

The Daffodil Bulletin

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CAREY E. QUINN, Editor and Chairman, Publications Committee, 1010 Vermont Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

MRS. HOWARD B. BLOOMER, Managing Editor, Bulletin, Rt. 2, Box 131, Lorton, Virginia

DR. CHARLES R. PHILLIPS, Managing Editor, The Yearbook, 608 N. Market St., Frederick, Md.

WILLARD A. KING, Business and Advertising Manager, 7902 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda 14, Md.

Editorial

SOME NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS FOR DAFFODIL FANCIERS

1. Buy a few of the best daffodils each year. Buy only items with proven records that you can grow and keep. And buy only flowers that will do equally well either on the show table or in your garden. For example, buy things such as Ulster Prince, Lapford, Vigil, Galway, Court Martial, Ceylon, Avenger, Narvik, Green Island, Sweetness, Orange Wonder, Arbar, Kilworth, Easter Moon, Dinkie, Bravura, Matapan, Chinese White, Rockall, Cheerfulness, Double Event, Tresamble, Thoughtful, or Charity May. If you want some pinks, blow yourself to Rima, Debutante, or Rose Caprice. And if you want miniatures, get the hybrids such as April Tears, Frosty Morn, Kidling, Bobby Soxer, Tanagra, or Tete-a-Tete.

2. Dig good and deep beneath the bulb—make it 18" if possible, never less than 9".

3. Enter the shows, but don't be hurried about it! Use a little showmanship in cleaning up your entry, fixing neatly and firmly in a jar.

4. Live with your flowers more. Enjoy them!

CAREY QUINN

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The Internal Revenue Service has declared the ADS to be a tax-exempt, educational organization. This confirms that donations or bequests of cash or property, as well as unreimbursed personal expenses for transportation, lodging, and meals while rendering service to the Society, are deductible from personal income tax returns.

* * *

Approved ADS judges who may be in California March 12, or seeking a good excuse to go there, are invited to judge the daffodil show to be held at the famed Descanso Gardens. Mrs. Anderson will be glad to hear from any volunteers. See story elsewhere in this issue.

* * *

The management of Williamsburg Restoration is unable to accommodate an ADS convention in April, 1961. Easter and spring vacations make April their busiest month of the year and large groups are turned away. Studies are being made of other possibilities in Virginia to include a tie with the annual daffodil show of the Garden Club of Virginia.

* * *

Since Prof. L. P. Mains is building up our slide collections, the rental of the

sets has been turned over to him. Reservations for showing the slides and fee of \$5 should go to the professor at Drexel Institute, Philadelphia 4. Credit for handling your applications should go to Miss Nancy Van Horn, who invests the professor with an aura of electronic efficiency.

* * *

Dr. Glenn Dooley of Bowling Green, Ky., has been named chairman of the Round Robin Committee. He replaces Mrs. E. G. Sawyers, one of the last of the original ADS staff, who is retiring at her own request. Assisting Dr. Dooley will be Mrs. Richard Bradbury of Vancouver, Wash., and Dr. Helen C. Scorgie, Harvard, Mass.

* * *

The last BULLETIN showed the progress made in building up an ADS library under Mrs. Moats. Each year, hereafter, accessions will be published in the BULLETIN. Donations (tax deductible) or sources of missing items are desired. All members should watch their horticultural reading for significant articles on daffodils and send word to Mrs. John S. Moats, 5609 Harwick Road, Washington 16, D. C. An actual copy is desired, but at least send the reference to Mrs. Moats if you cannot spare your copy or do not have one.

Back issues of the BULLETIN are available and can often be used in soliciting new members. Send your requests for a supply to Mrs. Bridges.

* * *

To keep the Society vigorous in action, adventurous in its thinking, and free from personal striving, a nearly complete staff of new officers, both national and regional, will be installed at the conclusion of the Dallas meeting in March. It is the hope of those who are retiring that we have served you well, but we shall be disappointed if our successors do not surpass in every way our own exertions. To those who have worked with me so faithfully, I am grateful beyond words.

GEO. S. LEE, JR.

