

THE DAFFODIL BULLETIN

THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Summer Number

July, 1955

From the Society Headquarters

Middle Atlantic Region has New Vice President. We are sorry to announce that Dr. John C. Wister, Vice President for the Middle Atlantic Region, has felt it necessary to ask to be relieved. Dr. Wister had the misfortune to fall and break his hip last spring. Although he is recovering, his activities are of necessity curtailed. Dr. Wister will remain on our Board of Directors and continue his interest in Daffodils. You should see his test garden at Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.

At the same time we are happy to announce that Mrs. Lawrence R. Wharton, 4504 Roland Ave., Baltimore 10, Maryland, has accepted the Vice-Presidency of the Middle Atlantic Region (Pa., Md., Va., West Va., D.C., southern N.J., and Del.) and is in the process of forming a Regional Committee. Mrs. Wharton is a former President of the Maryland Daffodil Society, and is widely and very favorably known in Eastern gardening circles.

In Reference to ROUND ROBINS. Mrs. E. G. Sawyers, 204 South Scott St., Oklahoma City 15, Okla., our General Director of Round Robins, says, "Anyone wishing to be a Round Robin member please send me your name and address, and subject matter you are most interested in. We need volunteers for Directors. We are now setting up groups on Hybridizing, Miniatures, and Daffodils in General." Mrs. Sawyer is a real live wire, and here is an opportunity for members who have no local Daffodil groups or nearby "experts." Trade experiences and enjoy learning.

The ADS Convention will be held in Washington, D.C. the third week of April, 1956. Plan now to be there. Details later. - Carey E. Quinn.

FROM THE SECRETARY

Our thanks go to all of you who returned the green questionnaire sheet. One hundred and two came back and brought us a lot of valuable information on what you want the Society to accomplish. Many of you also suggested how you can help in the attainment of our goals. Too, we have been pleasantly surprised and encouraged by the unexpected number of people in this country who grow daffodils, including many of the recent originations.

From the questionnaires we have also learned of the existence of numerous organizations interested in the daffodil, and we now have a considerable list of gardens that may be viewed by daffodil enthusiasts at blooming time.

Best wishes to all of you for a good bulb harvest, and here's hoping each one will have a happy time reading those catalogs, to choose the new things your bulb dollars will buy for your fall planting. - Willis H. Wheeler.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Carey Quinn says we must have an "editorial" in each issue. The present editor assumes no such importance or authority. He chooses rather to apologize (slightly) for the modest make-up of our Bulletin in its infancy, and expresses the hope that it will grow in stature and dignity as our Society itself develops. The Bulletin will do just that if members continue to contribute material for it as generously as they have begun. Our present dilemma is not to acquire news and notes for the Bulletin but to select from the many contributions the items we have space to print. This is particularly true of the many items reporting on Daffodil shows, from which we have had to make a selection that is based partly on the material submitted and partly on geography. Though we could not find space for it all we solicit the continuance of these contributions, for the wider the range of contributions the better the process of selection.

We do think that all of our members should give careful thought (and expression) to the purpose we think our Society should serve. Our Constitution states this in a general way, but we want a statement of practicable, present objectives. In Washington "bureaucratese" we want an "action program." May we have your views? It is your Society, you know. - Freeman Weiss

RETAIL NARCISSUS CATALOGS OF THE WORLD

By Willis H. Wheeler

Since a similar list appeared in the 1955 Washington Daffodil Society Yearbook there have been additions to the list, and certain deletions of firms that do a wholesale business only and should not have been included in the first list. Once again we point out that we have attempted to make this list as complete as possible. However, we may still have left out some firms because we have been unable to learn of their existence. Such omissions are unintentional and will be corrected when next a list is published if all concerned will help us with additional names. Send catalogs to the Secretary.

