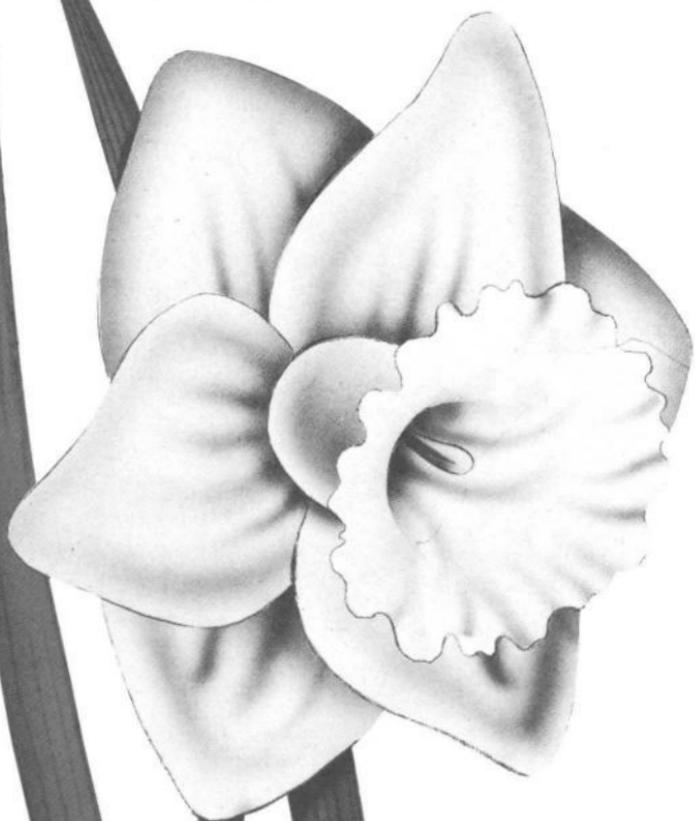


THE

# DAFFODIL JOURNAL



Quarterly Publication of the  
AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, Inc.

JUNE  
1965

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Quarterly Publication of the American Daffodil Society, Inc.

Volume I

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For the complete current roster of Officers, Directors and chairmen of committees reference should be made to the American Daffodil Society JOURNAL for June, 1965.

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Articles and photographs (glossy finish) on daffodil culture and related subjects are invited from members of the Society. Manuscripts should be typewritten double-spaced, and all material should be addressed to the Executive Editor.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE JULY 15, 1965.

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## SCHEDULE OF MEMBERSHIP DUES IN THE AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

<i>Individual Annual</i> .....	\$5 a year or \$12.50 for three years.
<i>Family Annual</i> .....	\$7.50 per year for husband and wife, or \$18.75 for three years, with one copy of the JOURNAL.
<i>Individual Sustaining Member</i> .....	\$7.50 per year.
<i>Individual Contributing Member</i> .....	\$10 or more per year.

Commercial Memberships are three times the foregoing amounts.

## CALIFORNIA CONVENTION

By ROBERTA C. WATROUS, *Washington, D. C.*

There were clumps of daffodils in pots in the vestibule, and Japanese cherries, wistaria, poppies, and calla lilies were among the flowers blooming in the gardens of the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel in Pasadena on March 17, when members of ADS began to gather and compare notes on the snowstorms they had left behind in the east. Daffodils bloomed, too, on stationery, aprons, tote bags, paintings, and silverware in the daffodil boutique set up in the registration room by the Southern California Daffodil Society, and business was lively while early registrants greeted friends and met their California hosts.

Descanso Gardens was the first of many beautiful gardens we visited during the next three days. The benches for the Southern California Daffodil Show were arranged along one side of a walk in front of the West Camellia Forest (there is also an East Camellia Forest), and a more beautiful setting for a daffodil show would be hard to find. A tram tour introduced us to other sections of the Gardens, but I suspect it is the thousands of camellia plants covered with blooms that most ADS members will remember when they think of Descanso. As for the show, William H. Roese was the winner of most of the trophies awarded, but Dan P. Thomson, Jr., of Clemson, S.C., captured the ADS Rose Ribbon for the best seedling, with a white trumpet having a severely straight cup and beautifully balanced perianth. Other California winners were Les Hannibal, whose *N. triandrus concolor* was judged the best miniature; Mrs. William Hesse, whose magnificent bloom of Bunting won the Olive W. Lee Award, Pat Gallucci, Ken Dorwin, Mrs. J. R. Nederburgh, and David Nederburgh, (the latter winner in the junior section).

High point of the annual membership meeting Thursday evening was the presentation of the Society's Gold Medal, for distinguished service to the daffodil, to Grant E. Mitsch. The Silver Medal, for outstanding service to the Society, was awarded to Willis H. Wheeler, who unfortunately was unable to be present, this being the first convention he has missed. Following the report of the Nominating Committee the incumbent president and first and second vice-presidents were reelected, and new regional directors and directors at large elected. (The secretary, treasurer, and regional vice-presidents are appointed by the Board of Directors.)

On Friday morning Grant Mitsch told something of his experiences in daffodil breeding, and Mrs. Lionel Richardson gave us glimpses of the Richardson way of growing, packing, and showing prize-winning daffodils. Frank Reinelt was rewarded for his services as projector operator by being allowed to show slides illustrating his work with delphiniums,

primroses, and tuberous begonias. There were also two informal late-evening sessions of slide and film showing. Slides of daffodils and daffodil personalities, some dating from the first convention, were greeted with the murmurs of pleasure (or otherwise) usual at such slide-fests. One evening there were films: Mrs. Richardson's and one from the Puget Sound Bulb Exchange.

After dinner on Friday Mrs. Muriel Merrell showed how easy it is—if you know how—to make eight or nine different Ikebana arrangements in an hour, while wearing a kimono with immense sleeves and talking continually into a microphone. The Saturday dinner speaker was Dr. William S. Stewart, director, Los Angeles State and County Arboreta and Botanic Gardens, who told us of plans for the beautification of Los Angeles with plantings. During the present year flowering trees are being emphasized. Sample branches of these were brought in by Dr. Stewart to illustrate that part of his lecture.

The bus trip on Friday afternoon was a world tour in miniature. At the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery we might have been in some European palace filled with art treasures, including the famous Gainsborough painting "The Blue Boy." The gardens were numerous and varied; perhaps the most interesting were the Japanese garden, where cameras were very busy, and the desert garden, rich in succulents of strange forms and subtle colors. After a short stop at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Scott, where refreshments were enjoyed in a delightful small garden (daffodils in pots were used most effectively here), we were taken to the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum near the Santa Anita racetrack. Here we visited Australia and South Africa, for the main plantings of the Arboretum are arranged according to country of origin, and plants from these areas are particularly suitable for use in southern California. Peacocks roamed everywhere, the descendants of a flock introduced 75 or so years ago; a black swan was nesting on the lagoon. A small area has been developed by *Sunset Magazine* to illustrate various treatments for home gardens: structures, pavings, walls, and furnishings, as well as plant material, are displayed effectively.

On Saturday we visited private gardens, each with some special distinction reflecting the interest of the owners. Would you have a sunny garden or a shady one? Formal or informal? Level or clinging to steep hillsides? Waterfall or swimming pool? Surely there were ideas for everyone in one garden or another. The Japanese garden of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Guiberson is in a special category. Designed by a Japanese landscape architect, and constructed with the help of Japanese artisans, it was a revelation of what can be accomplished when every detail is planned and carried out with authority and love. This garden is now deeded to the

University of California at Los Angeles, as a memorial to Mr. Guiberson's mother.

If daffodils were not the predominant plants in the gardens we visited, there were the displays of blooms set up in the hotel, and these were a magnet for the note-takers whenever time allowed. Perhaps most exciting in the Mitsch exhibit were several reverse bicolor jonquil hybrids, Pipit, Dickcissel, and T 6/10. Other varieties attracting special attention were Moonshot, a large 1a with a hint of peach in the trumpet; Honeybird, a 1d with a narrow rim of yellow to the trumpet; Audubon, a 2b with a deep rose border; and Chemawa, a 2a whose orange cup is rimmed with yellow. In the Richardson exhibit the doubles Bali Hai and Candida were much admired, as were the elegant Debutante and Vernoia. Ariel, a sparkling 3b, and Perdita, a new poeticus variety, were charming. Among less expensive varieties Kingfisher and Privateer, both 3b, were noted, while Dragoman and Matapan, under \$1 each, still commanded admiration.

The blooms sent by W. J. Dunlop included his fine yellow and red Craigywarren, 2a; Castlecoole, a rimmed 2b; and the brilliant Enniskillen, 3b. It was most disappointing that Allen Davis, our Oregon specialist in miniatures, was not able to be present to meet his many friends-by-mail, but he sent a wide assortment of miniature and near-miniature varieties for our enjoyment. These included the doubles *N. minor pumilus plenus* and Erlicheer, as well as many more frequently seen varieties.