READ ALL ABOUT IT—THE 1960 CONVENTION

In an atmosphere of ten-gallon hats and chuck wagon meals the Society's fifth annual convention will be held in Dallas March 23 to 26.

Determined that their program shall not be surpassed until the Society meets in Alaska, Mrs. Harmon and her committee have put together four days of entertainment, information, and study.

With a degree of modesty usually confined to Barnum & Bailey's circus, this convention will feature, not one prominent speaker, but three, and possibly four not one judges' school, but two; not two dinners, but three.

High spots on Wednesday, the 23rd, the day before the convention officially opens, will be a daffodil show, meeting of the retiring board of directors, and a chuck wagon dinner, to be followed by a showing of slides of daffodils in the South by Mrs. U. B. Evans, a legendary figure in the North but recognized throughout the South as the foremost student of older daffodils.

Following brief welcoming addresses Thursday morning at the Baker Hotel, the theme of the convention will be set by a program devoted to "Daffodils in the South: Past, Present, and Future." Mrs. Evans, Willis H. Wheeler, Mrs. Walter E. Thompson, Miss Eleanor Hill, and Mrs. Ben M. Robertson will present this feature.

Thursday's dinner speaker will be Dr. C. T. Gould, Plant Pathologist, Western Washington Experiment Station, Puyallup, Wash. His subject will be "A Worldwide Picture of the Bulb Industry," projecting the problems and possibilities of a healthy domestic daffodil bulb industry, an indispensable adjunct to our own bulb breeding program.

After a brief business meeting and election of officers, Dr. Gould will be back Friday morning to lead a meeting devoted to "The Blasts, Blights, and Rots that Beset You." This will be a report for advanced daffodil amateurs on the most modern controls and research work

by the leading American specialist in diseases of the daffodil.

The banquet speaker will be one of the immortals of American horticulture, B. Y. Morrison, now living in retirement but decidedly not inactive, at Pass Christian, Miss. Mr. Morrison is creator of the Glenn Dale azaleas, formerly director of the U. S. National Arboretum, and currently editor of the National Horticultural Magazine. Mr. Morrison and Dr. Wister during the 1920's and 1930's were largely responsible for creating interest in this country in the modern daffodil. He will recall the English shows and breeders of that period, including The Brodie, P. D. Williams, J. Lionel Richardson, and Guy L. Wilson.

Mrs. J. Lionel Richardson definitely will be a guest of the convention and she will be heard at a luncheon meeting. The English trade show is the fore part of the same week and attendance at both gatherings will require close connections and swift travel for the wife of the noted Irish hybridizer, but she will be with us.

Course 1 of the Daffodil Study and Show School will be held Wednesday, March 23 and Course 3 on Saturday, March 26, both at the Garden Center. There will be a seminar on judging problems Friday morning.

Garden tours on both Thursday and Friday afternoons will take us to a number of the best gardens in Dallas. The complete list will be found in the published program. There will be an organization meeting of the new board of directors at the conclusion of the bus trip on Friday.

ATTENTION, HYBRIDIZERS!

The Breeding and Selection Committee is very anxious to complete its list of all members who are growing daffodil seedlings, or who plan to start this year. Unless you are quite sure your name is on this list, please send a postcard, soon, to Mrs. George D. Watrous, Jr., 5031 Reno Road, Washington 8, D. C.

DAFFODIL SHOW DATES

March 5-12—International Flower Show, the Coliseum, New York City. Schedule from Miss Anne Coughlin, 157 W. 58th St., New York.

March 8—Associated Garden Clubs of Southeast Georgia. First Methodist Church Youth Hall, Claxton, Ga.

March 12-13—Fourth Annual California Daffodil Show, Descanso Gardens, La Cañada, Cal.

March 19-20—Federated Garden Clubs of Third Region of Alabama, Art Museum, Birmingham.

April 1—Daffodil and Camellia Show, St. Stephen's Parish House, Richmond, Va.

April 2-3—Annual Daffodil Show of Garden Club of Gloucester, High School, Gloucester, Va.

April 6-7—The Garden Club of Virginia's 26th Annual Daffodil Show, Farmington Country Club, Charlottesville, Va.

