bulbs

**By Kathy Welsh, Daffodil Committee
Fairfax Garden Club**

When should I plant?

Many start planting their bulbs in the beginning of October. I plant miniatures at that time, but usually don't start planting my standards until the middle of October. It depends on the weather. It is important to let the ground cool before you plant.

Planting time is the most important time to fertilize your bulbs. It is the only time you are able to apply the fertilizer where it is most effective, below the roots. For miniatures, plant 4" deep and for Standards 6-8" deep. Make sure the fertilizer doesn't come in contact with the bulb. A small amount of 5-10-10 or other low nitrogen fertilizer is recommended.

When should I fertilize bulbs that are already in the ground?

Mid to late fall is also a great time to fertilize bulbs which are already in the ground. Broadcast a low nitrogen fertilizer. Sulfate of potash can also be used to help increase the intensity of color in daffodils. Because bulbs have already started growing roots at this time of year, they are able to take advantage of these nutrients even though you can't see them above ground. I typically don't fertilize minis. Since they are often more desirable when small, fertilizer isn't needed other than at planting time.

When should I water my bulbs?

In general, daffodils like to be dry in the summer and wet in the fall and spring during their growing season. Your bulbs will need water to start sprouting roots, so feel free to water them after planting.

Spring water is especially important. Daffodils cannot get too much water in the spring. The best exhibitors water in March and April, especially when rainfall falls below 1" per week.

Don't plant daffodils in an area watered regularly by a water sprinkler system. The one exception is division 6 or cyclamineus daffodils. They like a bit of water in the summer. Yellow daffodils are also better able to cope with summer watering than others because they are often less susceptible to basal rot.

(Kathy Welsh lives and gardens in Northern Virginia, zone 7A and is active in the Washington Daffodil Society)

Daffodils In the Winter

By Clay Higgins

Daffodils can be a year round avocation as there is something to do in each season. The winter is sometimes the forgotten season in Daffodils. Let's start the timing of this article in late November and into December.

The simplistic concept of daffodils is that you plant them in the fall and enjoy them in the spring; but there is a lot more to it than that. You should have all your daffodils planted by late November or December. If you have not finished planting bulbs by December, do so now, mulch and prepare for winter.

In the winter 2015-2016 it didn't get cool enough to plant until late December, around Christmas, in my area of Northeast North Carolina. Usually I wait until the soil cools to below 54 degrees Fahrenheit as the fungus that causes bulb rot becomes inactive at that temperature.

For best results daffodil bulbs should be planted in the late fall and enjoyed in the spring. Don't forget to fertilize you daffodils in fall when planted as well as in the spring just when the foliage starts to show in the garden. You can plant bulbs in the winter as long as the ground isn't frozen.

Several times I have been asked during the "spring" daffodil show, "is it too late to plant the bulbs I got last fall?" And the question that usually follows, "will my bulbs be okay if I plant them this coming fall?" If you have bulbs in the spring that didn't get planted in the fall, plant them as soon as you can in the spring. They may or may not bloom after planting them; however, they will usually recover the following year and provide spring blooms. My experience is that bulbs bought this fall and not planted will not, in general, survive until the following fall. As long as there is some hardness to the bulb, put them into the ground as soon as you can in the spring or early summer.

Winter is a good time to consult gardening books to determine the best gardening environments, conditions, soils and plants in your area. Consult the American Daffodil Society website (<http://daffodilusa.org/>) to discover the Daffodil Societies and shows near you. Plan on attending some of the local society meetings and daffodil shows as it is a great way to meet other daffodil enthusiasts, see daffodils raised by others in your area and learn about daffodils in general. Put the local daffodil show dates on your calendar. Consider bringing your daffodils to a show and showing them as it is a lot of fun. You meet a lot of really nice people that are

always willing to help you. If you have even just a little bit of competitiveness in your soul, you will enjoy the competition of your flowers against other new or amateur exhibitors just like you.

In Winter Inspect your daffodil gardens in January and February for signs of some varieties beginning to poke up foliage. This is good to do, especially when you are having a warm winter, as some varieties may already be showing signs. Identify them so you can be ready to mulch when sub-zero temps are predicted to salvage your buds.

