

The Daffodil Bulletin



Fall Issue

November 1962

NEW ENGLAND TO GREET ADS MEMBERS

By MARY A. NELSON, *Vice President*

After a harsh winter and considerable delay, spring comes to New England in a rush and concentration of color not found elsewhere in this country. In this brief but glorious pause between winter and summer, we plan to hold the 1963 Convention at Stratford, Conn., next April 25 to 27. The site will be the new super-motel, the Stratford Motor Inn, which stands on a cliff overlooking the Housatonic River some miles west of New Haven. While in open country, the inn adjoins the Merritt Parkway which is widely known for its beautiful landscaping, and there are convenient connections to the inn from rail and air terminals in New York and Bridgeport.

Stratford is famous as the home of the American Shakespeare Festival Theatre, and the Elizabethan theme is used extensively in the services and decorations of the inn, especially the dining room and Mermaid Tavern. The inn consists of six large units. One floor of the public building, with ample space for private meetings and dining, will be reserved for our use. One entire wall is of glass and looks out over the river. Each bedroom also has a view of the river.

Varied Program

The program will be varied with something for all and a chance to choose which two of several meetings a member wishes to attend. There will be a day in the country visiting the Eighth Annual Connecticut Daffodil Show and the gardens of four ADS members.

A day of meetings at the inn will be broken by lunch at Silvermine Tavern in

New Canaan. This ancient tavern is on the edge of Silvermine River, and such is the natural beauty of the site that it has become the center of a large colony of artists, writers, and craftsmen.

Two Dinner Speakers

The two dinner speakers will be Dr. William Brown, a geneticist of Johnson City, Iowa, who will discuss the possibilities offered daffodils by recent advances in plant genetics, and Miss Elizabeth Lawrence of Charlotte, N. C., widely known for her horticultural writings, especially her book on bulbs. Both speakers are members of the ADS.

There will be other speakers as well, including one from the National Arboretum in Washington, not yet named, to discuss daffodils in the Arboretum, and we hope our own Mary van Schaik will give us one of the unusual talks she makes to garden clubs.

It is planned to hold Judging School III on Sunday, April 28.

New England hospitality may differ a bit from Southern hospitality, but it is just as warm even if there are a few overtones of Cal Coolidge, and we have large plans and high hopes for your enjoyment. It's your turn to come and see us next April.

HEADLINE from *The Evening Star*, Washington, D. C.:

KENNEDY SIGNS BILL PROHIBITING SLUGS

Better be sure those in your garden know about this!

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

By the time this reaches print I am sure most of you will have your daffodils in the ground. And then there will be the long wait for spring to come. Most of the root growth will occur between October 1 and November 21, if my observations on Fortune's glass-paneled root activity can be accepted as a standard.

Your depth of planting may depend to a certain extent on what you will want from your daffodils—more or less increase. According to Harry Tuggle's experience, shallow planting encourages bulb division, while deep planting restricts it. I believe gladiolus growers generally have the same understanding of the matter—that is, shallow planting tends to increase cormel production. (Did you know that Grant Mitsch, Wells Knierim, and your president are old gladiolus growers?).

* * *

The *Yearbook* will soon be in your hands. How many of you have edited a *Yearbook*? Those who have will know it is no simple assignment, and I am sure Gertrude Wister, chairman of our Committee on Publications, will welcome your comments on both the *BULLETIN* and the *Yearbook*. Do you have constructive suggestions? Can you write an interesting article? If not, do you at least have a suggested subject to be covered by someone qualified to do the job? In other words, please help the publications committee, and that means contributing something for both our publications. If you do, you'll have a feeling of really pulling your weight in the boat.

WILLIS H. WHEELER, *President*

SHOW MANUAL READY SOON

As a whole, the 1962 daffodil shows were most successful. Of the 34 shows planned, three were cancelled due to weather conditions. We had three regional shows, nine state shows and 19 club and local shows. In the state and regional shows, 12 Carey Quinn Medals were offered. Only six were awarded. The number of entries in the state and

regional shows ranged from 600 to 1,800, which I think is an excellent average.

Our new show manual, which has been in the making for some time, is now in the hands of the printer. Wells Knierim, our immediate past president, is having this work done. Those who have previously requested the manual, please do so again. The charge will be \$1. This manual will deal with every phase of staging a daffodil show meeting ADS requirements. Mrs. C. W. Schmalstig and Mrs. Harry Wilkie have contributed a great deal of time and knowledge in compiling the information.