The firms follow in alphabetical order:

Barr & Sons, 11-13 King St., Covent Garden, London W.C. 2, England.
 E. W. Cotter, 313 Hills Road, Sirley, Christ Church, New Zealand.
 David Bell, 99A Conway Street, Spreydon, Christchurch, New Zealand.
 The Daffodil Mart, Nuttall Station, Gloucester, Virginia.
 P. deJager & Sons, Inc., 188 Asbury St., South Hamilton, Massachusetts.
 W. J. Dunlop, Dunrobin, Broughshane, Ballymena, Northern Ireland.
 Gibsons Nursery Ltd., 36 Mill Street, Marton, New Zealand.
 David W. Gourlay, The Down House, Tockington, Near Bristol, England.
 Alec Gray, Treswithian Daffodil Farm, Camborne, Cornwall, England.
 J. N. Hancock, Glenfern Road, Fern Tree Gully, Victoria, Australia.
 J. Heemskerck, c/o P. van Deursen, Sassenheim, Netherlands.
 Alexander Irving Heimlich, Woburn, Massachusetts.
 J. Jefferson-Brown, Over, Cambridgeshire, England.
 A. Ladson, Wandin North, Victoria, Australia.
 Little England Daffodil Farm, Bena, Virginia

Peter Lower, Teignmouth, South Devon, England
 Grant E. Mitsch, Daffodil Haven, Canby, Oregon
 Travers Morrison, Heathcote Bulb Nursery, Wandin P.O., Victoria, Australia.
 Chas. H. Mueller, River Road, New Hope, Pennsylvania
 Nellis Nurseries, Inc., Holland, Michigan.
 H. J. Ohms, Inc., "Arnhemia", P.O. Box 222, Stamford, Connecticut
 Parr's Nurseries, 14 Puke Tea St., Blockhouse Bay, Auckland S.W. 3, New Zealand.
 H. Poolè & Co. Ltd., Lower Hutt, New Zealand.
 "Prides", Box 431, Worcester, Massachusetts.
 J. Lionel Richardson, Prospect House, Waterford, Ireland.
 River's Edge Flower Farm, Gloucester, Virginia.
 Swains of Bristol, Bristol, England
 Swayne's Gardens, P.O. Box 109, Puyallup, Washington.
 Trenoweth Valley Flower Farm, Ltd., St. Keverne, Cornwall, England.
 Waltz Brothers, Route, Box 150, Salem, Virginia
 Warnaar & Co., N.V., Sassenheim, Netherlands.
 Guy L. Wilson, The Knockan, Broughshane, County Antrim, Northern Ireland.
 Zandbergen Bros., Inc., "Tulipdom", Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York.

DAFFODILS SHOWS, 1955

Cherokee Morning Garden Club, Macon, Georgia

On the theme "Too-Off to Spring" the annual Daffodil Show of the Cherokee Morning Garden Club was held in Macon on March 9. The various divisions of the show were appropriately titled The Tournament (horticultural), The Caddies (junior), The Champions (inter-club). A huge Trumpet, Bonneville, exhibited by Mrs. Francis K. Hall, was selected as Best-in-the-Show. -- Mrs. Kenneth Dunwoody.

THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

The 21st Annual Daffodil Show of the Garden Club of Virginia, sponsored by the Martinsville Garden Club, was held April 13-14 at the Forst Park Country Club in Martinsville. The large pine-panelled ballroom with dark leaf-green background properties and containers for horticultural exhibits, and gray-green and chartreuse niches for arrangements, provided a perfect setting for the 900 exhibits of 200 daffodil fanciers. It was predominantly a horticultural show, with only 4 of the 76 classes for arrangements. These were well filled and well done, however. The rather late (for our section) date of the show resulted in a predominance of white daffodils and good yellows were scarce. Despite the diabolical weather this spring, there was a surprisingly large number of well grown and well staged daffodils. With few exceptions the quality was good, though they seemed less vigorous and lasting than usual.

The 21st Show achieved a "new look" by means of a different plan of staging, new properties, and a change in the schedule. Horticultural exhibits were shown on tables arranged in four herringbone-patterned rows crosswise of the long room, with aisles between each row and passages around each table to allow for free circulation of visitors and close examination of the flowers by judges and spectators. Arrangements were staged around the walls; and special exhibits from J. Lionel Richardson (Waterford, Ireland) and from the Garden Club of Virginia Daffodil Test

Garden, on tiered stands at each end of the room. This arrangement made it possible to get a general view of all the exhibits at a glance on entering the room, and was most effective.