As if delicious meals in good company were not enough, each had some extra touch: favors, a style show, a hat contest, a flaming dessert, even a packaged washcloth with the bountiful box lunch served Saturday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Marshall. Truly it was a delightful convention, and the thanks of the hundred or so members from 23 states (and Canada and Ireland) who enjoyed it go to the thoughtful and hard-working committee headed by Pat Gallucci, chairman, and Helen Grier, regional vice-president. May we all meet again next year!

## DO YOU WANT YOUR NAME IN THE ROSTER?

Your Publications Committee is making every possible effort to issue the JOURNAL according to schedule. To publish the September number on time we must close the roster on June 30. Therefore, if you want your name to appear in the membership list *please* be sure the treasurer receives your dues promptly, with your correct address, including the ZIP CODE number. This is especially important for judges and student judges, since show chairmen refer to the roster for names of eligible judges for the following spring's shows.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As I am writing this, the last day of March, the pleasures of the Pasadena convention are still very fresh in my mind. There were a little over a hundred in attendance, and while, therefore, it was not one of our larger conventions, it was a memorable occasion blessed by lovely gardens and scenery, a fine show, distinguished speakers, and above all by a cordial display of gracious hospitality. Those of us who attended may well consider ourselves fortunate.

\* \* \*

After a swim in the Huntington Hotel outdoor pool, we were hardly conditioned to return to our chilly New England, with the ground now covered with snow and, except for our pots, nary a promise of daffodils for some time to come. We did see brave and precocious *asturiensis* and Bowles's Bounty appear on March 15 before we flew west, but the last two weeks have shown no hardy disciples. Tanagra buds are venturing to point slightly forward, but, except for snowdrops and a few early crocus (bless them!) winter still holds sway.

\* \* \*

By the time this appears, however, daffodils will be but a memory, and we shall already have made up our minds as to how many of the treasures we saw in the Pasadena displays of Davis, Dunlop, Mitsch, and Richardson, as well as those in the spring shows we visited, together with the lists of novelties that Harry Tuggle tempts us with each year in the JOURNAL, our pocketbook can possibly be stretched to encompass.

\* \* \*

Time passes swiftly, and July 15 is the absolute deadline for copy that can be included in our September issue. If there is some daffodil topic near to your heart, or if you know of someone who could write an article of general interest, why not contact the Executive Editor at once with your suggestion? We want this magazine to be a forum in which many express themselves; a fresh viewpoint is what the editors are continually seeking. If, instead of an article, you have a suggestion for the improvement of our JOURNAL pass it on, for we want this magazine to be what the members desire.

—JOHN R. LARUS

# GRANT E. MITSCH-KING OF AMERICAN DAFFODIL HYBRIDISTS

By MURRAY W. EVANS, *Corbett, Oregon*

In 1925 George A. Mitsch and family migrated to Brownsville, Oregon, from Kansas, prompted by repeated crop failures in the Sunflower State. One member of this family was a teen-aged youth named Grant.

Soon after settling in Oregon, Grant embarked on a career of gladiolus breeding and commercial glad growing. In both he was successful, and established a reputation for business integrity and production of high quality bulbs. He introduced several fine glads of his own raising, then, at the peak of his success with glads, he discovered daffodils.

By 1934 he had acquired a collection of daffodils and made his first cross. His initial collection included some popular varieties and a few novelties. King Alfred, Beersheba, John Evelyn, Kandahar, Aerolite, Killigrew, Fortune, and others were the nucleus of his breeding collection. Studious by nature, he surrounded himself with all the daffodil publications he could lay his hands on. Through study and experience the value of good breeding stock was recognized. As fast as his purse would permit, the best known varieties were collected.

Finding their Brownsville acreage too small for the expanding bulb enterprise, the Mitschs moved to Lebanon, Oregon, in the late '30's and hybridizing was continued. While only two varieties, Cream Cup and Silverdale, were introduced from Lebanon, the genesis of many of his earlier varieties occurred there.

Meanwhile, seedlings were coming on. Probably the best of his earliest introductions are Silverdale and Gold Crown. Demand for both of these has been brisk, and he was obliged to withdraw Silverdale from his price list this year to increase the stock. Gold Crown, a smooth *2b* with sharply contrasting perianth and crown, is highly regarded in southern California.

Linn and Santiam, the first of a series of excellent garden flowers from John Evelyn x Fortune, were offered in 1947, followed later by Chinook, Pinwheel, Lebanon, Flying Saucer, and Jest. Cibola, a large, rich golden flower from Malvern Gold x Trenoon, appeared in 1951. In addition to its intrinsic beauty, it is extremely early. The same year gave us Lemon Drops. Coming from Fortune x *triandrus albus*, it sports two or three pendent lemon blooms to a stem.

Three outstanding flowers were among the 1952 introductions, Ardour, Festivity, and Sacajawea. Probably the most famous of these is Festivity, a flawless *2b*. Ardour, a bright-cupped *3a*, has its beauty enhanced by pearly gray anthers, instead of the usual yellow. Sacajawea, a Fortune-

type flower with orange-red rimmed cup, opens several days earlier than its famous parent.

While living in the Brownsville-Lebanon area, two important events occurred in Grant's life. He married his wife, Amy, and made the acquaintance of his staunch friend, Matthew Foulds. It was here, also, that the Mitschs' two lovely daughters were born.

Firm in the belief that their Lebanon property was safe from natural disasters, the Mitschs awoke one winter morning after an all-night down-pour to find their fields flooded by the swollen Santiam River. Having no desire to start a bullfrog farm, and disappointed in its value for bulb growing, they commenced to look for property better suited to their needs. Eventually their present place at Canby, Oregon, was purchased.

"Daffodil Haven" is near the Willamette River, at least 100 feet above the highest water level. With Ol' Man River held safely at bay by this reassuring elevation, stocks were moved from Lebanon and hybridizing resumed. No interruptions in the hybridizing program was caused by the two moves, since they were accomplished in off seasons. Seedling production had accelerated until by 1951 six or seven new varieties were introduced annually from that year onward.

The year 1953 witnessed the debut of the latest of all the 1*a*'s—Late Sun, and Radiation. One of the best of the older pinks for breeding, Radiation often imparts lavender tones to the cups of its seedlings. Highlight of the 1954 season was the introduction of Luna Moth, the first of a long line of King of the North x Content seedlings.

Nineteen fifty-five was another banner year in which three fine flowers were introduced: 3*b* Bithynia, which enjoyed the top spot in the American Daffodil Symposium for several years; Lunar Sea, considered by many the finest 1*d* extant, and Paricutin, a peerless 2*a* for color and substance, especially if grown in a cool, moist climate.

Coloratura, the first of the famous series from Green Island x Chinese White, came along in 1956, as did Madrigal, from the opposite cross of the same parents. All flowers introduced in 1957 were exceptionally good. Rima, a great advance in pink trumpets, may have the most promising future. Demand for Flamingo is far ahead of the supply of bulbs. Caro Nome also deserves mention, since it is the first of the shallow-crowned pinks.

By 1958 the roster had increased to nine introductions. Of these, Air-castle has probably won the most recognition. It won a "Best-in-Show" at London in 1963. No more need be said! Bethany, the first result of crossing his 1*d* seedlings with Binkie, has won numerous awards around the country. Another fine 1*a* in Alchemy was 1959's contribution. Oratorio, a tall, striking 2*b* from Polindra x Green Island, also was offered in 1959.

Daydream, winner of an award of merit in England, is probably the

prize of 1960. A sister to Bethany, many believe it even better than that fine flower. Leonaine, with its lavender band midway of the cup, is a departure from the usual pink color pattern. The year 1961 saw the emergence of Accent, the first pink flower which could boast of calla lily substance in its perianth. Allurement, Limeade and Precedent are other very good flowers from the same year.

Somewhere along the line, Grant became interested in crossing standard flowers with the minatures and species. Mr. Foulds may have kindled that interest, or maybe like Topsy, it "jest growed". The delightful results of these crosses were named for small birds: Bushtit, Chickadee, Kinglet and Vireo in 1961, Bunting and Dickcissel in 1964. Doubtless there will be more offered in the near future. One exception from the bird series was named Satellite. A seedling of Rouge x *N. cyclamineus*, it is one of the best, having a most highly colored cup for a cyclamineus hybrid.

Ten flowers were introduced in 1962, all so good that a choice among them is difficult. Special mention is merited by Abalone, Chemawa, Gay Mood, Melody Lane and Prologue. This latter should find its way into many Southern gardens, since it is possibly the earliest of all the 1b's. Consistent high quality describes the varieties for 1963.

