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THE DAFFODIL JOURNAL (ISSN 0011-5290) is published quarterly (March, June, September, and December) by the American Daffodil Society, Inc., 4126 Winfield Road, Columbus, OH 43220-4606. Periodicals postage paid at Columbus, OH and additional mailing office.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Daffodil Journal, 4126 Winfield Road, Columbus, OH 45150-1521.

Membership in the Society includes a subscription to the Journal.

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Articles and photographs (glossy finish for black and white, transparency for color) on daffodil culture and related subjects are invited from members of the Society. Address all material to the Editor. Address advertising inquiries to the Chairman of Publications.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS May 1, 1999

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‘Wellsford’ 2Y-R
New registration by Graham and Faith Miller seen at Northern Daffodil Club Show, New Zealand
*Peter Ramsay photo*

‘Wild Card’
Spud Brogden’s new reverse bicolor seen at Northern Daffodil Club Show, New Zealand
*Peter Ramsay photo*

**Hamilton 34-96 2W-WWP**
Seen at New Zealand National Show in Te Anau
*Peter Ramsay photo*

**Ramsay 93:60 2Y-R**
Seen at New Zealand National Show in Te Anau
*Peter Ramsay photo*
Ramsay 92:113 3Y-YRR
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*Peter Ramsay photo*

‘Empress of Ireland’ 2W-W
Wisley Trials
*George Tarry photo*

‘Surfside’ 6W-Y
Wisley Trials
*George Tarry photo*

‘Tamar Fire’ 4Y-O
Wisley Trials
*George Tarry photo*
REPORT FROM NEW ZEALAND
Peter and Lesley Ramsay, Hamilton, New Zealand

No account of daffodil growing can be separated from the vagaries of the season. This year it was variously described by growers as a “season from hell,” a “beast of a year,” and even blunter Kiwi comments were heard which could not be printed here. Throughout the country, top growers reported distorted foliage, blind buds, and a weird timing of flowering with lates coming early and earlies late. Everyone looked for reasons, but as always, the weather was blamed. There is no doubt that climatic changes are occurring very rapidly in New Zealand, which showed up this year in a very dry and warm autumn, a wet and incredibly warm winter and a rather mild spring. The lack of winter frosts meant that the bulbs lay dormant much longer than usual, and hence the unusual events.

In the early stages we wondered if the two major shows in Lower Hutt and Te Anau would be worth attending. However, growers knew that the organizers had gone to a lot of trouble and, as always seems to be the case, some very good flowers turned up.

Both of the shows were extremely well organized, with all credit going to Claude Paulsen in the North Island and Malcolm Wheeler in the South Island. Both gentlemen know how to organize—there were reserved spaces for all exhibitors, vases were laid out, water was on hand, extra foliage was available if needed, and there was plenty of good clean moss for staging.

Lower Hutt is a semi-industrial city which is also in part a dormitory satellite city for the capital of New Zealand, Wellington. Te Anau, on the other hand, is a tourist destination in the southern reaches of New Zealand in our picturesque mountain and lake district. Thus we had quite a contrast, but as already noted, both shows were full of interesting flowers.

In the North Island the entries in the open collections were up but unfortunately were down in the amateur section of the show. There were some nice flowers to be seen, but perhaps not up to other years’ standards. Growers have come to expect Koanga Daffodils (Ramsay and Hamilton) to dominate in the open classes, but this year they were struggling and depended very heavily on seedlings of their own raising. They staged 12 entries in the open classes and most unusually, were beaten in four. Graham and Faith Miller, relative youngsters in the daffodil growing world, headed them off with a very good entry in the red cup classes. John McLennan, another younger grower, was successful in the Alf Chapel Memorial class, Brogden Bulbs with an
excellent entry won the All-White collections, while in the Cyclamineus class Koanga could only come a mediocre third with the class being won for the second year in succession by the Southern Raiders, Michael and Marion Brown, who also repeated the dose for the second year in succession in the South Island.