The revised schedule included a group of Open Classes for both amateur and professional growers. The American Horticultural Society Silver Medal was awarded in this group, for the first time at the Daffodil Show. The purpose and intent of these Open Classes is to encourage the showing of the best-grown specimens of the finest and newest varieties of daffodils, whether raised by skilled amateurs or professionals.

Among the recently introduced novelties and outstanding varieties seen at the show were: Salmon Trout, Roseyards, Spanish Gold, Cloncarrig, Ulster Prince, Vigil, Tudor Minstrel, Signal Light, Bryher, Carnmoon, Yellow Warbler, Thoughtful, Arbar, Lamington, Preamble (Best Flower of the Show), Trouseau, Broughsnane, Cantatrice, Chinese White, Galway, Daviot, Kilworth, Charity May, Jenny, and others. Miniatures and dwarf varieties were shown in special classes.

There were 15 trophy classes plus the Sweepstakes, Best Bloom, and Best Arrangement in the Show. Winner of the Sweepstakes and Best Bloom in Show was Mrs. Fairlee Dabney of Gloucester; winner of the coveted Eleanor Truax Harris Challenge Cup was Mrs. Channing Bolton of Fairfax; Best Arrangement was won by the Martinsville Garden Club, in the Inter-Club arrangement class.

The 1956 Show will be held in Martinsville again on April 10th and 11th. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend. -- Edith H. Walker

Washington Daffodil Society

The sixth annual show of the Washington Daffodil Society, with Mrs. George Furman as General Chairman and Mr. Ralph Bissonette as Staging Chairman, was held at the Woodward & Lothrop's Chevy Chase Store auditorium on April 16 and 17. Twelve area garden clubs cooperated. Although the number of exhibitors, 71, was smaller than last year, participants came from as far away as Greenwich, Connecticut and Louisville, Ohio. Blooms flown via air express by the Irish growers, W.J. Dunlop, J. Lionel Richardson, and Guy Wilson added greatly to the beauty and interest of the show.

Blue ribbons were won by 22 Society members, Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, Jr. taking honors by winning 3 trophies in the special classes: Washington Daffodil Society Trophy for Best Flower in the Show (Binkie); Woodward & Lothrop Trophy for pink daffodils; and Weiss Trophy for white daffodils.

Two other members won trophies - the Bozievich Trophy for the best arrangement in the class featuring an outstanding show variety was won by Mrs. Theodore Peyser; and the Powell Trophy for the best seedling was won by Dr. Charles W. Culpepper. - Mildred Benton

Chambersburg Garden Club, Pennsylvania

The annual Daffodil Show of the Chambersburg, Pa. Garden Club was held on April 19, and brought forth 293 specimen blooms. With the theme "Music in the Air" special emphasis was laid on arrangements (in which Daffodils were featured) and garden models. For the horticultural classes Mrs. W. E. Culp reports as follows: The Daffodil that won a special award was Hardy, 3-b, bought by the Club last fall. Of the 30 bulbs in the order, this was the only one with 8 petals in the perianth. All the Hardy specimens exhibited were of good form; should it continue to produce such good blooms it surely will help to fill out the 3-b class, which seems to be scarce. Silver Glory won the award for the best specimen in the show; it is a 1-c. It was bought in a general mixture at a local store, 25 bulbs for \$3.00. Jules Verne, 2-c, was new in the show; it was a lemon green and looked more like a Trumpet. Broughshane was a perfect specimen in my garden, but bloomed too late for the show. Chinese White is a beautiful specimen but it still droops, regardless of the time it has been in bloom. Chungking did not produce a bloom this year. Kingscourt won last year but the stem was short this year, as were many of the specimens. Silver Shimes, 5-b, came through the winter in fine shape and is producing 5 blooms on each stem. This Club is a competitor for the State's Purple Ribbon, and the judges awarded the show a score of 96 per cent. Mrs. Culp adds that she was the envy of the Club with 4 blue ribbons, and also (as doubtless we all are) is a great admirer of Carey Quinn and his appraisals of Daffodil varieties in POPULAR GARDENING.

Daffodil Notes from Oklahoma

By Flora Zenor, Oklahoma City

Daffodil time in Oklahoma, 1955, was rather discouraging. The 12° temperature of March 25th froze about all our old established varieties. A few early ones bloomed before the freeze, but due to several previous dry years blooms were scarce. Tintoretto, Music Hall, Ada Finch, Rouge, Ceylon, Grapefruit and other early ones either finished bloom or were in bloom when the freeze hit. So, the season was not a total loss.