Daffodil foliage will survive normal temperature drops down to 27 degrees "F." But, when the foliage is out of the ground and the temperature is going to drop lower, cover them with mulch or other methods like an upside-down bucket. Usually speaking, cold weather snaps down to "0" degrees will not automatically kill your bulbs even when the foliage is damaged. A treatment of the damaged foliage with a fungicide will usually stop any damage that may occur and keep the potential for bulb damage down: with the understanding that the damaged foliage will turn grey, then brown and die back early. The bulbs have a good chance of blooming the following year.

January is the time to mow over planted spots of daffodils naturalized in grass. Once growth is above ground, it will be hard to make the areas look neat. Weed flower beds now while weeds are small. Winter weeds will grow vigorously when good weather comes and will nearly cover up your daffodils.

Some of the yellow trumpets and miniatures are very early, offering that first splash of color saying "Can spring be far behind?" Resolve to include a few "very early" varieties when you order next time to extend the time the daffodils are blooming in your garden. There are daffodils that bloom just about every month; however, in my garden I have varieties that start blooming in February all the way into early June. The early June daffodils are usually short-lived as it gets hot fast here.

When the majority of your daffodil foliage gets about two inches above the ground, in February or March it's time to apply the spring fertilizer. Spread a low nitrogen fertilizer (5-10-15, 5-10-5, 5-10-30 (best)) over the area following the guidance on bag. Don't overdo it as that can damage your bulbs. Do not use lawn (grass) fertilizer as it is high in nitrogen and can damage your bulbs.

Late March is the peak bloom season where I live in Eastern North Carolina. This is the month of our Daffodil Show and it is considered an event in our area. Our entire Daffodil Society is working toward making the show better than last year and getting the public interested in daffodils. Picking your daffodils direct from the garden and determining which ones are show quality is a separate skill on its own. I have seen newcomers that bring their daffodils to the show and show them without a clue as to what they were doing. The fun part is when these newcomers go home with lots of ribbons. That's what keeps the newcomers coming back year after year to the show.

Check your daffodils as they grow for any signs of disease (twisted foliage, brown spots, or yellow streaks on leaves, splotches of color on blooms) starting at the earliest blooming all the way to the end of the bloom season. Rogue and destroy immediately any daffodils that are diseased as the cause can be carried to other daffodils by the normal garden insects. Continue this inspection throughout the bloom period into May to control any outbreak of disease.

During the bloom season identify, check and renew labels for keeping track of varieties as this is important those that show daffodils. Planning ahead to identify clumps that need dividing and replanting later is important to be done during the bloom season. Mark or label the identified daffodils to be dug as once the foliage dies down, daffodils can be very elusive and you can slice good bulbs while digging blindly without the previous marking and labeling. Compare blooms with catalog descriptions . . . true to description? Most reputable suppliers will replace each NTD's next fall.

In summary, plant your daffodils in the fall or winter, do not hold them over to the next fall. Inspect your daffodils during the winter and apply fertilizer in February. Watch for the early bloomer and enjoy them. Make sure your daffodils locations are marked with the variety names, especially when you are planning to dig and thin the bulbs. Attend a few daffodil shows and most of all have fun with you daffodils.



DIV. II - ARTISTIC DESIGN GENERAL RULES 2017 DAFFODIL SHOW ARTISTIC DIVISION

ARTISTIC AWARDS:

- 1. THE MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS OF CURRITUCK COUNTY " BEST IN SHOW" CERTIFICATE.**
- 2. "THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE" AWARD AS CHOSEN BY THE SHOW'S VISITORS**
- 3. "MOST CREATIVE" JUDGES CHOICE FROM ALL CLASSES**

ARTISTIC DESIGN AWARD AND RIBBONS

The National Garden Club Standard System of awarding will be used which allows Judges, one or more; First(blue) scoring 90 or above, one second (red) scoring of 85 or above, one third (yellow) scoring 80 or above, and one or more honorable mention (white) scoring 75 or above in a class where merited. A Best in Show Design and Most Creative Ribbon will be awarded by the judges .

In Division II, the People's Choice Award will be awarded to the favorite Artistic Design, as determined by the Show's Visitors, chosen from all design classes. Ballots will be available at show entrance. Award will be presented at 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 25th, 2017

ARTISTIC DESIGN RULES

1. Advance and confirmed registration is required for all classes. Approve and confirm reservations with Jim Fincher, 252-599-2536 or jfinchjr@aol.com by March 10th, 2017. After a reservation has been accepted, the exhibitor is responsible for obtaining a substitute if unable to exhibit and the substitute's name must be given to Jim Fincher before the date of the Show.