Koanga did, though, successfully defend their national title in class one, we believe for the 20th successive year. They were also successful in the other premier class, the British Raisers Gold Cup, with an unusual entry, including two of George Tarry’s numbered seedlings, ‘Heamoor’ 4Y-Y, an excellent double from Ron Scamp, and ‘Desert Storm’ 2Y-ORR (Postles), which was being shown in New Zealand for the first time. Koanga’s best entry was in class five for 12 varieties, one stem of each, which is always hotly contested. Eight of the 12 flowers shown were raised by the exhibitor and were under number. Second in both of these classes were IRN Associates (Peter and Dianne Irwin) who had large well-grown flowers which seemed to be overlooked by the judges when it came to premier selection. Both ‘Trudie May’ 3Y-OOR and ‘Centrefold’ 3W-YYR in their Yarrall entry were exceptionally good.

As is so often the case, Brogden Bulbs staged their usual immaculate 12 to win the Raisers Championship. We noted newer varieties in ‘Mt. Cook’ 1W-W and ‘Good News’ 2W-P joining older varieties ‘Trudie May’ 3Y-OOR, ‘Gold Charm’ 2Y-Y, and ‘Florence Joy’ 2W-W. The David Bell Memorial Trophy for six raised by the exhibitor, was won again by Koanga Daffodils, who included two newly-named varieties in ‘Cameo Fire’ 2Y-R and ‘Cameo Ice’ 1W-W. The latter attracted a good deal of attention because of its immaculate form. In this particular class we believe Wilf Hall was most unlucky not to get an award with six tazettas of his own raising as there were many fine flowers in this entry, including a lovely pink that would challenge ‘Sammy Girl’ 8W-P very hotly in this area. Wilf’s advances in tazettas are greatly admired and we hope they become more generally available very soon. Also noted in the Open Collection class were some fine flowers brought up in one of their rare trips to the North Island by Denise and Neil McQuarrie from the South Island. They had a particularly good entry in the yellow trumpet collection class which they won, and we noted strong flowers of ‘Golden Realm’ 1Y-Y and ‘Goldmark’ 1Y-Y.

There were some splendid entries in the miniature classes. The Miniature Daffodil Championship of New Zealand calls for nine varieties, one stem of each, and here David Adams demonstrated his skills with the little ones. His entry included fine examples of ‘Little Gem’ 1Y-Y, ‘Gipsy Queen’ 1YYW-WWY, *N. cyclamineus* 13Y-Y, and one of his own raising named ‘Saturn Five’ 6Y-Y.
‘Bunting’ 7Y-O
Trials at Wisley
George Tarry photo

N. cavanillesii
Along the road to Arcos de la Frontera
Derrick Donnison-Morgan photo

N. x perezlarae
Along the road to Chiclana de la Frontera
Derrick Donnison-Morgan photo
The amateur classes this year were a little disappointing with the standard well down because of the absence of some of the leading growers. John Hollever staged a very good entry in the Waikato Challenge Trophy, which calls for 12 varieties, one stem of each, and included ‘Florence Joy’ 2W-W and ‘Egmont King’ 2Y-YOR. Ian Storry from Hamilton was a very creditable second, showing a variety of overseas and New Zealand cultivars, including ‘Evesham’ 3W-GYY, ‘Cover Story’ 2W-W (which was Best Bloom at the North Island Show in world convention year), ‘Symphony’ and ‘Trelay’ 3Y-OOR. The rest of the amateur collection classes were dominated by another young grower, Wayne Hughes, who enjoyed a great show. This was reflected in the premier bloom stand with six of the premiers going to Wayne as well as three of the four amateur premiers. This was remarkable as the premier stand tends to be dominated by the open exhibitors. Wayne is undoubtedly a grower with a considerable future. Among his premiers we particularly noted Spud Brogden’s ‘On Target’ 2W-Y. We also liked the premier 1Y-Y ‘Tyrone Gold’, a recent import raised by Brian Duncan. This was also grown by Wayne Hughes. Koanga managed seven premiers, none particularly notable, but it did include ‘Daydream’ 2Y-W which is still very hard to beat in its division. Best bloom in the show went to the Munro-raise ‘Snowy Morn’ 1W-GWW, which has been reported upon before in these columns. This particular flower was grown by Graham and Faith Miller from Tokoroa and was a very fine flower. This was Graham and Faith’s first ever best bloom at a national show, but we can assure readers that it will not be the last.