April 7-8—Third Annual Daffodil Show, the French Broad River Garden Club, Biltmore Dairy Farms, Biltmore, N. C.

April 8—Second Annual Middle Tennessee Daffodil Show, First Presbyterian Church, Nashville; chairman, Mrs. William T. Allen, 2208 Tyne Blvd., Nashville.

April 9-10—Fourth Annual Daffodil Show of St. Louis Horticultural Society, Missouri Botanical Gardens, St. Louis.

April 12—South Orange Garden Club, chairman, Mrs. J. Whitton Gibson, 61 South Valley Road, West Orange, N. J.

April 16-17—Eleventh Annual Show of Washington Daffodil Society, Woodward and Lothrop Auditorium, Chevy Chase, Md. For advance registration write Mrs. E. E. Lawler, Jr., 26 Edgewood Terrace, Alexandria, Va.

April 20—Fauquier and Loudoun, Upperville, Va.; chairman, Mrs. Cary D. Langhorne.

April 20—Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, Philadelphia.

April 20-21—Maryland Daffodil Society, Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore.

April 21—Thursday Afternoon Club of

Madison; chairman, Mrs. George A. Fenton, 33 Broadview Ave., Madison, N. J.

April 22—Fifth Annual Harford County Daffodil Show, Parish House of St. Mary's Church, Emmorton, Md.

April 23—Daffodil Society of Greater Kansas City, Consumers Cooperative Association Bldg., 3315 North Oak Trafficway, Kansas City, Mo.

April 23-24—Three Village Garden Club, Long Island. Schedule from Mrs. Edwin C. Buchanon, Oldfield, Setauket, N. Y.

April 25—Garden Club of Mamaroneck; Mrs. Richard S. Barton, president, 616 Walton Ave., Mamaroneck, N. Y.

April 25—Chatham Woman's Club, Garden Dept., (tentative date); chairman, Mrs. Ralph W. Jones, 116 Center Ave., Chatham, N. J.

April 26-27—Fifth Annual Connecticut Daffodil Show, Ekman Center of Electrolux Corp., Old Greenwich, Conn. Advance registration, Mrs. Frank C. Bateman, 10 Brookside Dr., P.O. Box 836, Greenwich, Conn.

April 27—New York Horticultural Society, Essex House, 157 W. 58th St., New York City; chairmen, Charles Pecora and Adrian Pfaneuf, Essex House.

April 28—Flushing Garden Club, the House of the Weeping Birch, 143-35 37th Ave., Flushing, N. Y.

April 29-30—Suffolk Daffodil Show, St. Mark's Parish House, Islip, L. I. Schedule from Mrs. W. Floyd Nichols, P.O. Box 547, Smithtown, N. Y.

May 2—Garden Club of Larchmont; Mrs. George E. Stewart, president, 9 Hazel Lane, Larchmont, N. Y.

May 2—Garden Club of Mount Tabor (tentative date); chairman, Mrs. C. A. Shangle, One Country Club Rd., Box 7, Mt. Tabor, N. J.

May 2-3—Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Horticultural Hall, Boston, Mass.

May 3—Garden Guild of Larchmont; Mrs. Benjamin Posner, president, Constable Dr., Mamaroneck, N. Y.

May 13—Scarsdale Women's Club, Gar-

den Section; Mrs. David B. Mathias, president, 26 Broadmore Rd., Scarsdale, N. Y.

ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the members will be convened at 9:00 A.M., March 25, 1960, in the Baker Hotel, Dallas, Texas. At that time the following amendments to the by-laws, having been unanimously passed by the Board of Directors on October 24, 1959, and recommended to the membership for affirmative action, will be submitted for final approval:

RESOLVED: That Article III, Sec. 2, be amended to read as follows:

Terms.—An elected director shall be elected by the members at an annual meeting for a term expiring at the close of the third annual meeting of members next following his election. A director may not be elected for a term immediately following a term during which he has served as an elected director. A vacancy occurring in the term of an elected director prior to its expiration may be filled by appointment by the Board of Directors or its executive committee for the remainder of such term.