I want to urge you to send in a tentative schedule when requesting ADS Awards. Don't wait until your schedule has been printed to submit it. Your schedule might not meet ADS requirements and if changes have to be made, they might prove complicated and expensive. So, please, start making plans early and send in tentative schedules for approval before making definite plans to offer ADS awards. Also, those planning state and regional shows, please send in approval of your regional vice president along with your tentative schedule. This eliminates unnecessary correspondence.

Let's make 1963 our best daffodil show year.

MRS. T. E. TOLLESON,
Chairman, Awards Committee

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THE VICE PRESIDENTS PRESENT REGIONAL REPORTS

Central Region

Only two all daffodil shows were held in this region in 1962. The Central Region Show was presented by the St. Louis Daffodil Society on April 14 and 15 with 813 entries in the horticultural section and 52 arrangements. This show was nicely reported in the May BULLETIN.

The Daffodil Society of Greater Kansas City held its fourth show April 14 with 450 entries in the horticultural section and 20 arrangements. Miss Elnora Short won the Ellis Short Trophy for best-in-show with variety Statue, and Stanley Street won Special Award for best collection of three of one variety with Ceylon. Show Chairman Ross Griffin won the Purple Ribbon for the best collection of 2a blooms. All these winners are ADS members. Our show was given a nice write-up with picture in the *Ford Kansas City News*. Ross Griffin keeps the Ford Plant cafeteria supplied with flowers during the daffodil season and brings arrangements for many of the secretaries' desks.

We were pleased to see at the Kansas City show a new ADS member, James R. Whiteley, from Trenton, Mo., whose chief interest is in naturalizing and breeding of new varieties. He has for some years been testing varieties for naturalizing in his oak woodland area, where he now grows the following varieties, all doing well: *Actaea, n. odorus*, *Cheerfulness*, *Geranium, n. jonquilla*, *Laurens Koster, n. poeticus recurvus*, *Silver Chimes* and *Trevithian*.

We are happy to have added a few very interesting new members to our region, and also glad to have had some daffodil enthusiasts at our National Iris Convention in Kansas City last May.

The daffodil bulbs presented to the Girl Scouts for planting in honor of their 50th Anniversary by members of the Greater Kansas City Daffodil Society made a nice showing in the various locations.

MARY A. BECKER, *Vice-President*

Northeast Region

We have had sufficient rain to break the mid-summer drought and the bulbs we so hopefully ordered after visiting the beautiful shows are going into the ground with our hopes of another rewarding daffodil season.

Interest in growing and showing daffodils is expanding in this region, stimulated, we hope, by the accredited shows. Norristown, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and the Chambersburg Garden Clubs each stage two day daffodil shows, while Springfield and Berwyn have one day exhibits in the Greater Philadelphia area. In western Pennsylvania the Martha Washington Garden Club of Washington has a beautiful show in late April. It is hoped that clubs in the New York and New Jersey areas will be encouraged to stage accredited shows so all who grow daffodils will find it easier to compete for ADS ribbons.

Mrs. Zachary T. Wobensmith of Jami-son, Pa., is the new publicity chairman for this region, so show chairmen will please send her the date, time, place and sponsor of all accredited shows as soon as they are announced, to be included in the calendar published in the BULLETIN in the February issue. The deadline is January 15.

Mrs. Frederick P. Greiner of Marlton, N. J., is the new director for our region, to serve with Mrs. C. H. Sample of Long Island, and Mrs. D. B. Perrin, of Pittsburgh.

We have a very definite need for more accredited daffodil judges in our area, and the interest shown by the attendance at the symposium and Judging School I, held last spring was encouraging. These two days were sponsored cooperatively by the Northeast Region, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society and the Scott Horticultural Foundation of Swarthmore College. Mrs. John C. Wister, of the executive committee of the ADS and chairman of publications, was chairman of the school. Following the Symposium

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those attending toured the Wister garden and the Scott Foundation plantings on the college campus. The campus is a beautiful place at all times, but particularly in the spring, and is always open to the public. It is expected that Course II will be given next spring, and further information will be given when plans are completed and approval of the course received.

Two lists of daffodils that are known to do well in the Greater Delaware Valley area have been distributed to members. One includes 100 varieties which cost up to \$1 per bulb, and with show varieties or garden varieties indicated; the other list contains varieties mostly in the \$1 to \$3 price range.