Those of us who planted new bulbcs in the fall of 1954 got to see most of them bloom since they came along and did beautifully after the weather settled down.

This sudden cold wave struck after we had been having some 85° days, and the first night, with 13° above 0, 3 inches of snow fell.. The ground being so warm it melted fast and by the next night there was not a bit of snow left. This left everything unprotected against the 12° temperature we had the second night.

Varieties of Daffodils planted in the fall of 1954 that were in bloom were Silver Bugle, a 2-C, and Handel, a 2-B. Silver Bugle was especially lovely. Braniel, a 2-A, and Foresight, a 1-B from Guy Wilson, were frozen in full bloom. Tamino, also from Wilson, opened with no perianth, just a cup. Others from the same source were Royalist and Goldcourt, both 2-A's. Royalist was very fine. It seemed to have more flowers from its one bulb than Goldcourt. Effective and Consort, both 1-B's, but Consort's trumpet was so pale it could almost pass for a 1-C. Effective's trumpet was a good lemon yellow and the color spread in attractive rays into the white perianth. It was about the finest daffodil in my yard.

1-C's were Gentility, Prestige, Contatrice, Gentility was one of the last to bloom. There were five flowers from one bulb, was triple-nosed bulb and also had a good sized slab. The trumpet was a very pale greenish yellow on opening but turned white later. Cantatrice seemed a creamy-white throughout. Prestige had a slightly flaring trumpet but not much ruffling on the rim.

2-A's were Braniel and Tamoni, (both early and got frozen) and Fireguard which came later and was an outstanding variety. It had a fine flat, medium yellow perianth and medium sized cup which was flat on the perianth. Its chief beauty was the definite rim of deep orange extending about one third the depth of the cup.

My only 2-B from Wilson was Guardian. I found its trumpet and perianth to be exactly the same length. It opened with such a pale yellow trumpet it could have been mistaken for a 2-C or even a 1-C but it retained its yellow trumpet so proved to be a 2-B.

Parkmore and Courage, both 2-C's, were fine, but different. Parkmore was rather early and opened with a pale yellow trumpet which turned white later and flared slightly. Courage was the whitest white of all my 1-C's or 2-C's. It even opened pure white throughout. The trumpet was slender and long and flanged. It is a good bloomer.

Therm, a 3-A, froze before opening; Foggy Dew was lovely as always and I am afraid I will have to keep renewing my stock if I want to see it each year for it seems prone to develop yellow or striped foliage.

A DOUBLE-ENTRY SYSTEM FOR DAFFODIL RECORDS, KEEPING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Eleanor R. Bolton, Fairfax, Virginia

A "double-entry" bookkeeping system for daffodils is my way of making doubly sure that the records are in good order. I call it a "double-entry" system because it is made up of two sections, both of which may be extended to serve any purpose the individual grower may desire.

A loose-leaf ring binder with stiff or leather cover is used so that pages may be removed or added as needed. The first section serves as an index and contains information important only to me personally, and requires only single pages of tabulation. The second section requires double-page tabulation because of the numerous items which I consider necessary to have available for constant reference.

In the first section of my record book my daffodils are listed in alphabetical order and the tabulation is set up as follows:
Column 1, variety; Column 2, Classification; Column 3, Source from which obtained; Column 4, List price per Bulb. Column 5, headed "Remarks" is used for personal reminders such as my promises to share the variety when divided, or that a certain variety grows too tall for its present location, or that another variety might do better in shade.

(example, first section, attached)

The second part of my record book requires double pages to accommodate 9 columns. Daffodils are listed here according to RHS Classification, with only one class for each double-page. The reason for this is that I have found, after only three years of growing daffodils, that many new varieties are added each year. The columns are ruled according to the space required for such information as I find it helpful to have instantly available. The variety is written in Column #1. In Column 2 I write the year in which the variety was first introduced so that at show time it is easily determined which varieties are eligible for a Novelty Class such as may call for a "Collection of Daffodils introduced since 1938".