Although none of the 1964 flowers are as yet grown by the writer, they were observed at the Mitschs' last spring and favorites were established. They are Bit O' Gold, Bobolink, Honeybird, Noweta, Quivira, Silken Sails and Wings of Song. Admirers of the "little fellows" will never be completely happy until they have Bunting and Dickcissel growing in their gardens.

A book could be written about the desirable qualities of the flowers Grant has raised. Each one has one or more notable features and each is beautiful in its own right. It is possible in this article to mention only a few. Many that were omitted are fully as deserving.

Grant's work could be likened to a combination salad of Englehart, P. D. Williams, Guy Wilson, Lionel Richardson, Brodie, and Alec Gray, garnished with a dash of Clark, Radcliff, Brown and Lewis. He has worked to produce new flowers for the pleasure of everyone—gardeners, breeders, fanciers and exhibitors. True, a few flowers did not measure up to expectations, but Grant would be the last to claim a perfect record.

Much credit is due his charming wife, Amy, who has worked by his side these many years, relieving him of tasks which interfere with his work in the flowers.

A religious man who lives as he believes, Grant is honest, kindly, modest and generous. He pursues and enjoys all of the finer things life has to offer.

This is the man who has given us so many exciting new daffodils, and who is destined to give us many more in the future.

## HYBRIDIZERS' FORUM

### *Breeding and Selection Committee*

The duties of this committee are "to promote the breeding, selection, and introduction of superior daffodils which are better adapted to conditions in the United States than existing varieties and to encourage the exchange of materials, procedures, and experiences." The members of the committee at present are: Dr. William L. Brown, Miss Helen Grier, Mrs. Goethe Link, Dan P. Thomson, Jr., Dr. Tom D. Throckmorton, Harry I. Tuggle, Jr., and Mrs. George D. Watrous, Jr., chairman.

Dr. Brown is a geneticist working with hybrid corn in Iowa; he has the theory and practice of plant breeding at his fingertips and is willing to share his knowledge with us. Dr. Throckmorton is the sponsor of our Daffodil Data Bank and "George," its factotum, who is making available to us a mine of information collected from many sources concerning several thousand daffodil varieties. The other members represent the interests of amateur daffodil breeders in various parts of the country. They have advanced to the stage of winning ADS Rose Ribbons or registering one or more varieties, but not too far to appreciate the problems of beginners.

Can we help you in any way? Do not hesitate to ask questions; we shall try to answer them. Can you help us? Yes! Experiment. Try "impossible" crosses. Count your failures as well as your successes, and let us know the results. Keep good records and share any unusual observations with us. (Some hybridizers send us complete records of blooms pollinated and pods and seeds collected, which are combined in a card file to build up information for purposes of comparison.)

—ROBERTA C. WATROUS

### *Plant Seed Promptly!*

I plant each type of seed separately—using different size tins, according to amount of seed. As soon as possible after harvest I plant the seed. After providing drainage holes (with a punch tin opener) I put in a layer of rough sphagnum, fill tin to within one inch of top with mixture of good soil, peat moss, and river sand (containing small gravel), space seed on surface about 1½ inches part, cover with thin layer of milled sphagnum, then cover this with about one-half inch or more of coarse chicken grit, which prevents seed from washing, and planting mix from drying out. Seed tins are then put outside under a tree where they get protection from wind and have the advantage of morning sun and light shade throughout the rest of the day. As soon as the weather turns cold

these tins are moved inside and kept under lights or in a sunny window all winter, taken back out the following spring, brought in for a second winter, and the following fall the bulbs are planted out in raised beds, where, in some cases, they produce bloom the following spring.

I realize this method would not work where one has thousands of seeds to handle, but since I do not bother with any crosses in Divisions I, II and III, (excepting when I use a variety as one parent in a cross with something from Divisions V to IX) my supply of seed is somewhat more limited.

The time of planting the seed is not as important as keeping it continually moist once planted—however, the fresher the seed, the sooner it will germinate. If you can't plant the seed and handle it thereafter so as to keep moist conditions, it is better to wait until later to plant it. If you don't plant your seed immediately following harvest it is a good idea to mix it with damp sand, put it in plastic bags, and keep refrigerated until you feel it is safe to plant it outdoors. If you plant the seed in open ground outside you run the chance of having growth emerge during the winter, when it may be killed. Handling it in a coldframe or some type of protected bed is thus preferable to planting in the open. (I prefer to rogue out the seedlings I don't want to grow on, rather than let nature make the choice.) As long as seedlings continue to remain green and grow, I feed them about once a week throughout the season with half-strength foliar fertilizer.

—JANE BIRCHFIELD

## WHO KNOWS OF MISS MARY BIERNE AND HER FLOWER?

The book *Standardized Plant Names* (J. Horace McFarland Company, 1942), carries an alphabetical list of daffodils. In it is the following line "Mary Bierne. 4a. (v. Tub.; Bier. '37)". At the beginning of the list is an explanation of the names of originators or introducers.

"v.Tub." is "G. H. van Tubergen & Sons of Haarlem, Holland," while "Bier." is explained as "Miss Mary McD. Bierne, 'Rhodeen,' Ashland, Virginia." The classification 4a at that time became 2b or 2c in 1950, when the Royal Horticultural Society revised the daffodil classification system.

Does any ADS member grow that variety? If so, please tell us something about it. At the same time, if anyone can give us a story on Miss Mary McD. Bierne, please let us have it. We should, as much as possible, document early daffodil history in the United States, before it is completely lost. Send both stories to the executive editor of the JOURNAL.

# DAFFODILS ON VIRGINIA'S EASTERN SHORE

By VIRGINIA DURBIN, *Wachapreague, Va.*

During daffodil season from early March to late April even casual visitors to Virginia's Eastern Shore observe that daffodils flourish here. Tangled yards around abandoned farmhouses, edges of cultivated fields, even some ditches may boast bright clumps of Early Virginia, jonquillas, van Sion (*N. telamonius* var. *plenus*), a crooked-neck white of unknown name, tazettas, and *N. biflorus*. Nor has this garden-conscious area been satisfied with these descendants of who knows what early plantings; for many years "new" daffodils have been grown in well-kept yards and gardens, the old-fashioned sorts left to shift for themselves—their sturdy charms still a challenge to the newcomers. There are a number of gardeners who have collections of fine new bulbs and do well with them in shows, but most shore growers are interested in daffodils for their beauty in the garden and landscape. This places them in the majority group of daffodil growers everywhere (until statistics are available to the contrary).

If a gap between gardeners who like daffodils, and daffodil growers interested only in showing, seems to widen each year, it may be worth while to remember that the ultimate interest of the two groups is the same—daffodils with great beauty of form and color, long-lasting and vigorous, healthy enough not only to win ribbons but to assure them a place in the garden. Whether recent interest in shows has caused greater interest in the culture of better bulbs or the other way around is not too important. Certainly the common garden variety of daffodil grower, as well as the specialist in show varieties, has an important role in determining what daffodils are produced. If we are to have daffodils the size of sunflowers and/or novelties as revolting as a two-headed calf, it will be because the daffodil public welcomes them.

As an amateur gardener I have grown daffodils for more than 25 years, for the last three years on the Eastern Shore. That is long enough to discover that some daffodils behave differently in different places, but not long enough to learn why. All three seasons here have been exceptional; nevertheless some bulbs have performed as they were expected to. Ceylon, Cantatrice, Arctic Gold, Moonstruck, Mount Hood, Tresamble, Charity May, Dawn, Sweetness, and *N. jonquilla* make a diverse list, but for the past three years on all their cards are such notes as: "lasted more than two weeks," "fine blooms," "good increase." All of them are planted in garden borders, unlifted since 1962. Among the earliest and the last blooms each season are *N. jonquilla* from two different sources, the

earliest from Louisiana, the latest, some found growing on the place.

Among those which have not done well, Kingscourt has grown smaller and smaller, only its fine form distinguishes it from a run-of-the-mine yellow trumpet. Luna Moth has produced large blooms but of somewhat crepey texture. Preamble increased too rapidly, from blue ribbon quality to small flowers with short stems. Green Island has the sad habit of tearing as it unfolds.

Triandrus hybrids are a favorite class with most gardeners. Tresamble, Stoke, Silver Chimes, Dawn, Lemon Drops, and Thalia were all good and lasted well in the late cool spring of 1964, Silver Chimes doing well for the first time since moved. Yellow Warbler is a disappointment with a nice name.

Among the jonquilla hybrids Sweetness is near perfection, Trevithian and White Wedgewood more than satisfactory, and Nirvana nondescript and overcrowded after two years of good bloom. Chérie bloomed for the first time the third year after moving. The brief salt-water dunking most of my bulbs got from the high tide of March 1962 had bad effects on some, notably on pinks, regardless of class.

