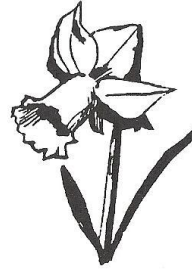


ADS YOUTH NEWS



**American Daffodil
Society**

**November, 2005
Special Edition**

American Daffodil Society Youth Newsletter

Free Historic Daffodils

This special edition newsletter, along with three free historic daffodil bulbs, is being sent ONLY to American Daffodil Society's southern-most youth members! Scott Kunst, Owner and Head Gardener at Old House Gardens, donated some historic daffodil bulbs to be sent to ADS youth members. Since there were not enough bulbs donated for every youth member to receive one and it is late in the daffodil planting season (especially for northern gardeners) these bulbs are being sent to the American Daffodil Society youth members who live in the most southern locations.

I hope everyone who receives these special bulbs will find a day soon warm enough to plant them. Don't forget to keep a list of the names of your daffodils. It is also a very good idea to make a drawing or a map to help you remember where you plant your bulbs.

What is a Historic?

A historic daffodil is a daffodil introduced or in gardens prior to 1940. ADS daffodil shows have special classes for entering historic daffodils so they only compete with other historic, since historic daffodils usually do not have the smoothness, petal overlap, and form of more recent daffodils. Daffodils entered in these special historic sections are also judged differently from daffodils in other sections. 40% of historic daffodils point score in ADS daffodil shows comes from condition—whether the flower is fresh, clean, free of dirt or disease. Historic may also be entered in non-historic show sections with other daffodils. **To enter a historic daffodil in the historic section in a daffodil show you need to know its name and its date of origin.**

Information on your historic daffodil bulbs:

Name: Shot Silk **Date of Origin:** 1931

Class and Color Code: 5 W-W (the petals' color code is before the dash, the cup color code is after the dash) W=White, Y=Yellow, O=Orange, R=Red

Planting & Growing Tips

- ★ Plant pointy end up
- ★ Plant standard daffodils at the bottom of a 6-8" deep hole
- ★ Plant when the soil temperature has cooled to 54 degrees or less
- ★ Label bulbs and keep planting maps
- ★ When planting bulbs a low nitrogen fertilizer, such as 5-10-10, can be added to the soil, though most daffodils do fine for years with no fertilizer
- ★ Beds should have good drainage (the most important factor for miniatures); correct bad drainage by adding lots of coarse sand to the soil or by planting in raised beds
- ★ Water your bulbs after planting; flowers will be best if plants receive 1 inch water each week from the time when leaves appear to flowering
- ★ Mulch your beds for four good reasons: 1) Keeps weeds from sprouting and growing, 2) Keeps soil temperature cooler in summer and warmer in winter, 3) Keeps soil moist, 4) Helps prevent dirt spots on blooms
- ★ Foliage should not be folded, tied or removed until it turns yellow

Make Your Own Labels

You can recycle plastic food containers to make your own garden labels. Cut out shapes from plastic yogurt or sour cream containers. Be sure to use a permanent marking pen to write on the plastic, so it will not fade in the weather. Stick your label in the ground right above the spot where you plant the bulb. Some people make an extra label and bury it right next to the daffodil bulb. They want to be sure they don't lose the bulb or its name!