The week long Philadelphia Flower Show, starting March 10, 1963, will have classes for forced bulbs shown in pots. The varieties are Golden Harvest, Unsurpassable, Duke of Windsor, Fortune, Cragford and Geranium. Mrs. H. Rowland Timms, ADS chairman of judges and chairman of members evening programs of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, has conducted a clinic to discuss and demonstrate the culture of flowering bulbs in pots for indoor gardens, and particularly for flower show competition.

It is hoped that members who are hybridizing or have seedlings will be encouraged to enter some of the shows next season. Schedule chairmen would be happy to include classes or arrange educational exhibits if they knew where the material was being grown. Mrs. Woben-smith or I would appreciate hearing from you, and the information can be included in our newsletter.

We particularly appreciate the kindness of so many members who graciously open their gardens for visitors during the blooming period, and welcome any one who would like to extend an invitation for next season. It is such a thrill to find our favorite flowers blooming outdoors, apparently out of season. One of the cherished memories of my first trip to California was finding tazettas blooming in the mission gardens the first week in January. I am anticipating visiting Dr.

Southern Region

The 1962 Convention was the highlight of our regional activities. It was a most rewarding experience, being host to our many daffodil friends. The weather's cooperation in providing a profusion of bloom, both in the gardens and at the regional show was greatly appreciated by your convention chairman.

The superb collection of bulbs from the garden of Mrs. Paul Garrett and the magnificent display of 300 varieties planted at Cheekwood, the Tennessee Botanical Gardens, will continue to create daffodil interest in this section.

There were two study and show schools this past spring in our region. Course II was held in Camden, Ark., with a registration of 25. Course III, scheduled following the convention, was held in Nashville with Miss Eleanor Hill and Mrs. Goethe Link as instructors. Thirty-six people took the exam.

I hope other sections of our region will plan a series of courses in the near future. Not only would this insure an adequate group of judges for our shows, but the schools create interest in growing more and better varieties of daffodils.

Kentucky is in the process of forming a State Daffodil Society under the sponsorship of the Bowling Green Garden Club, with Mrs. Luther Wilson as organizational chairman. They sent out 75 questionnaires and had sixty affirmative replies. With such a wonderful response they are planning their first meeting November 15, and a state daffodil show in April. As your regional vice-president I will have the pleasure of attending their meeting and giving a program of color slides.

The Garden Club of Memphis is sponsoring the Southern Regional Show March 30 and 31. For information contact Mrs. Richard Harwood, general cahirman. With such a central location

W. J. Hamilton's garden in Ithaca, N. Y., where the winters are long and cold. Dr. Hamilton says he may have daffodils blooming through the first week in June.

MARY W. HARRIGAN, *Vice-President*

this show should draw entries from the whole region.

Arkansas has scheduled a state show for March 19 at Camden.

As already mentioned, Kentucky is planning an annual event, and the 1963 state show will be held in Bowling Green in April.

Mississippi is formulating plans for a state show in March.

The Tennessee State Show will be in Nashville, sponsored by the Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society.

If present plans materialize there should be more accredited daffodil shows in our region than ever before.

MRS. DONALD LINTON, *Vice-President*

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Southeast Region

There's gold in those Asheville, N. C., mountains. Yes, indeed—Daffodil Gold—and the members of the French Broad River Garden Club really know how to pan it out. Word of this gold spread fast, and space and distance matter not to the daffodil judges that rushed in. From Cleveland, Ohio, came Wells Knierim; from Lorton, Va., Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer and Mrs. Robert W. Wheat; from Spartanburg, S. C., Mrs. Archibald Walker, and from Atlanta, Mrs. E. Fay Pearce, Margaret Tolleson and Sylvia Sandler. The judges were well rewarded with a strike of a most outstanding daffodil show of fine quality blooms, well staged. Careysville and Chinese White vied for best in show, but the Rev. Francis H. Craighill Jr.'s Chinese White brought him the ADS Gold Ribbon. The green and silver ribbons were won by Mrs. Frances E. Field, and Mrs. John B. Veach, president of the French Broad River Club, proudly took home the white ribbon. Like daffodils, there is something very fascinating about Asheville. Of course, it is the cordiality and hospitality of the charming members of the French Broad River Garden Club and their families, and the lure of the mountains that beckon "come back again and again for your pot of gold."