RESOLVED: That Article IV, Sec. 1, be amended to read as follows:

Election.—The officers of the Society shall be a president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary, treasurer, one regional vice-president for, and residing in, each region, and such other officers as the Board of Directors may by resolution provide. The president, first vice-president, and second vice-president shall be elected by the members at the annual meeting of the members. The secretary, treasurer, and regional vice-president for each region shall be appointed by the Board of Directors and the regional vice-president may be one of the regional directors for that region.

RESOLVED: That Article IV, Sec. 2, be amended to read as follows:

Terms.—An officer shall be elected or appointed for a term expiring at the close of the annual meeting of the members next following his election or appoint-

ment and until his successor has been chosen and qualified. In event of a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term of any officer, his successor shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for the remainder of the term of his predecessor. Officers are eligible for reelection or reappointment except that no person shall be elected or appointed for more than two consecutive full terms as president, first vice-president, second vice-president, or regional vice-president.

There will be a meeting of the retiring Board of Directors at 3:30 P.M., March 23, 1960, in the Library of the Dallas Garden Center and of the newly-constituted Board of Directors at 10:00 A.M., March 25, in the Baker Hotel.

—MAXINE M. ADAMS, *Secretary*

WATER YOUR DAFFODILS

The climate of 1959 in Piedmont, Virginia, was marked by heat and lack of rainfall during the early part of daffodil blooming season. Located in an area where basal rot may become prevalent, I have always been hesitant about watering, even though the daffodil beds are prepared almost two feet deep and provide excellent drainage. However, last season I was unwilling to sacrifice bloom size to the drought, and the beds were watered (soaked) heavily with a canvas soil soaker hose (an hour each location) every seven days that did not have sufficient rainfall. Supplementary watering was also given favored varieties. With other growers complaining of short, stunted, or small flowers, my heavy watering program resulted in the handsomest flowers within memory.

I am convinced that with our concern for sharp drainage and our fear of basal rot, we have overlooked the *necessity for plentiful soil moisture preceding and during the flowering season*. Mulching is helpful in such dry spells, and so is wind protection, high humus content in soil, et cetera, but none of these cultural practices takes the place of heavy soaking (NOT a light hand sprinkling) in a dry season if specimen type blooms are desired.

—HARRY I. TUGGLE

STUDY AND SHOW SCHOOLS FOR 1960

Course I—

Dallas, Texas, March 23, Mrs. John Coffey, 6129 Reiger, Dallas, chairman.

Arkansas, for further information contact Mrs. Jesse Cox, 108 Eighth St., Hot Springs, Ark.

California, for further information contact Mrs. Kenneth Anderson, 4810 Palm Drive, La Cañada, Calif.

Middleburg, Va., April 8, Mrs. Lawrence Wharton, 4504 Roland Ave., Baltimore 10, Md.

Middle Tennessee, April 9, Mrs. John Bates, Valley Brook Rd., Nashville 12.

Course II—

Tulsa, Okla., March 28, Miss Eleanor Hill, 1577 E. 22nd St., Tulsa.

Course III—

Decatur, Ga., March 19, Mrs. Paul Hamby, 440 Oakview Rd., Decatur.

Dallas, Texas, March 26, Mrs. John Coffey, 6129 Reiger, Dallas.

CLEMSON TEST GARDEN

In cooperation with the ADS Committee on Test Gardens, Clemson College, S. C., has made a large planting.

Professor Thode and his assistant, Mr. J. P. Fulmer, report that 250 varieties were planted during the fall. Among these are many rather new and favored varieties.

Generous donations of bulbs were made by members in our region and by Mr. Jan de Graaff.

We are invited to visit the garden. Probably the best time will be March 15 thru April 10.

—MRS. BEN M. ROBERTSON

NO "NARCISSUS OF NAZARETH"

Since the article appeared in the last issue of the BULLETIN calling the member's attention to misnamed varieties, the following item has been sent to the editor:

Perhaps you have met a pathetic little tazetta species peddled under the name "Narcissus of Nazareth." Our experts

have confirmed our suspicions that there is no such recognized variety. It appears that there has been extensive dumping of collected bulbs, gathered in Israel, in spite of adverse reports on the quality of samples sent here for testing.