A clump of tazettas found growing here, white with ivory cup, behaves differently every year. Green all winter, it has varied from a wealth of bloom in April to almost none after its foliage was killed in the cold winter of '62-'63. Last fall it produced a few blooms at Thanksgiving time and in January of '65 it had lots of fat buds. It has inspired me to some simple experiments with it and other tazettas.

Poeticus hybrids are nearly always too late for shows. Can this be why they get little attention from hybridizers? For their beauty, and to prolong the season, I grow them all and cherish the hope of having five varieties to enter in a poeticus collection class some spring. Actaea remains a favorite. The double poeticus, *N. poeticus* var. *flore pleno*, (the *albus plenus odoratus* of our grandmothers) I have moved from garden to garden for 27 years, muttering now and then that a non-blooming daffodil is not worth it. Last spring a few, transplanted to a row the previous fall, gave the best bloom in years. A note dated May 6, '64: "Picked *albus plenus* and Frigid. The end of this season." Another note says "Try lifting *albus plenus* every year." Alas for notes. They did not get lifted last fall.

Wind protection is a problem here. This part of the Shore is less than 10 miles wide from the bay to sea side. (There are off-shore islands between "sea side" and open ocean, though at times it seems unbelievable.) I have planted new and expensive bulbs in a small area in rows where they can be given greater protection. Daffodils included are Statue, Vigil, Glenshesk, Festivity, Arbar, Border Chief, Snow Gem, Northern Light, Shah and Syracuse. Statue, Arbar, Alicante, Snow Gem and Border Chief

were fine last spring. Glenshesk, I think, will never displace some older whites at shows or in the garden. Some of the others will do better for me, I hope.

Indeed, there is no guaranteed list of best bulbs for garden and show in every region, although the ADS symposium results are of invaluable help to daffodil growers with limited time and money. And if there *were* such a guaranteed list, growing daffodils would never be so much pleasure again.

## DAFFODILS FROM ALL OVER

By FRANKLIN D. SENEY, *Newport News, Va.*

Some years at a wedding in North Carolina the house where the reception was held was decorated with attractive lilac flowers with definitely lily-shaped cups. The ladies there referred to them as "amaryllis",\* and ever since we have wondered about them since they are unlike any other amaryllis which has been positively identified as such. In 1941 Henri Matisse painted a picture which included flowers of similar shape but of a slightly darker hue. He entitled his work "Narcissi and Fruit." While he took many liberties with reality during his career, he seems to have been a bit more faithful to color. We are curious to know who told him that a North Carolina "amaryllis" was a narcissus.

The perusal of good cookbooks is at times a very interesting and enjoyable experience for anyone who enjoys eating. Two of the best are the *Gourmet Cookbooks*, filled with mouth-watering pictures of delectable viands. Their photographer likes to add to his food pictures a flower or two in the background of each. He chose to put some gold trumpet daffodils and lavender Dutch iris in a color photograph showing a silver platter filled with a yellow sauce and surrounded with mussels in their black shells. In view of the patrician air and distinction of the daffodil, he might have coupled our favorite flower with a fancier dish!

Daffodils have been known for hundreds of years but we doubt that they have been used for a more curious purpose than that mentioned in the following. In "*True Tales from the Annals of Crime and Rascality*", St. Clair McKelway (Random House, New York), reported this anecdote:

"Working for Brooks, Harry established a reputation as an adroit private detective before he was old enough to serve subpoenas. Sent out to trail a salesman for an employer who suspected the man was not attending to business, Grossman furnished information which resulted in the salesman's dismissal, and at the same time gathered evidence on

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\* Editor's note: Possibly this was *Lycoris squamigera* or *Amaryllis belladonna*.

which the salesman's wife subsequently was able to get a divorce. But after he had passed his eighteenth birthday and had begun to serve summonses and subpoenas, it was evident to his employer, and to everybody else who knew him, that he had found a vocation in which he might expect to excel. During the first year he served Maude Adams by posing as a youthful adorer. When she came out the stage entrance at the Empire Theatre after a performance one evening, Grossman stepped in front of her, holding in his left hand a bouquet of jonquils. 'Are you Maude Adams?' he asked. 'Oh, those aren't really for me!' she exclaimed, reaching for the flowers. 'No, but this is,' said Grossman, jerking back the bouquet. With his right hand he served her with a summons. He used to recall that he had paid fifty cents for the jonquils and that he had been able to sell them back to the florist for twenty."

## **GOLD AND SILVER MEDALS PRESENTED**

The 1965 Convention of the Society presented its Gold Medal for Achievement and its Silver Medal for Service citing the accomplishments of Grant E. Mitsch and Willis H. Wheeler, the respective winners.

The citations stated:

"Our Gold Medal for Achievement is awarded to the foremost American introducer and originator of daffodils, whose creations have already made an enviable name for themselves abroad. The award is deserved not only for his technical achievements but also for his extreme generosity in sharing his hybridizing knowledge with others less talented than he, and for the unselfish nature which has endeared him to the great number of our members who call him friend.

"Our Gold Medal award goes to Grant E. Mitsch.

"Our Silver Medal for Service to our Society goes to one who has served our society faithfully and well as secretary, second vice-president, first vice-president, president, and immediate past-president ever since its formation; who has in addition unselfishly given over conflicting tasks to assume the Executive Editorship of our new *Journal*; who has generously and freely given of his great technical knowledge to help our tottering footsteps in our attempts to grow better daffodils; to our friend Willis H. Wheeler."

## FLIGHT OF THE ROBINS

By DR. GLENN DOOLEY, *Bowling Green, Ky.*

Robin flights have been rather good since the last report. This is the way the members and directors like Robins to behave. The purpose of our beautiful hobby is to have fun. Fun it is when the members of any given Robin cooperate and keep it flying. We can always use more members, including a director or two. And remember, too, the Robins develop lasting friendships.

\* \* \*

Here in the Southeast, the winter was mostly mild but there were those sudden and severe (especially in Kentucky) cold snaps that did some damage. One of the things commented on by the members of the Southeast Regional Robin was the early growth made this past winter. Marion Skelton of Vanna, Ga., reported that mid-November jonquillas, triandrus and tazettas (including Geranium) were up to three and four inches tall. He later reported Sacajawea was in bloom by February 8, followed closely by St. Issey and Gold Crown. He reported that the widely grown Trumpet Major had reached its peak of bloom at this early date.

Peggy Darby of Tunica, Miss., wrote that Cragford, Verger and Cheyenne were three inches tall by mid-December. She also mentioned *N. bulbocodium romieuxii* as having bloomed on January 23, while such things as Moonstruck, Trousseau and *N. minimus* were in flower by February 20.

Frances Armstrong of Covington, Va., wrote that *N. bulbocodium romieuxii* bloomed on Christmas Day for her.

The writer had Trumpet Major in bud with color showing in late January, but the slashing cold that drove the temperature down to 8 degrees put an end to any further early bloom, as buds of several varieties froze.

Ruth Cunningham of Salem, Ohio, reported reading Grant Mitsch's ad in a gardening magazine. She requested his catalog, placed a fine order and joined the ADS. What finer experience could she have had? She tells us that she had a rather indifferent success with daffodils until she mixed pulverized iron ore slag with her soil. The results were marvelous. Her Broughshane gave blooms five inches across, and Chinese White was 23 inches tall! Could it be that the necessary trace elements in this slag made the difference? Does anyone know of the effect of certain trace elements upon daffodil culture?

Joe and Adele Nederburgh of Whittier, Calif., grow miniature daffodils well. The majority of these they plant in raised beds. The beds dry

sufficiently well and the drainage is excellent. Their soil is quite gritty. Three stems of Quince won the Southern California Society trophy. Xit, Fairy Circle and Bobby Soxer do very well in the spot where they have been planted for many years.

Isabel Watts of Fayetteville, Ark., reported that northwest Arkansas is affected by the cold of the plains and the warmth of the Gulf. It requires a tough sort of daffodil to thrive in warm periods and cold snaps. Many varieties grow and multiply well in her area. She tells us that "literally acres of *N. jonquilla* on the proving grounds are found near Hope, Ark.". The sight of this planting would be worth a trip in itself.

Grace Parks of Ottawa, Kan., wrote that Silver Chimes did well the first year. She rates Courage to be an outstanding variety for her. Last season was a rough one. The color of the pink varieties was not at all good. Roseanna was the pinkest of all.

Ethel Martin of Lawrence, Kan., reported the tazettas to be attractive but the Kansas winters are a little too severe for them. Geranium seems to be the best in this class for her.

Pierce Timmis of West Wardsboro, Vt., finds it is not always possible to bloom Silver Chimes well in his Vermont country. However, last year it was a dandy. He attributed this to the fact that there was little freezing of the soil since it had a heavy snow covering.