SYLVIA SANDLER, *Vice-President*

Midwest Region

The Midwest Region published three Newsletters in 1962—January, March and September. A fourth will be out the latter part of December or early January.

Each state in the region was represented in the September issue by an article written by a member who listed ten daffodils, successfully grown, costing one dollar or less, and recommended for garden effect, exhibit, or both. The lists were helpful and created interest in additional planting this year, according to letters received. An article on the "Wee Ones" and a report of a newly constructed and planted garden of new varieties was well received. An innovation that is being tried is an "Information Exchange." Many questions are asked that should be shared with other members.

The weather at daffodil time was frustrating for those who planned to exhibit in shows. While there were exhibits of good qualities, the quantities and varieties were limited. Two well planned ADS shows were held, one in Dayton, Ohio, and the other in Indianapolis. A third was scheduled in Dearborn, Mich., but had to be cancelled because of a terrific storm the day before the show. However, fine exhibits were made by Wells Knierim and Merle Hummel, who carried large numbers of specimens from their Ohio gardens. We hope 1963 will be kinder.

Smaller shows have been held which we hope can qualify as ADS shows in the near future. An increasing number of programs being given in garden clubs featuring the trading of bulbs may result in more ADS members.

Course II of the Judging School was held in Dayton following the show.

Midwest Region is proud to have the following members serving the National organization: Mrs. Goethe Link, second vice-president; Richard Sabin, director; Mrs. C. W. Schmalstig, director; Mrs. Henry Prange, publicity chairman, and Mrs. W. L. McCoy, chairman of classification.

Twenty-nine have been added to the

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regional membership since convention; 24 in the Cincinnati area, two in Indiana, one in Illinois and one in Wisconsin. Strong efforts are being made to increase memberships in the areas that are weak.

A regional meeting and daffodil show are scheduled in Cincinnati April 19. Interest in this area is high and we anticipate a fine meeting and show. Federated garden clubs are assisting.

Course III of the Judging School will be given in Cincinnati April 20.

For Indianapolis on April 23 a horticultural show is being considered by the Indiana Daffodil Society. Discussions following judging would emphasize the differences between the divisions, the differences between varieties in the division, the qualifications of a good bloom, etc., using specimens that were exhibited in the show. This type of show has been requested by a number of new members.

A date for a show in Mansfield has been only tentatively set.

MRS. GLEN KILDOW, *Vice-President*

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New England Region

The New England Region held two judging schools during 1962. Course I was held in Hartford and Course II took place in Greenwich. Course III will be held at Stratford in conjunction with the convention in April, 1963.

The Seventh Annual Connecticut Daffodil Show was widely attended as usual and again drew many out-of-state exhibitors. Among these was our editor, Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, who won the Carey Quinn Award which was offered at Connecticut Show for the first time this year.

A Lower Connecticut Valley Daffodil Tour included gardens in Lyme, Essex, Guilford and Branford.

The Connecticut Horticultural Society held its first daffodil show in Hartford.

Membership in the ADS in the New England Region has increased by leaps and bounds and considerable interest has been shown in the judging courses.

MRS. JOSEPH D. NELSON, JR.,
Vice-President

Far West Region

The year 1962 was good for daffodils in our region. The season was especially long. Georgia Burns of Encinitas writes that she picked the first *Soleil d'Or* Sept. 25, 1961, and picked the last daffodil, Orange Blossom, (tazetta), June 3, 1962. How is that for a long season? I do not keep records as to when the first "china-lilies" and "paper-whites" open, but I always have them about Thanksgiving. My first trumpet daffodil, The First, opened Feb. 9, and I had blooms till about May 1. Mrs. Laura Bradbury of Vancouver, Wash., also reports a long season, with cool weather keeping the blooms in good condition. Her last one, Market Merry (though it was planted late), opened May 15, and that ended her season.

Santa Barbara had its first daffodil show this year, on Feb. 17 and 18. Kenneth Dorwin was chairman, and a group of ADS members from the Los Angeles area attended, both taking blooms and helping to judge. They had some beautiful daffodils, both newer and older varieties. For a first show, it was very well managed, and I know it helped more people in daffodils. I hope they continue to have a show.