ADS members do not need to be warned against wasting their time and money on such cute ideas. Remind your friends it costs no more to buy from recognized bulb specialists, and probably less, and that good horticulture and sentimentality don't mix.

\$1.25 WANTS AN OWNER

Our ADS treasurer, Mrs. William A. Bridges, who lives at 10 Othoridge Road, Lutherville, Md., has a problem in the form of \$1.25 "United States money" which was sent to her from Norfolk, Va., early in December with an order blank for the 1959 *Yearbook*.

Trouble is, the ADS member forgot to include name and address, and Mrs. Bridges, inquiring of three ADS members in the Norfolk, Va., area, has been unable to locate the person who sent the money and obviously desires a yearbook.

Anyone in or around Norfolk who recalls having sent an order and *cash* to Mrs. Bridges early in December, and thinks he or she may have failed to complete the order form, will do a favor all around by letting the treasurer know about it.

WHITE DAFFODILS, GREEN TINTED

During the spring of 1959 there was a considerable period of warm weather in Virginia when daffodils were blooming. That was followed by a brief time of rain and wet snow. Then again came warm weather before the mid-season and late whites began to open. Thereafter, white daffodils such as Chinese White, Bryher, and Portrush had either brown, burned tips on the perianth segments, or they were green tinted at the tips and along the midrib of each perianth segment. Has anyone else had this trouble?

THE STORY OF DESCANSO GARDENS IN CALIFORNIA

The following story is put together by your editor from bits and pieces, and ends with a message from Father Bede Reynolds, O.S.B. We hope you will find it interesting.

Descanso Gardens is a floral wonderland nestled in a bowl of the San Rafael Hills in La Cañada, Calif. Its first written history began when Governor Pedro Fages of California granted 36,400 acres of land to Jose Maria Verdugo in 1784. The vicissitudes of a family are told by the land records of this grant. After passing from owner to owner a part of it came to a man who established a nursery, laid out within the bounds of the natural areas of beauty and featuring the beautiful California live oaks.

At times in its history it has been devastated by fire and by flood. In spite of these onslaughts there remains today one handsome oak called "Old Verdugo," said by horticulturists to be over 500 years old.

Eventually the difficulties of operating so vast a garden became so great as to make continued operation impossible, and the decision was made to subdivide and build homes on the site. In the process the beautiful forest that had persisted through fires, floods and passage of time, and the extensive garden that had grown up around it, would be destroyed.

Acquired by County

The County of Los Angeles, aware of the great need of preserving some areas of beauty and open space, intervened and in November, 1953, the gardens were placed under the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks.

It is in this lovely spot that the Fourth Annual California Daffodil Show will be held this year.

Following are excerpts from a letter from Mrs. Kenneth B. Anderson, vice-president of the Far West Region, dated last November 16:

"Years ago when Kenyon Reynolds was active with daffodils he had made a valuable silver bowl with daffodils carved

on the outside . . . He donated this to the Pasadena Flower Association to give at their spring show to a hybridizer of the winning daffodil seedling. This continued until during the war the Pasadena Flower Show folded and has never been renewed. Mrs. Reynolds having died, a close friend of hers was given the bowl by Mr. Reynolds to keep until such time as it could be used again in daffodil competition, as he was giving up all of his worldly goods to enter a monastery."

It is planned to reactivate the daffodil bowl at the show being held at Descanso Gardens this year.

The beautiful natural setting for this show has been further enhanced by Jan de Graaff, who, after visiting the gardens last year, sent thousands of bulbs to be naturalized among the oaks and camellias.

Following is an article written by Kenyon Reynolds, now Father Bede Reynolds, O.S.B.; monk of Westminster Abbey, Mission City, British Columbia.

"To one who has always been fascinated by the perfect compatibility of science and theology, there is no point of contact which gives greater admiration and joy than the beautiful balance of nature which works as it is intended by God to work, year in, year out, without failure.