2. Division II is staged using the guidelines of the National Garden Club Handbook for Flower Shows, 2007 edition, with all updates.

3. All exhibitors are to check in at the Registration Desk upon arrival.

4. Designs are to be placed between 4:00- 7:00 P.M. on Friday, March 24th or between 7:00- 9:30 A.M. on Saturday, 25th, 2017. Designs must be placed and the area cleaned for judging by 9:30 A.M. on Saturday.

5. All designs must contain 1 or more Daffodil Blooms. The Designer does not have to have grown the plant material used in the design.

6. The exhibitor has complete freedom to choose components that may include fresh, dried, and or/ treated dried plant material. Fresh plant material may not be treated in any manner. Any Woodland items, fruit, vegetables, etc, should be sprayed or sealed to eliminate insects.

7. Artificial flowers, fruits, foliage or vegetables are not permitted.

8. After the design is placed, the exhibitor must check in with Jim Fincher, or his designated substitute.

9. Exhibitors must include TWO typed or clearly printed 3" x 5" cards, one: listing all plant material used. Indicate flowers grown in a garden with a "G" and plant material purchased from a florist with an "F". The SECOND card, in 20 words or less should be a summary of the exhibitors' intent.

10. The exhibitors' name and address should appear on the BACK of each card, mailing address labels are appreciated.

11. The Decision of the Judges will be Final. Design judging will begin at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, March 25th, 2017.

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTIC CLASSES

1. An exhibitor may enter multiple classes if desired, but is permitted only one exhibit per class.

2. Entries are limited to 4 per class
3. Each Entry must be executed by a single exhibitor without professional help or advice. No exact copies of known Designs will be awarded.
4. Accessories are permitted unless otherwise stated. Drapery and background material are considered accessories.
5. Objects that add interest when tastefully used are appropriate, (ex. Glitter, wood, metal, photos.)

ARTISTIC DESIGN SHOW SCHEDULE

10th Annual Daffodil Show 2017

THEME: IT'S A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL



As Children we learn many skills, used later in life, by the activities and games we play.

Class 1- Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes we remember from our Childhood.

Create a TOPIARY DESIGN representing a Fairy Tale or Nursery Rhyme of choice. The topiary design is a creative design on a stylized, live or contrived form. The design is limited to a 30 x 30 inch space, scale to height. Viewed from one side. Staged on a black underlay with additional draping provided the designer, as desired.

Class 2 - TOYS, are a big part of a Childs' life. Create a TUBULAR DESIGN , using a Childs' toy. The dominant feature of this design is the cylindrical components throughout. "cylindrical" means "tubular" and both mean circular. The design will be staged on a 18" round table covered in floor length black covering. Viewed from all sides.

Class 3 - LET THE GAMES BEGIN. Create a CONSTRUCTION DESIGN , using elements or components from Board Games or Cards. A construction design is a creative design with strong overall Architectural Characteristics, combined into a single unit. The design will be staged on a 30 x 30 inch space, with black covering. Viewed from 1 side. Backgrounds or under lays will be provided by the designer, as desired.

Class 4- IT'S A CELEBRATION. Create a FUNCTIONAL TABLE SETTING, for 2 or more. Designer choice of arrangement, representing a Childs' party. Use any style of design choice. Scale to setting. Design should add to the overall setting of the table. 60 inch round table provided, with black underlay to floor provided. No utensils or chairs permitted. Designer to provide desired overlay. Viewed from all sides.

Class 5- TOYS, TOYS AND MORE TOYS. Create a SMALL DESIGN . Not to exceed, height, width or depth of 8 inches. Any floral arrangement style Design, choice of the Designer. Using a Childs' toy . Viewed from all sides. Elevated space is draped with black underlay, provided. Elevation does not include design space of 8 by 8inch limit. Overlays provided by Designer.

SCALE OF POINTS FOR DESIGNS	CLASSES 1-4	CLASS 5
Conformance (To schedule requirements)	20	20
Design (Elements, Principles)	42	48
Artistic concept (selection, organization)	12	12
Expression (interpretation of class)	10	5
Distinction (marked superiority in all aspects)	16	15
TOTAL	100	100