Then began the long trek for most growers to the national show in Te Anau. Many disasters were reported by exhibitors who had traveled long distances, with many people having three changes of aircraft followed by a two-hour car drive. The worst affected was John Hunter from Nelson whose flowers arrived in a dreadful mess. After a difficult year of growing it really is a little much to have flowers treated in this way by our national airlines. We can testify that there were many fine flowers in John’s box, some of which had not been shown before. A particular disappointment was not seeing ‘Polar Fire’ 3W-O on the show bench. It certainly would have been a premier bloom.

On the brighter side, one highlight of the Te Anau show was the flowers grown by Michael and Marion Brown. Their blooms are improving every year and we noted that they won four collection classes in the open section. Their entry in the bicolor trumpets was the best seen here for many years and included fine examples of the Australian-raised ‘Compute’ 1W-Y, ‘Ebony’1W-Y and ‘Temple Legacy’ 1W-Y. Denise and Neil McQuarrie also had lovely flowers and we were surprised that
they did not win more than the White Trophy in the open collections. They did, however, dominate the single bloom classes, and as we shall note below, the premier blooms.

Brogden Daffodils retained their title in the raised by exhibitor with good flowers of ‘Welcome’ 2W-Y, ‘Red Mission’ 2Y-R and ‘Kiwi Carnival’ 2W-OYO, a very striking collection flower. Koanga were successful again in the 12 raised by exhibitor and won most of the collection classes they entered. Their best entry was in the International Trophy, where we noted especially Peter Ramsay’s seedling 93:60 2Y-R (photo page 148), which was bred from a Jim O’More seedling crossed with ‘Torridon’ 2Y-O, and one of Max Hamilton’s seedlings 34-96, a very interesting 2W-WWP (photo page 148). Of the newer things, most of which appeared in the seedling classes, we noticed one of Peter Ramsay’s seedlings 98:23 (‘Golden Jewel’ 2Y-GYY x ‘Gold Convention’ 2Y-Y) (photo on the front cover), which was perhaps the strongest flower in the Bell Trophy.

The entries in the amateur classes were--to our surprise, given the distance--much improved on the North Island. Greg Inwood from Christchurch was the dominant exhibitor, but we also noted strong flowers from 17 year old Aaron Russ who scored several premier blooms and also two of the four amateur premiers. Sandra Muckle also had nice flowers as did the Kerrs from Blenheim. We also noted the welcome return to showing of Robin Hill, who traveled all the way from Auckland and took a first prize in the Alf Chapell class in which ‘Silent Valley’ 1W-GWW (if it really was that variety) was outstanding. Malcolm Wheeler, who took the best amateur bloom with ‘Kiwi Magic’ 4W-Y also had a good range of winning flowers. He is another whose blooms are improving all the time.

The premier bloom stand was also better than at the North Island. It was dominated by Denise and Neil McQuarrie who in all had nine premier blooms, well ahead of Koanga’s six. Of the McQuarrie-grown, ‘Tanya’ 2Y-YOR, ‘Polar Sky’ 2W-WWP (raised by John Hunter) and ‘Achduart’ 3Y-O stood out. Also on the premier stand we noticed an excellent example of ‘Topaz Dawn’ 3W-Y which survived the holocaust in John Hunter’s box. Of the Koanga’s entries ‘Gold Convention’ 2Y-Y and ‘Chaos’ 1W-W, both of which were reputed to have been picked out of the borders rather than the show beds, were noted. Another advance on the premier bloom stand was David Adams’s split corona called ‘Waitaki’IIaW-PPY. The overall best bloom was grown by Denise and Neil McQuarrie and was the lovely ‘Florence Joy’ 2W-W. This was one of the best flowers seen all season, and once again was the first time that Denise and Neil had received the best bloom award at a national show. It
is really pleasing to see younger growers measuring up to the more experienced Brogdens, Ramsays, Hamiltons and Hunters.

The last show of the season is the Northern Daffodil Club’s late show held in our home town of Hamilton. The capriciousness of the season was proved yet again as probably the best collection of blooms seen all year appeared here. One of Peter Ramsay’s seedlings 92:113, which was raised from ‘Red Era’ 3Y-YRR, seemed to be an interesting advance in the late flowering red and yellows (photo page 149). Even better, though, was a Graham and Faith Miller seedling now called ‘Wellsford’ 2Y-R (photo page 148), which was really brightly coloured and of exceptional smoothness. Spud Brogdan showed his new 3Y-W, which in our view is undoubtedly the best of its kind in the world. It is a true reverse and has now been named ‘Wild Card’ (photo page 148), an interesting name that illustrates what sometimes happens in daffodil growing. Spud was really looking for an improvement in 3W-Y and the cross included ‘Old Satin’ 2Y-Y. Imagine his surprise when this superb flower turned up. The best bloom at the late show was also one of the best flowers seen all season. It is of course the incomparable bloom raised by the most fastidious of all daffodil growers, Clive Postles—‘Moon Shadow’ 3W-GYY is now a winner world-wide.