Halbert Cunningham of Crawford, Miss., reported that Daphne is the only dependable double he grows. Grant Mitsch of Canby, Oregon, wrote that Daphne is not always dependable for him, as it seldom blooms as a double. Isn't Daphne a mutant?

Harry Tuggle of Martinsville, Va., gave us his method for fighting diseases. He tells that homemade Bordeaux is still the best treatment for scorch—a fungus infection of the foliage. The application should not be too strong in a warm climate and should be applied in the evening. Two applications a week apart usually clears up this infection.

A friend of the writer wrote that daffodils were planted this past fall at Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. It is hoped that some kind of a report can be had later with respect to their performances. Just how far North can daffodils grow? Or, just how severe a winter will they tolerate?

## FOR YOU ALL—IMPORTANT DATES

Board Members: Please mark your calendars for October 9, 1965, when we will meet in Des Moines, Iowa, for the fall meeting. Details will be mailed in the late summer.

All Members: The next annual meeting of the Society will be held in Memphis, Tenn., March 31 through April 2, 1966. Plan to join the faithful on the banks of "Ole Man River".

## PERMANENT SEED GROWING FLATS

By WILLIS H. WHEELER, *Arlington, Va.*

Many and strange kinds of containers are used to grow daffodil seedlings. Some gardeners use pots, seed "pans", wooden flats, metal flats, or wooden boxes. Containers of wood sooner or later deteriorate, their length of life depending on the kind of wood used and the wood preservative that may have been applied. Clay pots are frequently broken up by frost in severe climates. Metal flats eventually are damaged by rust or other corrosion.

To get away from those difficulties I finally built permanent concrete flats at an out-of-the-way place in the back of the garden. To do so is relatively simple. Select the place for the flat and level it. Then construct on that spot a wooden form with its inside measurements the size you will want for your flat (mine are 21"x28"). The depth of the form should be about six inches.

To save concrete I fill the form with chunks of clean rock and then pour the concrete, filling the form to the top, being sure it works down along the sides of the form. Thereafter the concrete is smoothed off with a straight-edged board.

Let the concrete set for two or three days before removing the form. During the time it is curing wet it down morning and evening. After removing the form lay a row of bricks on edge around the rim of the concrete block, of course using mortar for permanence. When placing the



—Photo by Willis H. Wheeler

A make-it-yourself permanent seed flat.

bricks be sure and provide a couple of "weep" holes so the flat will drain. And finally, if your concrete job wasn't too good, fill any holes along the sides of the concrete block with mortar.

When you have finished the job you will have a permanent flat. It will, of course, be unmovable. Fill it with soil passed through a  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch mesh screen. Then, before planting, divide it into compartments of varying size, using aluminum lawn edging, thus providing compartments for the seeds of the different crosses. Place a permanent label in each. Be sure to push the aluminum dividers to the bottom of the soil, against the concrete bottom, thereby making certain the bulbs from the different crosses will not be mixed.

The construction of such a flat is definitely less costly than the purchase of enough clay pots to accommodate the same number of seeds.

To keep leaves, squirrels, chipmunks, cats and dogs out of the flats, cover them with half-inch mesh hardware cloth. The leaves of the seedlings will grow up through it without difficulty.

## OPEN POLLINATED EMPEROR— ANY SEEDLINGS?

Some years ago I was permitted to dig some bulbs of Emperor from a bed that had been down probably for at least ten years. The bulbs were of course very crowded. They were of all sizes and in nearly all cases appeared to be splits, or the natural increase from the original bulbs. However, four small bulbs apparently were seedling bulbs, so were carefully saved and planted. When they finally flowered they appeared to be identical with Emperor.

I don't know what Dr. Throckmorton's IBM machine "George" out in Des Moines would say about Emperor's ancestry, but the seedlings suggested his ancestry was not very complicated. Has anyone in ADS bloomed any seedlings from this old-timer, Emperor (William Backhouse, 1890)? If so, please write to the executive editor.—W. H. W.

## MAN THE FOLIAGE LOOKOUT!

Vigilance for yellow stripe, the most debilitating of the daffodil virus infections, *must* be practiced from time of foliage emergence until blooming. The visual symptoms are difficult to spot after a variety blooms. Symptoms are vertical, opaque yellowish stripes in the foliage and a roughness in the leaves that can be felt by your fingers. This virus causes decrease in vigor and in bulb weight. Any infested or strongly suspicious plants should be dug immediately and destroyed. Unfortunately there is no cure.—H.I.T. Jr.

## WINNERS OVER THE YEARS OF ADS MEDALS

For the interest and information of Society members, a listing has been compiled of those who, through 1964, have been winners of the medals offered by the ADS.

The five medals offered, for excellence of flowers or for service to the ADS and its purposes, are:

The Gold Medal and the Silver Medal, each awarded on recommendation of the Board of Directors no more frequently than once a year. The Gold Medal is presented in recognition of accomplishments of a preeminent nature in the advancement of daffodil culture. The Silver Medal is presented for distinguished service to the Society.

The Carey E. Quinn Silver Medal and the Roberta C. Watrous Silver and Gold Medals are awards for specified entries of daffodil blooms in ADS approved shows. Each bloom must score 90 percent or more, ADS scale of points, and only members of the Society may compete.

The Carey E. Quinn Silver Medal may be awarded to a collection of 24 named varieties, one stem each, representing not fewer than five divisions in the RHS Classification.

The Roberta C. Watrous Silver Medal may be awarded to a collection of 12 miniature blooms, one stem each, from at least three RHS Divisions. All specimens must be named on the ADS approved list of miniatures.

The Roberta Watrous Gold Medal may be offered at any show held in connection with the annual meeting of the Society.

Following are the winners of these awards, not including 1965:

### *The Gold Medal of The American Daffodil Society*

- 1959, Dr. E. van Slogteren, Flower Bulb Research Laboratory, Lisse, Netherlands.
- 1960, B. Y. Morrison, Pass Christian, Miss.
- 1961, Dr. John C. Wister, Swarthmore College, Pa.
- 1962, Judge Carey E. Quinn, Bethesda, Md.
- 1963, Dr. Abilio Fernandes, University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal.

### *The Silver Medal of The American Daffodil Society*

- 1962, Mrs. Lawrence R. Wharton, Baltimore, Md.
- 1963, Mrs. Goethe Link, Martinsville, Ind.
- 1964, George S. Lee, Jr., New Canaan, Conn.

*The Carey E. Quinn Award, Silver Medal*

- 1958, Mrs. Richard Marshall, Alexandria, Va.  
1958, Mrs. Goethe Link, Martinsville, Ind.  
1959, Miss Eleanor Hill, Tulsa, Okla.  
1959, Mrs. Donald Linton, Nashville, Tenn.  
1960, Mrs. Richard C. Marshall, Alexandria, Va.  
1960, Mrs. George Pettus, St. Louis, Mo.  
1960, Mrs. Julius Seeman, Nashville, Tenn.  
1961, Mrs. Henry C. Prange, Indianapolis, Ind.  
1961, Mrs. Nolan West, Sardis, Miss.  
1961, Mrs. Paul L. Garrett, Bowling Green, Ky.  
1961, Mrs. Donald M. Linton, Nashville, Tenn.  
1961, Mrs. Ralph Henry, Siloam Springs, Ark.  
1961, Mrs. Martin Lammert, Clayton, Mo.  
1962, Mrs. Jesse Cox, Hot Springs, Ark.  
1962, Mrs. W. G. Shaffer, Jr., Coahoma, Miss.  
1962, Mrs. Julius Seeman, Nashville, Tenn.  
1962, Mrs. W. L. Bankston, Jr., Memphis, Tenn.  
1962, Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, Jr., Lorton, Va.  
1962, Mrs. Burton E. Livingston, Riderwood, Md.  
1963, Mrs. Turner Morehead, Lula, Miss.  
1963, William H. Roese, La Habra, Calif.  
1963, Mrs. Royal A. Ferris, Jr., Dallas, Texas  
1963, Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, Jr., Lorton, Va.  
1963, Mrs. J. Pancoast Reath, Wayne P. O., Pa.  
1964, Mrs. Betty Barnes, Camden, Ark.  
1964, Mrs. Patricia A. Gallucci, Whittier, Calif.  
1964, Mrs. Reuben Sawyer, Jonestown, Miss.  
1964, William Pannill, Martinsville, Va.  
1964, Mrs. Hugh Petersen, Jr., Greenwich, Conn.

*The Roberta C. Watrous Award, Silver Medal*

- 1964, Carl R. Amason, El Dorado, Ark.  
1964, William Pannill, Martinsville, Va.  
1964, Mrs. Ralph Henry, Siloam Springs, Ark.