The Southern California Daffodil Society, with J. R. Nederburgh the new president, says its 1963 show will be held on March 23 and 24. Their show is held at the Los Angeles Arboretum at La Canada. They are the ones who have the silver bowl insured for \$1,500, the Patricia Reynolds Perpetual Trophy, to award. This year it was won by Patricia Gallucci.

Winning one or more of the ADS ribbons were Bill Roesse, Patricia Gallucci, Polly Anderson and Madeline Kirby. Other trophies won were the Stuart Combs Perpetual, by Mr. and Mrs. Nederburgh, and the Polly Anderson Trophy by Rosemary Roesse.

The Birchwood Garden Club of Ferndale, Wash., also held a daffodil show, but I do not have a report of it.

The Puyallup Daffodil Festival was as successful as always; whole towns and

organizations cooperate to make this a week long event with many activities. Their motto this year was "from sea level to ski level." They even hold a parade, with floats decorated with daffodils.

Our Region has gained some new members, and the Los Angeles and Santa Barbara Shows helped do this. But we still need more. To help stimulate interest in gaining new members, I am offering a daffodil design cup and saucer to anyone in this region who obtains five new ADS members before the next ADS convention.

META BELLE EAMES, *Vice-President*

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Southwest Region

Mother Nature sent the Southwest Region a severe freeze when the trumpets were in bloom. The regional show in Tulsa, Okla., was cancelled but local shows throughout the region were held later and the other divisions shown were beautiful. The season of cool spring persisted and the blooms lasted and became quite large. There has never been a better season for Divisions II through XI.

Oklahoma and Texas report they mulch and plant annual ground cover to keep bulbs cool.

Texas reports they were able to go ahead with show plans but cold weather and snow plagued their efforts without seemingly dimming their enthusiasm, for Dallas is planning the regional show in 1964.

Reliable Texas varieties are: Golden Harvest, Trevithian, Helios, Tunis, Carlton, Roxanne, Spring Glory, Silver Chimes and Early Perfection. Hot weather begins before Divisions III and IV bloom, so they do not get a good showing.

Dallas reports they are enjoying ADS slides and are having their third showing this month.

Mrs. Geo. Doolittle of Albuquerque, N.M., reports daffodils grow easily there, and says, "Difficulties I read about in the BULLETIN are unknown to us . . ."

She advises adding humus and a fertilizer as follows: 10 pounds each iron

sulphate, magnesium, ammonia sulphate, and superphosphate, added to 100 pounds cottonseed meal. Add one-half cup to each planting hole.

This acid food helps the highly alkaline soil of New Mexico. The following varieties are good performers in New Mexico: Bonneville, Beersheba, Kingscourt, Duke of Windsor, Spellbinder, Coronado, Trevithian, Broughshane, Mt. Hood, Romaine and Carbineer.

MRS. TED SCHWACHHOFFER,
Vice President

* * *

Middle Atlantic Region

The calendar said September, but the anticipation of spring and the thrill of a daffodil season seemed to touch each of our members who participated in our fall meeting in Arlington, Va.

Our forums were expertly handled and enthusiastically attended. The first one was led by Mrs. Howard Bloomer, Mrs. Paul Curran and Mrs. James Birchfield. They reviewed the "Knowing, Growing and Showing of Daffodils." Questions and personal experiences of other members supplemented the information offered by the panelists. This forum was primarily for neophytes, but the experienced growers added their bit, too.

A second forum concerned our judges, schools, awards and shows. This was led by Mrs. William Bridges assisted by Mrs. William Seipp and Harry Tuggle. Questions which had been mailed in advance were answered.

Franklin Seney announced that the Tidewater Virginia Show, to be held in late March, had been designated the state show for 1963. Mrs. Lawrence Wharton announced that plans were in the making for two schools in this region in the spring. Course II will be in Baltimore and Course III in Virginia. The exact location and the local chairman will be announced soon.

The luncheon was informal. Five new members from the region were introduced.

The "Happy Hour" was hosted by Charles Phillips and the dinner following

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honored our Gold and Silver Award winners, Carey Quinn and Louise Wharton. Because we are proud to have these members in our region we made this an occasion to tell them so. Willis Wheeler, president of the ADS, acted as toastmaster. Both Carey Quinn and Louise Wharton were prevailed upon to tell us how they first became interested in the daffodil as a hobby.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells Knierim came down from Cleveland and Mr. Knierim gave a talk and showed some slides from his collection which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. The evening was completed by William Pannill's account of his "do it yourself" daffodil beginnings. His story was hilarious, true, but it took a real raconteur to keep the entire audience in gales of laughter from start to finish.