Column #3 is headed "Location in my Garden" and I allow sufficient space here to be specific. For instance, my entry for Class 1-b, Rockery Beauty, is "left side wall garden, bottom level, near steps". This precludes any confusion in case the garden label is lost or destroyed. Next, in Column #4, is stated the original number of bulbs of the particular variety planted. Column 5 is headed "Current Number of Blooms" and very quickly I am able to determine the rate of increase of bulbs of each variety and to estimate the probable number of blooms I may count on next year for exhibition consideration. A terse catalogue description of the variety is given in Column #6; e.g., Chungking (3a), "red corona, golden perianth".

Column #7 in the second section, with the heading "Blooming Dates", is made up of several narrow tabulations to cover 4 to 6 years. I find it very helpful, by these data, to plan ahead for favorable viewing dates in the garden as well as for planning show entries. A dash in the space allotted for any given year indicates that the bulb was not yet planted and, here again, a dual purpose is served in that I am reminded at a glance when it is time to lift and divide a variety after three blooming seasons.

Column #8 may, of course, be diverted to the grower's individual need. For me, it indicates, under the heading "G.C. Va." that the variety was in the Garden Club of Virginia Test Collection for the year stated.

The final column, #9, head "Remarks" is as wide as possible for a heterogeneous collection of observations. In this space I have made such entries as, for Silver Chimes (5b), "not showworthy; 9 blooms per best stem, 6 on others"; for Nylon (Class 11), "5 weeks of bloom"; and for Shot Silk (5a), "forced stems (3 blooms each): in tri-color collection of whites, Washington Daffodil Soc. Show '54". (Weiss Trophy Award) You can readily see how valuable this remark column can be, for in it I also note comparison of varieties exhibited at the shows.

There is one more thing to be said about my "double-entry" bookkeeping on daffodils which is that many of the entries are made during the evening hours or black winter months when it is very pleasant to recall the daffodil season just passed or to anticipate the coming springtime with old and new varieties to excite the connoisseur and intrigue the novice.

*Regrettably, space did not permit presenting example, which Mrs. Bolton furnished, of her very neat and informative notes.