*The Roberta C. Watrous Award, Gold Medal*

- 1964, Mr. and Mrs. Richard N. Darden, Jr., Newsoms, Va.

It is possible the information on winners of the Watrous and Quinn medals is incomplete. The chairman of the Awards Committee would be happy to have any omissions corrected.

# HISTORY OF HOLLAND'S DAFFODIL SOCIETY

By MATTHEW ZANDBERGEN, *Sassenheim, Holland*

It is true to say that when Peter Barr read his paper on daffodils at the 1884 Daffodil Conference at Chelsea, London, he created a tremendous enthusiasm amongst his audience for the flowers. It was largely due to his efforts that in Britain and the U.S.A. and the many countries which he visited on his extensive lecturing tours, the daffodil became very popular. It has remained so ever since.

This "daffodil-mania" even spread to Holland, when Mr. Simon de Graaff of Leiden, after his first visit to England, received a batch of named Backhouse and Leeds seedlings from his friend Peter Barr, to grow and play with at his Leiden nursery. These were in addition to the common trade varieties which he had in cultivation already.

It is generally accepted that Simon de Graaff started and gave the daffodil industry a boom by breeding from the collection as a sideline. He produced amongst other varieties Madame Plemp, Glory of Leiden, and Madame de Graaff. The last of these created a sensation at the Royal Horticultural Society Show in London, where it gained him a First Class Certificate. It also proved to be a good seed parent, since it produced many trade varieties, some of which are still in cultivation.

Around the turn of the century Simon de Graaff, along with his sons Jan and Willem de Graaff, also began growing daffodils at their Sassenheim nursery, "Terwegen" (Wayside). It may be of added interest that in 1812, at the time when Napoleon invaded the Low Countries, Simon de Graaff's grandfather, Jan de Graaff, was cultivating daffodils at Sassenheim. He was then the only nurseryman in the area.

Other growers showed great interest in the Graaffs' collection of daffodils, and one particular grower, R. H. Beerhorst, got bitten by the daffodil bug very badly. He made a special study of the history of the daffodil and its cultivation, and laid out a small trial ground, fenced with wire netting, near his home. The privileged were allowed to enter through a small gate to see his trials and novelties, and in reply to their questions he gave them sound advice. The Rev. D. J. M. Wüstenhoff, a botanist, became one of his personal friends. Together they wrote a most interesting book in Dutch called "De Narcis", still well worth reading.

Sometimes the daffodil enthusiasts held meetings at the "local", and one can readily imagine the lively discussion which went on, on various subjects, and particularly on the best mode of cultivation.

After some time Mr. Beerhorst and the Rev. Mr. Wüstenhoff took

the initiative to establish a daffodil society at Sassenheim. Thus in March 1914 the idea materialized and a daffodil society, "De Narcis", was founded, for Sassenheim growers only. Growers from other villages could not then become members.

It is most interesting to peruse the minutes of the first meetings. On one occasion a special meeting was called to discuss whether it would be possible for the society to buy a £5 novelty bulb, which should be planted in Mr. Beerhorst's trial ground. After a lively discussion it was agreed that the bulb should be bought, but the party quarrelled the rest of the evening as to who should have the pollen for breeding when the bulb was to flower in the spring.

The society was greatly handicapped when in August, 1914, World War I broke out. The daffodil enthusiasts had a tough time and they had to curb their enthusiasm. There was little they could do. It is even impossible to trace any minutes of the meetings of the society, so presumably none was held for a time.

Some years after the war, in 1923 to be exact, Ernst H. Krelage, then the president of the Bulb Growers Association, took steps to bring the society to life again. Together with Mr. Grullemans, W. Warnaar, H. van Zonneveld, A. Nijssen, and one or two others, they called a meeting which was well attended. It proved desirable that the society should become a national one, so that every daffodil grower could enroll. Mr. Grullemans was chosen president.

It proved practicable to have the daffodils inspected in the field, so a voluntary field inspection was established under the supervision of the society, and W. van der Laan was put in charge of it. The growers were visited by inspectors who gave them advice on the spot if so desired.

At the request of the society, this field inspection was given government support. The official now in charge of this service is H. van Os. He has an army of skilled inspectors at his disposal who visit some 3,000 daffodil growers during the growing season at regular intervals to inspect the stocks. Consequently the daffodil industry reached a very high standard.

The members of the society are commercial growers only, in contrast to the American Daffodil Society, where the majority of the members are amateurs.

To commemorate the society's Golden Jubilee it was decided to launch a publicity campaign on the following lines:

1. To start off by sending some 50,000 daffodil bulbs, in 125 varieties, to the Viennese International Exhibition of 1964. Because of adverse weather conditions some of the bulbs were severely damaged and did not produce flowers. To overcome this handicap, show officials

suggested that the Dutch Daffodil Society should fill the 5,000 square-meter hall with a jubilee exhibit of daffodil blooms. We estimated about 200,000 blooms would be required. I accepted this idea with some trepidation, since the hall had to be filled at very short notice. After a discussion with my colleagues on my return from Vienna, we decided to go ahead, and the required number of blooms were picked voluntarily, packed, and flown to Vienna by three planes—one direct from Amsterdam, another via London, and yet another via Zurich. The planes arrived in succession to be met by sound motion picture equipment at the airport, so a permanent record of this feat was made for people to hear and see.

The flowers proved to be in excellent condition and were set up overnight by a gang of helpers. The next day when the show opened some 75,000 enthusiastic visitors passed through the gates. This gigantic effort was rewarded later by the international panel of judges with the "Goldmedaille des Bundesverbandes", which made it a Gold-medal Golden Jubilee year for our Daffodil Society.

2. A two-day International Daffodil Competition was held at Haarlem, at which we were very glad to welcome several English friends who really made the show, since our season was extremely late and no flowers from out of doors were available.

3. At the Keukenhof in Lisse one of the pavilions was put at the disposal of the society to demonstrate floral art with daffodils; this was a great success and attracted many visitors.

Last year, in the floral procession which is usually held on the third Saturday in April, we also entered a "Golden Jubilee Float", demonstrating that the daffodil can be used for all purposes. The celebrations came to an end with a party at which we had the pleasure of entertaining some overseas friends.

To conclude, it is the constant endeavour of the society to improve both the existing stocks of daffodils and to add new ones, so that more and more people become interested and encouraged to grow this, our favorite flower.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chairman, Mrs. Walter E. Thompson, 2907 Southwood Road, Birmingham, Ala. 35223; and Miss Helen Grier, 315 E. Nutwood Avenue, Fullerton, Calif. 92632; Mrs. John C. Wister, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa. 19081; Dan P. Thomson, Jr. 108 Strode Circle, Clemson, S. C. 29631; Mrs. Goethe Link, Box 84, Brooklyn, Ind. 46111.

## CAUTION: ELCIDE DAMAGES DAFFODILS

By HARRY TUGGLE and BILL PANNILL, Martinsville, Va.

Last summer all of our daffodil bulbs were dipped as they were dug in a solution of Elcide-73 (also marketed as "Greenfield Bulb Dip") following manufacturer's directions. Losses to basal rot in storage were negligible, and no bulbs were lost to basal rot after replanting, *but* in over 500 varieties treated, there has not been a single variety that has not displayed some degree of mercury damage. Many varieties had "flowers" this spring that were unrecognizable—flowers down to one inch in diameter with coronas reduced to "nubbins." Milder damage was observed in many more varieties with less dramatic distortion of form. Marked narrowing of perianth segments was displayed in *every* variety that received the Elcide dip! Extensive damage to foliage was suffered in a number of varieties—uniform greenish *yellow* color and broadening of leaves. The affected foliage was much less resistant to frost damage. Several varieties suffered so severely that they have not yet come up, although the bulbs appear to be sound at this time when the late poets are in bloom.

We do not believe that the recommended wetting agent should be added to the Elcide dip, and we have observed that bulbs which were dipped for a shorter period than the recommended 15 minutes have had no basal rot and gave flowers which were not as extensively damaged. We do not know what effect this mercury poisoning will have on next year's bloom. Telephone consultation with Dr. Charles J. Gould (Puyalup, Wash.) discloses that the same toxic affect was experienced in their testing plots when Elcide was used on daffodils, tulips, and Dutch iris. Such damage from dipping with Elcide had not been experienced there with previous tests.

It would appear that Elcide (and Greenfield Bulb Dip) is effective in protection from basal rot, but severe mercury damage is a definite hazard. We do not feel that this product should be recommended for general garden usage until more extensive testing as to dosage and timing reveal safer directions. We are divorcing Elcide this year on the grounds of "mental cruelty" plus "alienation of affection" for our '65 daffodil season!