This was really everybody's meeting because the participation was complete. There are a number of other members who did much to help with the meeting and to each of them goes the appreciation of the entire group. The enthusiasm of the members of the Middle Atlantic Region is inspiring.

RUTH LEWIS HALLER, *Vice-President*

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SO YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A JUDGING SCHOOL!

Start well in advance when you plan to hold a judging school. Clear with your regional vice-president so you'll know you are not repeating a school planned nearby in your region.

Write to the national schools chairman asking for lists of recommended instructors. You will be sent a list of instructors and a *Manual for Schools Chairmen* that will give you detailed information on how to conduct a school. Acquire instructors. (Do not acquire instructors before you have received your list of those recommended, as some persons are not acceptable.) Notify the schools chairman who has been selected so that each may be sent a copy of *Manual for Instructors*. Each instructor should send the local chairman two copies of questions and answers for the proposed school

8TH ANNUAL MEETING

The eighth annual meeting of the members of The American Daffodil Society, Inc., will be held April 25, 26 and 27, 1963 at Stratford, Conn.

MRS. E. E. LAWLER, JR., *Secretary*

NEXT BULLETIN DEADLINE

Deadline for the winter issue of the BULLETIN is January 15, 1963.

so one copy may be sent on to national schools chairman, who must receive it at least *five* weeks before proposed school. If corrections must be made, both local chairman and instructor will be sent letters requesting the change. When questions and answers have been approved, the school is approved.

In the meantime, a suitable place for a school should have been acquired. Consideration should have been given to the lighting in the room selected. Daylight is preferable, but if the meeting place is lighted electrically the light should be adequate and of a quality that will not distort the color of the flowers. The space should be adequate to set up tables for a little show and to display specimens to be identified. There should be space for parking nearby. Luncheon should be arranged so students may return to the afternoon session on time.

Send the editor of the BULLETIN the following information so it may be published in the January issue: number of school, date and hours, place (local address, too), price, and name of local chairman. Also useful are the names of one or two nearby hotels or motels. This will save much needless correspondence. All letters concerning local questions which are sent to the national chairman will be referred to the local chairman for reply.

Chairmen are requested to study the *Manual for Chairmen* thoroughly. It contains the answers to most questions relative to conducting a school.

ELEANOR HILL,
National Schools Chairman

DIRECTORS HEAR PLANS FOR SOCIETY'S FUTURE

Thanks to the arrangements of Wells Knierim, the Society's former president, the Board of Directors had an excellent fall meeting in Cleveland October 20. A good number of the directors were able to be present to care for various items of Society business.

Among the important matters considered were plans for the 1963 and 1964 spring meetings of the Society. An invitation to go to Asheville, N. C., was accepted for 1964, and we heard plans for the 1963 meeting at Stratford, Conn., the last weekend of April.

Other subjects discussed were the Society's judging schools, requirements for ADS approved shows, the Society's publications, and the increasing operating costs as compared with our income. It was pointed out that while our various expenses have continued to increase, we have managed until this time to avoid a dues increase. Reluctantly, the Directors finally decided there was no alternative except to ask the membership to consider an increase, to be voted on at the 1963 annual meeting.

WILLIS H. WHEELER, *President*

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REPORT OF THE BREEDING AND SELECTION COMMITTEE

Since my April report I have received reports from 19 hybridizers on their 1962 efforts, and have made cards summarizing the information in these reports for the card file started in 1961. In August I prepared an article for the *Yearbook* based on the 1961 and 1962 reports received up to that time.

One would-be hybridizer requested seeds, and two people sent packages of seed to him at our suggestion.

There are now 79 names on the list of hybridizers, including some who are not active and many beginners.

In September a hybridizers' round-table meeting was held as part of the program of the Middle Atlantic regional meeting. This was attended by 10 hybridizers, of whom five have not yet had blooms from

'ELIGIBLE' MINIATURES WILL BE LISTED

The subject of miniatures has been receiving attention from an interested group during the past year. In this connection, your first vice president has been acting as a clearing house in preparing and codifying a tentative list of varieties eligible to be considered as miniatures, under conditions agreed upon by the group. The ultimate findings, together with recommendations as to exhibiting, judging, etc., will be discussed at future meetings of the group, and then presented to the Society as a whole for action.