"Any man who has laboriously worked out the details of a piece of mechanical equipment, tried it out in a laboratory, enlarged it to a working model, put it in full scale operation, and then spent weeks or months 'ironing out the kinks,' should have no trouble in viewing with wonder and admiration the precision and perfection with which a tiny seed of a plant fulfills its proper function and produces a plant exactly in accordance with the purpose for which it has been designed by God.

Engineer with a Hobby

"When I was an engineer working with machinery for a living and working in my garden as a hobby, I was always impressed by this obvious manifestation of God's perfection. The joy of doing things in cooperation with God's power

of creation was the chief source of my fascination for growing things from seed. With this as a background, it is not difficult to see why I was in grave danger of becoming a 'fan' when, in the spring of 1932, Patricia and Kenyon Reynolds visited the daffodil garden of the late Henry O'Melveny in San Gabriel Canyon.

"What impressed me most was the seemingly endless variety of form and color, far beyond anything I had ever imagined before. My resistance was still further lowered when I learned that all these beautiful varieties were hybrids from some twenty or thirty natural species. It collapsed altogether when I saw how very simple is the mechanics of cross-fertilizing these flowers to produce new varieties from seed.

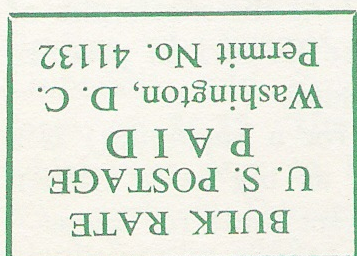
"All one needs (for a beginning) is a plot in the garden as big as a kitchen table which can be set aside for keeps—three or four daffodil bulbs of different varieties, and enthusiasm enough to be satisfied with no results other than a few shiny black seeds and little green leaves, for the first three years.

"After your first bloom has opened in the spring of the fourth year, the only possible obstacle would be a long-term jail sentence. Furthermore, anyone planting his first daffodil seed, an inch deep in well drained soil, immediately after harvesting in May or June, should be warned that he will not long be satisfied with three or four varieties. He might even be well-advised to set aside an irrevocable trust fund to provide income for his wife and family.

Visited Growers Abroad

"Patricia Reynolds and I began with twenty varieties in the spring of 1933. The top in price was one bulb of John Evelyn at twenty dollars. In 1935 we spent three months from March to June, visiting every daffodil grower of note in England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Holland. We came home with one hundred varieties, and many cherished friendships among the delightful people we had met. It was quite the happiest of many trips we made together.

"Our last purchase, (every husband



The American Daffodil Society
10 Othoridge Road
Lutherville, Maryland

should note the pronoun 'our') was made in 1940. It was a five-nosed bulb of the white trumpet Broughshane, sent by air mail from Ireland, purchased jointly with Mr. Joseph Urmston of San Marino, Calif., for a price which I will not disclose because Mr. Urmston is a highly respected citizen of Southern California, and is still thought to be in his right mind. Suffice it to say, when I went to the United States Customs Office to retrieve this bulb, I was treated with some respect and considerable amount of curiosity when it was announced that the 'daffodil man' had arrived.

"In 1942 I was submerged in the affairs of the Petroleum Administration for War, and that ended my daffodil career. Patricia Reynolds carried on until shortly before her death, in June 1945. Between us we bloomed about thirty thousand seedlings out of which about two hundred were good enough to keep anyone at it for life.

"The only reason I am not growing them now is that Monastic Life keeps me

exceedingly busy for seventeen hours a day. I am delighted, however, to know that the Patricia Reynolds trophies for cymbidiums and daffodils are once more to be in circulation to promote interest in the growing of these garden favorites that she loved so well!"

—FATHER BEDE REYNOLDS, O.S.B.

SUGGESTION FOR DAFFODIL BREEDERS

In the 1959 *American Daffodil Yearbook* Dr. Helen S. Scorgie brought us the interesting story of old Narcissus van Sion (*Narcissus telemonius plenus*).

In my reading I have seen accounts of that daffodil having set seed. In view of its unusual vigor and persistence in many American gardens, we might do well to try breeding with it. Because of its persistence it might be expected to be a good parent of daffodils for naturalizing purposes. If anyone is able to set seed on it in 1960, write a note about it for the editor.