# THE ADS OFFICIAL FAMILY FOR 1965-66

National and regional officers and directors of the American Daffodil Society, and committee chairmen, following the 1965 Convention, are as follows:

## *General Officers*

President: John R. Larus,\* 67 Wyndwood Rd., West Hartford, Conn. 06107  
First Vice-President: William G. Pannill,\* Box, 31, Martinsville, Va. 24112  
Second Vice-President: Mrs. Ben M. Robertson, Box 123, Taylors, S. C. 29687  
Secretary: Mrs. E. E. Lawler, Jr.,\* Box 327, Alexandria, Va. 22313  
Treasurer: Mrs. Grover F. Roennfeldt,\* 1120 Craig Rd., Creve Coeur, Mo. 63141

## *Regional Vice Presidents*

New England: Mrs. Hugh Petersen, Jr.,\* Meadowcroft Lane, Greenwich, Conn. 06830  
Northeast: Mrs. Stanley A. Carrington, Box 274, Islip, L.I., New York 11751  
Middle Atlantic: Mrs. W. Kent Ford, 118 First St., Clifton Forge, Va. 24422  
Southeast: Mrs. W. S. Simms, 3571 Paces Ferry Rd., N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30327  
Midwest: Mrs. Carl W. Schmalstig, 4371 Tam-O-Shanter Way, Dayton, Ohio 45429  
Southern: Mrs. Turner G. Morehead, 3610 Spottswood Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 38111  
Central: Mrs. Orville Kent, 1817 Richview Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ill. 62864  
Southwest: Mrs. Bert Pouncey, Jr., Hughes, Ark. 72348  
Far West: Miss Helen Grier, 315 E. Nutwood Ave., Fullerton, Calif. 92632

## *Directors at Large*

1966: Mrs. Raymond L. Roof, 2015 Lone Oak Rd., Paducah, Ky. 42002  
1966: Dr. Tom D. Throckmorton, 1407 Woodland Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
1967: Mrs. Harry Wilkie, 302 N. Main St., Bellbrook, Ohio 45305  
1967: Murray W. Evans, Route 1, Box 94, Corbett, Ore. 97019  
1968: Mrs. John C. Wister,\* Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa. 19081  
1968: Dr. Freeman A. Weiss, 1240 Raymond Way, Charleston, S. C. 29407

## *Immediate Past President*

Willis H. Wheeler, 3171 N. Quincy St., Arlington, Va. 22207

## *Regional Directors*

### *New England Region*

1966: Mrs. Charles E. Zoubek, Meads Point, Greenwich, Conn. 06830  
1967: Mrs. Mary M. vanSchaik,\* Cavendish, Vt. 05142  
1968: Mrs. William R. Taylor, Joshuatown Rd., Old Lyme, Conn. 06371

### *Northeast Region*

1966: Mrs. John B. Capen, Route 3, Box 215, Boonton, N. J. 07005  
1967: Mrs. Joseph B. Townsend, Jr., Baltimore Pike, Wawa, Pa. 19063  
1968: Mrs. J. Pancoast Reath, 85 Crestline Rd., Stafford, Wayne P.O., Pa. 19087

### *Middle Atlantic Region*

1966: Mrs. Lawrence R. Wharton, Sr., 4504 Roland Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21210  
1967: Franklin D. Seney, 35 Greenwood Rd., Newport News, Va. 23601  
1968: Mrs. R. LaRue Armstrong, Clearwater Park, Route 1, Covington, Va. 24426

### *Southeast Region*

1966: Mrs. Maurice C. Abercrombie, Hutcheson Ferry Rd., Palmetto, Ga. 30268  
1967: Dan P. Thomson, Jr., 108 Strode Circle, Clemson, S. C. 29631  
1968: Mrs. John B. Veach, 390 Vanderbilt Rd., Asheville, N. C. 28803

### *Midwest Region*

- 1966: Mrs. H. L. Armiger, 24800 Edgemont Rd., Southfield, Mich. 48075  
1967: Mrs. Leon Killigrew, 415 S. Wabash Street, Hobart, Ind. 46342  
1968: Mrs. Philip R. Adams, 3003 Observatory Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

### *Southern Region*

- 1966: Mrs. Ben Allen Thomas, Shelbyville, Ky. 40065  
1967: Mrs. Julius Seeman, 1233 Nichol Lane, Nashville, Tenn. 37205  
1968: Mrs. Reuben Sawyer, Box 4, Jonestown, Miss. 38639

### *Central Region*

- 1966: Robert L. Hovis, Jr., 434 Wesley, Ferguson, Mo. 63135  
1967: Mrs. James L. Chism, Route 1, Box 111, Festus, Mo. 63028  
1968: Mrs. Robert F. Johnson, 2537 W. 89th Street, Leawood, Kan. 66206

### *Southwest Region*

- 1966: Mrs. George L. Doolittle, 1617 San Christobal Rd., Albuquerque, N. Mex. 87104  
1967: Carl R. Amason, Route 3, Box 180, El Dorado, Ark. 71730  
1968: Miss Eleanor Hill, 1577 East 22nd St., Tulsa, Okla. 74114

### *Far West Region*

- 1966: Mrs. Gilbert Rowe, 1858 E. Calaveras St., Altadena, Calif. 91003  
1967: Mrs. Michael A. Gallucci, 9813 S. Bogardus Ave., Whittier, Calif. 90603  
1968: Mrs. Carl Engdahl, Box 758, Pendleton, Oregon 97801

### *COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN*

*Awards:* Mrs. John Bozievich, 6810 Hillmead Rd., Bethesda, Md. 20014

*Breeding and Selection:* Mrs. George D. Watrous, Jr., 5031 Reno Rd., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20008

*Classification:* Mrs. J. Robt. Walker, 501 Mulberry Rd., Martinsville, Va. 24112

*Health and Culture:* Dr. Harold S. King, Stafford Rd., Darlington, Md. 21034

*Judges:* Mrs. Jesse Cox, Route 3, Lakeside Dr., Hot Springs, Ark. 71901

*Library:* Wells Knierim, 31090 Providence Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44124

*Photography:* Prof. L. P. Mains, 17 Lantern Lane., Springhill, Media, Pa. 19063

*Editor of Journal:* Mrs. Howard B. Bloomer, Jr., 11112 Gunston Road, Lorton, Va. 22079

*Publicity:* Mrs. Henry C. Prange, 5721 Haverford Ave., Indianapolis, Ind. 46220

*Round Robins:* Dr. Glenn Dooley, Western Kentucky State College, Bowling Green, Ky. 42102

*Membership:* Mrs. Walter E. Thompson, 2907 Southwood Rd., Birmingham, Ala. 35223

*Schools:* Mrs. Goethe Link, Box 84, Brooklyn, Ind. 46111

*Symposium:* Harry I. Tuggle, Box 1108, Martinsville, Va. 24112

*Supplies:* Mrs. William A. Bridges, 10 Othoridge Rd., Lutherville, Md. 21093

*Test Gardens:* Miller Thompson, 5585 Rockbridge Rd., Stone Mountain, Ga. 30083

*Registration:* Mrs. Kenneth B. Anderson, 4810 Palm Dr., La Canada, Calif.

\* Members of the Executive Committee

## **IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?**

Please check your address as shown on the envelope or label that brought this issue of the JOURNAL to you. If it is not correct, including the ZIP code, *please* notify our treasurer, Mrs. Roennfeldt, *immediately*. Only with your help can we hope to reduce the number of errors that inadvertently get into our address lists.

## SUMMER STORAGE OF DAFFODIL BULBS

By WILLIS H. WHEELER, *Arlington, Va.*

All too frequently the storage of daffodil bulbs during the summer brings disappointment, especially when bulbs lost are valuable novelties. Therefore prevention of such losses is of real importance to the daffodil specialist.

Since my bulb losses in storage probably have never exceeded two, I have seldom found it profitable to take the time to treat the lifted bulbs with any of the available chemicals. Nearly all storage losses are caused by basal rot, resulting from infection by a species of fungus in the genus *Fusarium*. Activity of that organism increases as temperature and humidity rise. It follows that summer storage conditions which prevent good aeration of the stored bulbs will increase basal rot. My bulb storage facilities do not provide good aeration.

When considering my problem I saw that an occasional bulb, missed during lifting, lay on the soil surface the whole summer and then as autumn came it began to send roots down into the soil, even though it was without soil covering. I also noticed that an occasional stray bulb, dropped on the paths between the beds, survived the whole summer without rot, and was ready to start growth with the coming of the fall rains. Their persistence, I have concluded, has resulted from adequate ventilation and no accumulation of excess moisture for weeks at a time.