In connection with the visit of the ADS to Connecticut next April 25-27, there have been several trips with Mrs. Joseph D. Nelson, New England vice president, and George Lee to the Stratford Motel to perfect arrangements for what we all hope will be a most profitable and enjoyable convention. The motel is spacious and better equipped than most hotels for handling a meeting such as ours, and is beautifully situated near the Merritt Parkway, very accessible to rail and air facilities, and close to Greenwich with its lovely gardens. We hope you will plan on being with us.

JOHN R. LARUS, *First Vice-President*

WANTED: Plant physiologist to conduct a few simple experiments on daffodil pollen for Breeding and Selection Committee.

their crosses. None had registered or introduced varieties. A similar informal session is planned for the 1963 Convention.

All members of the committee have contributed information and suggestions bearing on the work of the committee.

Committee members are: Mrs. Kenneth B. Anderson, California; Murray W. Evans, Oregon; Mrs. Ben M. Robertson, South Carolina; Willis H. Wheeler, Virginia, and Mrs. George D. Watrous, Jr., District of Columbia.

ROBERTA C. WATROUS, *Chairman*

DAFFODIL PERSONALITIES IN THE SOUTHEAST REGION

If you are looking for an enjoyable afternoon, or if you need to be convinced that daffodils have the power of hypnosis, then you should visit Duncan Burnet of Athens, Ga. He will tell you he hasn't been in a daffodil trance all the 82 years of his life, but surely some of the best. In his garden are the offspring of varieties he planted over 50 years ago. In 1912, he ordered 230 bulbs for \$7.45 from Henry Mitchell Company of Philadelphia. The order included Grand Prince, Henry Irving, Trumpet Major, Horsfieldi, Emperor, Empress, Bi-Color Grandee, Glory of Leiden, and Mme. de Graaff. In an old and well preserved scrap book is a copy of this order and each order thereafter.

How did he get interested in daffodils? With a twinkle in his eye, he will relate how he and his beautiful young bride were out strolling one cool afternoon, and along the walkways in the garden of a very prominent lady of Athens was a sight they could not forget—hundreds of golden dancing daffodils. So, entranced and fascinated, they found themselves returning daily. They soon realized the only way to satisfy this thirst for beauty was to plant some of these beautiful flowers.

Mr. Duncan thinks it was just chance he found his favorite flower, but perhaps it was a leprechaun that led the young lovers to the path of golden daffodils.

* * *

When you read Joel Chandler Harris' story "Brer Rabbit and The Tar Baby," did you think it was the tar baby that fascinated the ole rabbit? Well, I'll let you in on a little secret. If you'll read between the pages you'll find the charmer was "Little Jake" (Joel Chandler Harris, Jr.) behind the briar patch, holding a bunch of daffodils.

For years, Jake, the dean of daffodil growers in our section, has been charming people by allowing everyone to visit and enjoy his garden of magnificent daffodils collected from Ireland, England,

Holland and the United States, and has given away hundreds of bulbs.

After being show winner time and time again, he craved competition, and corraled the interested and enthusiastic ones to encourage them to grow daffodils. He gave them enough bulbs to start "the fever" and once the fire was lit, so effective an instructor was he that both pupils and teacher had a wonderfully rewarding time. Some of you have known this gracious man for years; some of you met him at the Atlanta convention, but if you don't know him, look around for a "Daffodil Charmer" and you'll find Jake Harris.

SYLVIA SANDLER

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THE FIRST OF THE DAFFODILS BLOOMING AT SWARTHMORE

Earliness in daffodils is a trait we prize highly at Swarthmore. After the winter cold, we look forward to their gay flowers. Although we can usually point out something in bloom every month of the year, cherishing the December winter-sweet, the January and February witch-hazels and the March squills, the first daffodils seem to us to be the truest heralds of spring.

Most of the early daffodils have not the form and finish that we find among the rarest beauties of the show table. Sturdiness is one of their requirements. Strong wind and cold rain must leave them unabashed. Most of them are yellow, but among them are a few pale ones, and a few are white, born to make snowdrifts under the early Japanese cherries.

Here, in list form, are some earlies we have liked.

Cyclamineus Hybrids

Caerhays—pleasing soft yellow, about 9 inches.