So ended our 1998 season. It was not one to be remembered for the great flowers but as is usual in the daffodil world, camaraderie, lots of wonderful food (including the best Chinese meal at Lower Hutt that we have experienced outside of the Nanking Cafe in Chinatown, San Francisco) and plenty of discussion points. It also saw the emergence of a number of excellent seedlings from both amateur and professional growers. As the daffodil foliage dies down we look forward to lifting good firm bulbs and hope that 1999 treats us all just a little bit better.

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DAFFODILS ON TRIAL AT THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY’S GARDEN AT WISLEY, ENGLAND

George W. Tarry, Cheshire, England

The Royal Horticultural Society’s Garden at Wisley, some 20 miles southwest of London, has long been regarded as a major center of horticultural excellence in all its forms. For most enthusiasts a principal attraction is the trial ground where a full range of flowers and vegetables is assessed regularly by panels of experienced growers for suitability for garden purposes. After an appropriate period of trial the cultivars that give an outstanding performance are recognized by the Award of Garden Merit (AGM).

One of the long-term trials is for daffodils, which extends over three flowering seasons, the most recent covering the springs of 1996, 1997, and 1998. The bulbs, 25 double-nosed each of 131 cultivars, were planted early in October, 1995, five bulbs six inches apart in each row with six inches spacing between the rows.

As growth emerged in the spring a subcommittee made a rigorous inspection, and after check by the scientific staff where necessary, all bulbs showing virus infection were removed, a routine followed again in the second and third years. During the flowering season regular visits were made by the RHS Daffodil Trials Committee who assessed each stock for impact, durability, and constitution, and at the end of the three-year period these assessments were summarized and formed the basis of the Recommendations for Award of Garden Merit.

To support the Trials Committee, the Trials Office maintained records of the number of flowers on each stock and the duration of the flowering period. The number of flowers is given in parentheses in the following report.

The yellow trumpet is still regarded by many as the true daffodil and the newer inclusions in the trial were most impressive. ‘Barnum’ 1Y-Y (130 flowers), ‘Grasmere’ 1Y-Y (88), and ‘Tyrone Gold’ 1Y-Y (125) all had the smooth, rounded perianth and elegant trumpet developed for the show bench and displayed their flowers well above the foliage to command attention, while ‘Bram Warmaar’ 1Y-Y (115) from Holland, a sturdy grower with good weather resistance showed more traditional form.

Two other trumpets impressed. ‘Glenfarclas’ 1Y-O (140) was very free flowering, kept its color well, and was long lasting. ‘Gin and Lime’
1Y-WWY (140) provided a valuable contrast with its lemon perianth and paler trumpet most appealing.

None of the bicolor or white trumpets reached the standard for award as they were unable to match the qualities of the yellows or the two standards in this type: ‘Bravoure’ 1W-Y and ‘Empress of Ireland’ 1W-W (photo page 149). The latter has a remarkable record, receiving the old style Award of Merit in 1970 and still as good as ever.

In the large cups, the all-yellow ‘Bryanston’ 2Y-Y (95) was among the first to open, lasted well, and is already recognized for its qualities in the garden. The newer ‘Special Envoy’ 2Y-Y (130) also made a good impression with ample flowers well above the foliage and good weather resistance.

For the paler shades of yellow, the reverse bicolor ‘Charter’ 2Y-WWY has set the mark since its First Class Certificate in 1971, and it has now been joined by ‘Carib Gipsy’ 2Y-WWY (130) with its tall stems carrying the many blooms well above the blue-green foliage.

To date the orange cups have a reputation for unreliability for garden purposes, readily suffering from exposure to the sun, with only ‘Loch Owskeich’ 2Y-O meeting the required standard. None of the recent additions to the trials approached this level.