In June of 1964 I had these observations in mind when I lifted two expensive novelties (donated by kind friends). So instead of putting those bulbs in my poorly ventilated storage room, I put them in paste-board boxes of sufficient size so none of the bulbs touch each other. Then I left the boxes under a tree in the garden the whole summer. Above the boxes was a cover, but it was high enough so that every vagrant breeze passed freely over the boxes. No rot occurred in those few bulbs, even though one variety was a 1c. This was of course a very small-scale experiment and probably without significance, but I propose to follow the same practice in succeeding years. It appears similar to the commercial practice in the Netherlands and the Pacific Northwest, where bulbs are placed in wooden trays and stacked in the field for curing. Under those field conditions they are subjected to days and days of drying winds before being moved into the warehouses for cleaning.

**AUDITORS' REPORT**  
**BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 1964—Exhibit A**

Assets

<b>Current Assets:</b>		
Cash in bank, Security Trust Company, St. Louis, Missouri .....	\$ 7,262	
Cash in savings, Community Federal Savings and Loan Association, St. Louis, Missouri .....	3,720	
Inventory of various publications:		
Royal Horticultural Society Publications .....	63	
American Daffodil Society Publications .....	172	
American Daffodil Society Yearbooks, 1959-1965 .....	531	\$11,748
<b>Fixed Assets:</b>		
Office equipment .....	\$ 273	
Less: Accumulated depreciation .....	77	196
<b>Other Assets:</b>		
Inventory of metal dies .....	\$ 104	
Inventory of color slides .....	130	234
<b>Total Assets</b> .....		<u>\$12,178</u>

Liabilities and Net Worth

<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Dues received in advance, 1965-1967 .....	\$ 764	
Due for printing—1965 Yearbooks .....	1,131	\$ 1,895
<b>Net Worth:</b>		
Balance, January 1, 1964 .....	\$ 8,202	
Add: Life memberships .....	\$ 500	
Net income for the year—Exhibit "B" .....	2,431	2,931
	\$11,133	
Less: Adjustment of prior years' inventories .....	850	10,283
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Worth</b> .....		<u>\$12,178</u>

**STATEMENT OF INCOME**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1964**  
 Exhibit B

<b>Income:</b>		
Dues—1964 .....	\$ 5,531	
Sale of Bulletins and Yearbooks .....	24	
Sale of Royal Horticultural Society publications, various books and classified lists:		
Income .....	\$ 980	
Cost of items sold .....	684	296
Interest income .....	157	
Sale of ads in Yearbook .....	168	
Judges Certificates fees .....	40	
Rental of slides .....	82	
Proceeds from 1964 convention .....	274	
Miscellaneous income .....	129	\$ 6,701
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Cost of 1965 American Daffodil Society Yearbooks distributed .....	\$ 839	
Addressograph plates .....	260	
Audit fee .....	150	
Awards .....	167	
Bulletins and printing .....	1,832	
Depreciation .....	27	
Dues to other societies .....	25	
Meeting expense .....	136	
Miscellaneous expense .....	12	
Office supplies, stationery and postage .....	747	
Regional vice-president expenses .....	75	4,270
<b>Net Income For The Year—To Exhibit "A"</b> .....		<u>\$ 2,431</u>

**Note:** The accompanying comments are an integral part of this statement.

**COMMENTS**

The above statements were prepared using the cash receipts and disbursements method of accounting. Accordingly, no amounts have been set for unpaid dues or for any balances due creditors. However, dues received in advance for 1965, 1966 and 1967, and the amount due for printing the 1965 Yearbook have been shown as liabilities to conform to accounting practice adopted in prior years. The inventory of American Daffodil Society Yearbooks as of December 31, 1964 have been adjusted to reflect the actual physical inventory as reported to us by the Society's representatives.

Our engagement was limited to the preparation of the above statements from the books and records and other information furnished us without verification of all assets and liabilities. The cash accounts were reconciled by us.

Due to the limited scope of our engagement, we are precluded from expressing an opinion on the accompanying financial statements.

Respectfully submitted,

RUBIN, BROWN AND GORNSTEIN,  
 Certified Public Accountants

## BOARD ADOPTS STATEMENT OF REGIONAL POLICY

For guidance of regional vice-presidents and directors as well as the membership of the Society, the Board of Directors adopted a statement of Regional Policy at the 1965 Convention in California.

Ordering the statement published in the *JOURNAL*, the Board said it should be mailed to each new regional vice-president and director in the future. The statement of Regional Policy follows:

The region is the expression of the national society's activities at the local level. Therefore the region should do, on a limited scale, many of the things that the national society does. The regional organization is composed of the regional vice president and the three regional directors. The responsibilities of their office include the successful performance of as many of these functions as are feasible:

1. The development within the region of a wider interest in better daffodils as garden plants.
2. Promotion of daffodil shows, according to ADS standards, at regional, state and local levels.
3. Sponsorship of national meetings, regional conferences, and garden and show schools.
4. Maintenance of wide acquaintance among regional members, and the submission of names of prospects for offices and committees.
5. Assistance in building up the membership of the Society.
6. Use of every effort to see that names and addresses of members in region are correct in Society's mailing lists and roster, notifying treasurer of errors.
7. Assistance in establishing and maintaining test gardens, trial gardens, and display gardens.
8. Suggesting and offering speakers on daffodil subjects to garden clubs within the region.
9. Encouragement of coordinated activity between the vice-president and directors of a region with those of other regions.
10. Issuance of a regional newsletter on local activities.
11. Promotion and handling of planned pilgrimages to accessible daffodil gardens of interest within the region.
12. Furnishing material for the *JOURNAL*, and encouraging others to do so.
13. Creation of an opportunity for group purchase and sale of bulbs.
14. Application for funds available from the Society for use within the region, and the handling and accounting of these funds and any other funds raised within the region.
15. The inclusion of the names of the president, secretary, editor,

chairman of membership committee and the other regional vice-presidents in the mailing list for all newsletters and notices.

16. Attendance wherever possible at all board meetings, submission of full reports of all activities, and presentation of digest therefrom of matters of general interest to membership at large.

The three regional directors should assist their regional vice-president in carrying out these functions and, within their geographical area, feel personally responsible in maintaining and increasing membership interest.

## WHO GROWS THE OLDEST DAFFODIL AND WHY?

As a matter of historical interest, let's find out who is growing the oldest known named daffodil, other than that old-timer Van Sion (erroneously called "Von Sion" in *Standardized Plant Names*).

For dates of origin refer to the *Classified List and International Register of Daffodil Names*, issued by the Royal Horticultural Society. If you don't have it, send \$1.50 to the chairman of the Supplies Committee, Mrs. William O. Bridges, 10 Othoridge Road, Lutherville, Md. 21093. All serious daffodil growers should have that book. If you exhibit you can't very well get along without it.

Write the executive editor about your oldest daffodil, giving its name, date of introduction (or registration), and the number of years you have had it. Also tell why you continue to give it space in your garden.

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## GEORGE OFFERS BOOK ON DAFFODILS

George: The Computer with a Green Thumb, is now an author. In a restless moment one weekend, he turned out a limited edition of what is certain to be a bestseller in daffodil circles. Imagination is not one of George's most highly developed qualities, so he named his opus "The Daffodil Data Bank of the American Daffodil Society, 1965"—because that's what it is.

However, George is not without his lighter moments, and he dressed his tome up in a heavy cover of daffodil yellow and edged it with a green ring binding so that it opens flat. Just to be sure his less erudite readers understand the rather cryptic language he occasionally employs, George has written a foreword which explains everything in words of one syllable.

Having established comfortable rapport with his readers, George plunges into his story of telling all that is known about some 5,000 daffodils, both species and garden varieties. As far as he has been able to ascertain them, George reveals the names of seed and pollen parents of the garden varieties, the raiser, classification, comparative time of bloom on a scale of 1 to 6, relative height on a scale of 1 to 4, chromosome count, fertility of seed and pollen, and date of introduction. Colors are accurately described by a very simple system which is sufficiently elastic to paint the picture of Grant Mitsch's new Bobolink.

George is short on adjectives, but long on facts. He has distilled all the information from dealers' catalogs, year books, and stud books, but to him "wonderful round overlapping milk white perianth segments" is just a gabby way of saying "perianth white." Obviously George is not the social type and so far has had no invitations to write daffodil catalogs. If there is any chance of finding yourself on an uninhabited island, don't take George's compendium with you; but if you want to know whether Fortune blooms earlier than February Gold, or the name of the grandmother of Chinese White on its father's side, then the DDB of the ADS has the answer.

As a little extra dividend, George has added an appendix describing some of the special reports he is glad to turn out to order whenever he has spare time: a list of pink 2b's, for example; the family tree of Bithynia; or the names of some early daffodils.

George has appointed Dr. Tom D. Throckmorton as his business agent and orders for first edition copies should be sent to him at 1407 Woodland Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50309, accompanied by checks at the rate of \$3.25 per copy, postage included. The first printing is only 150 copies, of which a considerable number were spoken for at Pasadena. The price has been set at cost without any plus.