Charity May—soft yellow. Perianth much reflexed, cup frilled. 12-15 inches.

Cornet—all yellow, vigorous, about 9 inches.

Jana—Cornet's sister seedling, is earlier, a little shorter, more pleasing.

Dove Wings—a bicolor welcome in this class. Cup of medium length.

February Gold—the old indispensable for earliness and vigor, but we regret the coarseness that develops as the flower ages. Interesting to know this is a cross Jan de Graaff made as a young boy in Holland.

February Silver—lovely, but seems to be little known. A pale bicolor of trumpet proportions almost as early as its counterpart.

March Sunshine—a little smaller and later than February Gold, less vigorous, more refined.

Little Witch—a bit like March Sunshine, somewhat later, shorter cup.

March Breeze—resembles March Sunshine, but taller, cup more orange. Grows well.

Yellow Trumpets

Early Riser—Perhaps too coarse for the fastidious, but so well named! It's just a strong, large, free-flowering medium yellow that sometimes beats February Gold. We like it!

Fahan—a flower hampered by the very earliness that makes it of garden value. A dark golden self, smooth and well formed. We got ours from Wilson, who dropped it because it came too early for the London show and therefore, he said, could never be successful commercially.

Scotch Gold—even deeper uniform yellow. Wonderful show of color.

Mulatto—a lovely pale yellow, fading to almost a reverse bicolor.

Peer Gynt—also pale. Trumpet opens darker than perianth, but fades to match it.

Bicolor Trumpets

Chula—a broad flat perianth, fluted light yellow trumpet with rim a little darker.

Mirth—more contrast, the trumpet a good yellow.

White Trumpets

High Sierra—tall, sturdy, creamy white. A little rough, but early!

Petsamo—flaring trumpet.

Prestige—pure white perianth, palest trumpet soon fades to white.

Large Cups, Yellow

Jalna—our earliest red cup. Good grower, dependable.

Sunkist—very like it, a little later.

Carlton and Fortune—of course!

Hollywood—said to be an improved Fortune. We liked it well enough to get more. Is it better than Fortune? We don't know yet.

Whiteley Gem—an offspring of Fortune, a little smaller and earlier, crown coppery orange-red. Flowers sometimes do not last so well.

Promptitude—lighter yellow, lemon yellow crown.

El Paso—like Jalna, crown orange, slightly later.

Armada—large frilled red cup.

Castledermot—large and tall, all gold.

Cibola—another all gold, large, with wide-flaring crown.

Ramillies—red-edged saucer-shaped yellow crown.

Large Cups, White Perianths

Chinook—large saucer-shaped crown, yellow to salmon-orange, depending on the weather.

Concerto—cup very pale, ruffled at rim.

Penvose—trumpet-like crown open pale chrome-yellow, fades to buff. Lovely, sometimes not vigorous.

South Pacific—very early, making it invaluable in the garden as it is also sturdy. Starry perianth, soft yellow crown.

Tramore—trumpet-shaped bright lemon crown.

So while spring is still young, days often blustery and raw, we can still enjoy lots of color, and sturdy, sturdy daffodils.

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W. O. BACKHOUSE DIES

W. O. Backhouse, B.A., son of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Backhouse of pink daffodil fame and grandson of the Mr. Backhouse who raised Emperor and Empress, died at his home near Hereford, England, on August 7.

Not so well known as his illustrious forebears or his contemporaries, the late J. L. Richardson and Guy L. Wilson, he has left his mark in the daffodil world as the raiser of the first 1a's with orange red in the corona.

His own record of how this was achieved appears in the *Daffodil and Tulip Year Book* for 1963.

"W. O.," as he was known to his intimates, was a trained scientist and plant genetist and this knowledge was of the utmost value when he began his quest for the elusive red-crowned 1a's. The material he has left behind will give those

who would follow in his footsteps a basis upon which to work. At the present time we are too close to his achievement to appreciate fully his work, but it is the first major break-through for many years.

Mr. Backhouse was also experimenting with pink-crowned flowers. The modern pinks which first open yellow and then change to pink were of little value to him. His objective was varieties which open pink to show their color immediately.

By the death of W. O. Backhouse, the daffodil world has now suffered a third grievous loss in less than a year.

C. REGINALD WOOTTON,
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The BULLETIN proudly announces it has had requests from two horticultural groups for permission to reprint "The Story of The Ploids" in their publications.