The only other large cup to impress was ‘Willy Dunlop’ 2W-Y (80 flowers from only 19 bulbs), a large flower which stood up well and has clear colors, commending it for the garden.

Although there were eleven cultivars with pink coloring, none was impressing, with fading of the color counting against them. The all whites were equally disappointing mainly because they failed to display their flowers to full effect.

The small cups are not often regarded as strong candidates for the garden, but this trial produced two of outstanding merit in ‘Triple Crown’ 3Y-GYR (130) and ‘Badbury Rings’ 3Y-YYR (148). Both were free-flowering and their clear color scored well for impact.

No fewer than 14 doubles were included, some of them well known from the shows, but very few made a great impression because of poor flower counts. There were two outstanding performances: ‘Crackington’ 4Y-O (105), which displayed its flowers well, and ‘Tamar Fire’ 4Y-R (120) with its bright color standing out (photo page 149). Later in the season ‘Sir Winston Churchill’ 4W-O (155) stood out with its multi-flowered stems looking very good.

The limited selection of triandrus hybrids made little impact but the cyclamineus hybrids were more successful. Although regarded as too large and heavy for show purposes ‘Surfside’ 6W-Y (135) (photo page 149) made an excellent display to attract the gardener looking for
something different. Even more exciting were 'Reggae' 6W-GPP (178) and 'Kaydee' 6W-P (195), both with exceptional flower counts, good constitutions, and a pink coloring to offer a welcome addition for the smaller gardens of today.

The jonquil hybrids also proved valuable assets with very high flower counts. 'Quail' 7Y-Y (about 240 multiple-flowered stems) (photo page 204) had very rich color with secondary stems to extend the season and a bonus of strong scent. Even more prolific was 'Bunting' 7Y-O (photo page 152), so much so that an accurate count could not be made with its long flowering season and bright gold and orange color as extra assets. The third of this group was 'Oryx' 7Y-W with rather larger flowers in such numbers that a true count was impossible and a good contract in its lemon and white colors making a valuable garden flower.

Not quite as prolific was 'Falconet' 8Y-R (160), a tazetta hybrid with brilliant yellow/orange color that maintained over a long period.

The final section, 12 cultivars with split coronas, was disappointing as many of them hid their flowers among the foliage. One that made some impression was 'Sovereign' 11aW-O, but the limited flower count compared poorly with most of the other cultivars.

Recent RHS Award of Merit Varieties
(for exhibition)

'Goldfinger' 1Y-Y
'Gold Bond' 2Y-Y
'Lennymore' 2Y-R
'Notre Dame' 2W-GYP

'Silverwood' 3W-W
'Waldorf Astoria' 4W-P
'Campion' 9W-GY

'Doctor Hugh' 3W-GOO
'Dateline' 3Y-O

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YET ANOTHER POSTCARD FROM SPAIN
Derrick Donnison-Morgan, Cocentaina Spain

The long weekend, bookended by Valencia Day on Friday 09 October and Nuestra Senora del Pilar on Monday 12 October, gave us an ideal opportunity to head south into Andalucia and search for autumn flowering daffodils.

Day 1
After an overnight stop at Puerto Lumbreras, we headed via the new, but already in need of repair, Autovia bypassing Granada and down to the coast road at Malaga. Our first stop, just outside Estepona found Pancratium maritimum still in flower, allium, crocus, Lapiedra martinezii, but no N. serotinus as had been suggested by previous explorers. A recent urbanization project above the beach had eroded much of the higher grassy area. So much so, that the Pancratium maritimum, normally as much as 60cm below ground, were lying on the surface.

Onward to San Roque, just north of Gibraltar, but still no sighting of daffodils. Although early in the season, we decided to check the known sights of N. viridiflorus at El Cuarton near Algeciras. As expected, it was too early, but we did find a wonderful display of Colchicum lusitanum. On once again to Puerto del Cabrito, where the windmills generating much of the electricity for Cadiz stand like row upon row of giants from which any latter-day Don Quixote would soon retreat. Still no daffodils. Around the cape at Tarifa, the southernmost part of Europe, from which Morocco seems just a short swim away (the fast ferry from Algeciras takes just 35 minutes), to Bolonia and the Roman ruins at Baelo Claudia. Previous sightings of N. cavanillesii along the old military road were impossible to confirm as a fence five meters high has now been erected surrounding the site.