SOME DAFFODIL BULBS LISTED FOR LESS THAN 75 CENTS*

A compilation, by Mildred Benton

- 1a-1 Alaska, Golden Harvest, Dawson City, Rembrandt, Virginia Wright, Winter Gold;
1a-2 Garron, Lord Nelson, Mulatto, Robt. Sydenham, Sulphur Prince, Van Waveren's Glory.
1b-1 Aeolus, Boswin, Chatsworth, Effective, Locarno, Magnet, Mrs. John Hoag, Music Hall
 Norway, Patria, President, LeBrun, Rathkenny, Rockery Beauty, Sans Reproche,
 Solveig; 1b-2 Ballyferis, Sincerity; 1b-3 Apricot, Ruby Trumpet.
1c-1 Beersheba, Scapa, Tain; 1c-2 Ada Finch, Angels Wings, Bergen, Chastity, Cornith,
 Eskimo, Emperor, Josine, Mrs. E.H. Krelage, Mount Hood, Pecusic, President
 Carnot, Rockery White, Roxane, Watteau; 1c-3 Rosabella
- 2a-1 Carlton, Havelock, St. Egwin; 2a-2 Aranjuez, Carbineer, Fortune, Tinker.
2b-1 Polindra, Tunis, Brunswick; 2b-2 Selma Lagerlof, Red Abbott; 2b-3 Mrs. R.O. Back-
 house.
2c-1 Slemish; 2c-2 Cicely, Niphetos, Glenshane, Silver Bugle, Templemore; 2c-3 Carn-
 lough.
- 3a-1 Alcida; 3a-2 Mangisteen, Market Merry, Treskerby
3b-1 Elizabeth Ryan, Ivory Yellow, Sylvia O'Neill, Trevecca; 3b-2 Blarney, Forfar,
 Lady Kesteven, Limerick, Mr. Jinks, Pera, Picador. 3b-3 Blush Queen, Lady Bee
- 3c-1 Alberni Beauty, Polar Ice, Portrush, Samaria, Silver Salver, Stardust, Valkyrie;
3c-2 Hera, White Horse Eagle.
- 4-1 Camellia, Inglescombe, Pumilis Plenus, Primrose Cheerfulness, Pencrebar, Money
 Moon, Kehelland, Holland's Glory, Yellow Cheerfulness; 4-2 Twink, Valencia;
4-3 Mary Copeland; 4-4 Cheerfulness, Double Ming, Irene Copeland, Mrs. Wm. Copeland,
 Snowsprite, Shirley Temple.
- 5a-1 Alope, April Tears, Auburn, Hawera, Jehol, Johanna, Stoke; 5a-3 Kenellis, Lemon
 Heart, Mrs. Gordon Pirie. 5a-4 Acolite, Elizabeth Prentis, Laurentia, Moon-
 shine, Niveth, Phyllis Garth, Shot Silk, Snowbird, Snowflake, Snowpearl, Thalia, Tres-
 amble;
5b-2 Rosedown; 5b-3 Dawn, Pearly Queen, Silver Chimes; 5b-4 Frosty Morn, Ivory Gate,
 Rippling Waters.
- 6a-1 February Gold, Bartley, Cairhays, Garden Princess, Golden Cycle, Golden Lacquer,
 Le Beau, March Sunshine, Mite, Peeping Tom, Trewirgie, Wanda.
6b-1 Little Witch; 6b-2 Beryl.
- 7-1 Sierra Gold; 7-2 Orange Queen
7a-1 Aurelia, General Pershing, Golden Sceptre, Golden Goblet; 7a-3 Fairy Nymph,
 Topaz
7b-1 Golden Perfection, Lanarth, Larkelly, Laughing Water, Pease-blossom, Trevithian,
 Zanita; 7b-2 Lintie, Trim; 7b-3 Beebop, Cheyenne, Cora Ann; 7b-4 Cherie.
- 8-1 Klondyke, Laetare; 8-2 Red Guard, Scarlet Gem; 8-3 Elvira, La Fiancee, Odorata,
 Pearl; 8-4 Anna Brita, Glorious, Geranium, Martha Washington.
- 9 Margaret Mitchell; 9-1 Actaea, Cantable, Daetyl, Dulcimer, Eifina, Kestrel,
 Louky, Narrabri, Ornatus, Pentucket, Red Rim, Sabina, Shanach; 9-2 Ace of
 Diamonds, King of Diamonds, Sidelight.

10 Angels Tears, Calathinus, Canaliculatus, Cernus, Cyclamineus, Cyclataz, Jonquilla Citrinum, Jonquilla Plenus, Jonquilla Simplex, Maximus Superbus, Odorus Plenus, Odorus Simplex, Pumilis, Queen Anne, Recurvus, Rip Van Winkle, Skylon, Tenuoir, Trumpet Major, Wateiri

11 Nylon

Footnote

* Author has used the "New Informative Classification" presented by George and Katherine Heat in the 1955 list of the Daffodil Mart. In this classification the familiar Divisions of the RHS Daffodil Classification are further subdivided, based on the color intensity and distribution in the perianth and corona. As subgroups 3a-1 and 3a-2 were not represented in the author's original list, the editor has taken the liberty of adding examples of these.

TREVITHIAN'S PREFERENCE

Mrs. Richard S. Chatfield, Whitehouse Station, N.J.

For its lovely lemon yellow, dainty fragrance, and beautiful texture, Trevithian remains one of our great favorites. It is reliable for use in landscaping as it is delightful for cutting and arranging. Arranged with the chartreuse bloom of the Norway maple it is a picture we look forward to each Spring.

It had seemed to grow happily in any exposure, and to respond to even the most casual culture, but out last planting taught us that it has a preference for lighter soil, with good drainage. Our original plantings had been along the top of a bank, where our redshale had been lightened with the addition of coal ashes and compost in quantity, and they had unfailingly yielded 3 to 5 blooms on a stem. A light application of plant food, and a mulch of salt hay to discourage any possibility of soil washing was the only additional care they received.

The new lot of bulbs, planted in a lower border, where the clay is much heavier, with feeding and mulching the same, consistently yields only 1 to 3 blooms on a stem. Since we need their mass of color in that spot, there they will stay, but if we were growing Trevithian to show instead of to live with, we should certainly take this preference into account.

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The Treasurer reminds us that there are still a few Year Books available at 50¢ each. Be sure to get yours while the supply lasts.