Disappointed with our first day’s searching, we repaired to the Hotel Real, Los Barrios, for a good night’s rest, with the intention of an early start the following day.

Day 2
Betty Molesworth Allen was trained as a taxonomic botanist. She and her late husband spent many years in Malaysia and traveled extensively throughout the world in search of plants and birds. Ferns were her main interest and three are named after her--in addition to a tunnel in Malaysia! Mrs. Molesworth Allen has lived in southern Spain since 1963, where she has pursued her interest in the local environment. Now approaching 90 years of age, she spends much of her time petitioning the local Los Barrios council in environmental matters.
Meeting her at her home early on Saturday morning was a personal pleasure, and we spent much of the day in her company in search of wild daffodils.

After visiting her friend Allison at Sotogrande, we took the tiny inland road that approaches Los Barrios from the northeast. Here on private land, which Betty had thoughtfully gained prior permission to enter, we found *N. serotinus* in profusion. Millions would not be an exaggeration. I was told that *N. viridiflorus* grew nearby and although we searched, we could find no trace of it or of hybrids between the two. The *N. serotinus* were in perfect condition among the violet flowers of *Mandragora autumnalis* and showed remarkable variations in corona color and petal formation. Some coronas were dull green, while others were yellow or orange. Petals were short, rounded, and well overlapped or long, pointed, and twisted, although all were pristine white. Most were either single or double-headed; three flowers to a stem was rare.

From here we carefully made our way over a cracked and bumpy road to an area where Betty had sighted *N. viridiflorus* the previous year. We seemed to be much too early and the ditches where Betty had seen them were bare. On the way back to the car, my wife casually looked under a large olive tree and found just two *N. viridiflorus* in perfect condition, protected by two large stones.

We returned Betty with our grateful thanks and headed north out of Los Barrios to Medina Sidonia (named after the commander of the Armada) and west towards Chiclana de la Frontera. All along this road we found scattered, but large populations of *N. serotinus*—and then a flash of yellow. My wife has become expert in sighting daffodils at 50mph. On close inspection we found among a population of *N. serotinus*, three large clumps of *N. x perezlarae* (photo page 152). Mainly a pale lemon color, the petal color differed in depth, from a pale yellow to a dirty off-white, although this could be caused by the aging process of the flower. The habit of the plant is more like that of *N. cavanillesii* with petals 45 degrees to axis and convex, although the size and shape of the petals are more in keeping with *N. serotinus*. The upright nature of the petals is lost as the flower ages and they become more patent, but not twisted. All of the flowers are ascending, singly or with two flowers per stem.

**Day 3**

A noisy and interrupted night in Chiclana (the Spanish celebrate everything at the highest possible volume) meant a later than anticipated start to the day. We traveled north to Cadiz for a morning’s sightseeing of the famous city. The dock area, which once harbored the formidable Armada, now only boasts a ferry service to the Canary Islands, but upon
the harbor walls, I swear I saw the famous swashbucklers of the early movies.

The afternoon saw a leisurely drive to Arcos de la Frontera via Jerez (home of sherry) and onward to Villamartin. All along this road we found the roadsides full of *N. cavanillesii* (photo page 152). There must have been tens of millions forming a rich yellow carpet on each side of the road. An impressive sight. Taking smaller roads from just outside Villamartin towards Cordoba, we found *Sternbergia lutea* in grassy banks.

Cordoba was busy. The national holiday having brought tourists from all over Spain to visit this historic city, with the finest examples of Moorish architecture to be found anywhere. Finding no place at the inn, we drove towards Bailen for our night’s rest. On the way out of Cordoba, heading for the Madrid autopista we found *N. serotinus, Leucojum autumnale, and Scilla autumnalis*, each in vast quantities on a large piece of waste ground. A truly pretty sight. Heading inland now, we saw a few more autumn flowers, and after a night in Bailen we made our way home.

After an initial disappointing start we saw four species of *Narcissus* and many more lovely autumn flowers in unspoiled conditions in mostly unspoiled countryside. A very satisfying trip and one that I shall make again in coming years.

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INTERVIEW WITH JOHN PEARSON
Donna Dietsch, Columbus, OH

It has been said of some people that they were born with daffodil sap in their veins. John Pearson of Hofflands Daffodils in Essex, England is one of the few who can lay legitimate claim to such a heredity. John comes from a family with a long history of horticultural pursuits dating back to the eighteenth century. Members of his family are credited with a number of daffodil cultivars, starting from the very beginning of modern daffodil hybridizing at the turn of the century. Born in Nottinghamshire, the location of the original family business, John grew up in Essex where his father grew plants for seed. He has happy memories of plant hunting in the surrounding countryside as a child and avidly pursued the study of the natural sciences in school.

Having been steeped in the art of plantsmanship, John entered Reading University with the intent of pursuing a degree and a career in horticulture. This study required a year of practical experience and, since his family grew and bred daffodils, it seemed natural for John to go to Northern Ireland to work for Guy Wilson. If there is one sure way to catch "Yellow Fever," it has to be spending a year working with one of the most respected daffodil breeders of the time. And catch it he did. After extending his stay for an additional year and meeting Kate Reade, the two of them started Carncairn Daffodils.

As it so often happens, true love intervened in John’s best-laid plans in the person of the lovely and charming Rosemary. Because fledgling businesses don’t often support young families and because John and Rosemary wanted to get married, John had to find another source of income. He enlisted in the military and joined the Royal Ulster Rifles. Posted to various places around the world, including a long stint in Belize, Central America, it was difficult to breed daffodils, but John managed to do just that. Some of his daffodils are named for his favorite places in that country. He spent most of his career as a Paymaster and in those duties learned to use a computer while the rest of us were still pounding on our Underwoods. Having gained this valuable knowledge, John has put it to good use in keeping records of his breeding and his business accounts. After twenty years in the military, John resigned, and he and Rosemary moved back to England with their son and daughter, settling in the home at Hofflands in 1983.

In 1987 John registered his first daffodils. The following year he started his business, Hoffland Daffodils. Among those first registrations was the magnificent ‘Altun Ha’ 2Y-W, which took the English shows by storm and is widely thought to be the best of its type. Its quality is such
that only two years after its registration, the RHS gave it the Award of Merit for exhibition and in 1993, the First Class Certificate.

Most of us in the United States had not heard of John Pearson before the introduction of ‘Altun Ha’, but things haven’t been the same since then. He’s been competing for and winning major awards in England, including the Engleheart Trophy in 1995, against the toughest competition. He has won awards in our Hybridizers classes on his trips to the U.S., winning the Hybridizers Challenge Award in 1996 and 1997.

The impression one gets when meeting John Pearson for the first time is of his military bearing and, as he prepares his exhibits, his intense concentration. It does not take long to discover that there is a wonderful sense of humor behind all that. It became evident with his amusing asides during his slide presentation at the ADS convention in Jackson, Mississippi in 1997. It is obvious that John derives a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction from his work with daffodils. When asked to identify the most important characteristic of a successful daffodil breeder, he responded that it is resilience. He remembers a quote from David Lloyd, who said, “Daffodil breeding is five years of pleasurable anticipation followed by five weeks of painful disappointment.” John has kept on going in spite of the occasional setbacks of any hybridizer and now has a wide array of lovely flowers that are on most of our wish lists.

He includes among his best cultivars, so far: ‘Altun Ha’ 2Y-W, the standard against which other reverse bicolors are measured; ‘Sheelagh Rowan’ 2W-W, named for his daughter; ‘Uncle Duncan’ 1Y-O, named for his great uncle J. Duncan Pearson; ‘Clouded Yellow’ 2YYW-Y, a two-toned beauty that everyone counts as a favorite; ‘Quiet Waters’ 1W-W, which was much admired at the Jackson Convention; ‘Fine Romance’ 2W-WPP, an elegant and certain show winner; and ‘Carib Gipsy’ 2Y-WWY, the late-blooming sister to ‘Altun Ha’. Then there are those wonderful orange-rimmed Division 3 daffodils, the best of which is ‘Sugar and Spice’ 3W-YYO. There is also a new reverse bicolor with the paradoxical name ‘Caribbean Snow’ 2YYW-W, and much more to come. Any of these would be a good addition to a daffodil collection.

The daffodil world has been greatly enriched by John Pearson and the daffodils he has bred. It is a pleasure to be able to feature him and his flowers in these pages.
A SAFE AND EASY WAY OF CONTROLLING NARCISSUS FLY

John A. Hunter, Nelson, New Zealand

The control of both the large narcissus fly (Merodon equestris) and the small narcissus fly (Eumerus tuberculatus) can be a simple matter for the grower of exhibition daffodils. This is providing two criteria are met: the bulbs should be grown in beds and the stock treated to make sure no fly infection exists at the time of planting.

I have always had a thorough dislike of using any of the effective and highly poisonous insecticides since I was first introduced to Chlordane in the early 1950s while still a college student. Chlordane was advertised in one of the gardening magazines of the day as an effective control of narcissus fly. On ordering this, one can well remember a four-ounce bottle arriving by post with no advice from the distributor as to how dangerous the chemical was. That season I dipped all of my bulbs with my hands in the solution; there were no instructions that rubber gloves should be worn. I don’t think I have ever forgiven the suppliers for their lack of detailed information. Soon after, the Shell Company’s highly poisonous Aldrex made its appearance, followed later by Dieldrin as a dip for bulb fly. These two (now banned) cancer forming chemicals I refused to use.

It became obviously clear an alternative method of fly control had to be found if I was to continue to grow my exhibition daffodils, as in some seasons here, fly could account for an infection rate of up to 50%. The only solution that offered any hope was to cover them in some way. The first material we used was a Japanese nylon mesh; this was only manufactured in a three-foot width and had to be sewn together to make a suitable cover for the beds. Unfortunately, the product was not ultra violet protected and the mesh disintegrated after only three years use.

Approximately 25 years ago a superior form of nylon mesh that was ultra violet protected appeared on the market here. Our oldest covers are now this age and showing no signs of deterioration.

This material is available here in New Zealand and Australia (manufactured by Donaghy’s Textile Division or Sarlon Reid) in either a woven or knitted form, usually green in colour, in either 1.83 meter (6ft) or 3.66 meter (12ft) width, in 50 meter rolls, although shorter lengths can usually be purchased. The cloth is obtainable in various degrees of shade protection, depending on how densely it is woven: 33%, 50% and 75%. I have found the 50% cloth most satisfactory, although I have used some 33%. The higher density 75% tends to eliminate too much light.
John Hunter's daffodil beds covered with nylon mesh row cover

We make our covers 5.5 meters (18ft) wide x 20 meters (approximately 65 ft) long. This covers four of our beds with a path in between. These can be made to suit any bed size, but if the mesh has to be joined it is better sewn with a bootmaker's nylon thread, as this lasts for a long time.

The covers are put over the daffodils about the first week of October, usually when the last of the poeticus are flowering. No framing is needed, as the stems and the leaves are strong enough to hold the cover above the ground. Around the sides and ends are placed lengths of 2 x 4 timber to stop the wind lifting the cloth and to ensure no fly can enter from the edges.

One of the interesting things observed over the years is that flies coming from an outside source were very determined to try to get under the nylon covers. This would suggest that bulb flies are attracted to daffodil leaf growth by scent rather than sight, as I cannot believe they could detect my daffodils under the nylon from any great distance. It is not a topic that has been discussed in any of the articles I have read on the life cycle of bulb fly. This pest is so persistent that occasionally a few will still find their way in under the protected edges of the cover. When I find this has happened, they are no problem to dispose of as they cannot escape and usually fly to the highest point of the nylon netting where they can easily be squashed in the folds.
If on lifting one has a valuable daffodil bulb that has been infected with the large narcissus fly, it is possible to remove the pupa by inserting an implement (such as a crochet hook) into the hole in the basal plate. The hole should be filled with flowers of sulphur or a good fungicide. The bulb should recover after a period of two years or so. Hot water treatment with formalin for one to one and half hours at 110° F should prove fatal to the larvae.

The use of nylon shade cloth has other advantages as well. I have found it keeps the leaf growth growing longer before the die down period and in a more healthy condition for the three months of October to December due to the slightly cooler environment it creates. There is also no wind damage to the leaves. The nylon shade netting can also be used to cover the daffodils in September when they are in full flower. A frame high enough to walk under needs to be built for this one month. It will protect the flowers against hail or heavy rain, as rain penetrates the netting only as a fine mist. Also, it protects the flowers from burning in strong bright sunlight.

As far as I know we were the first to use this method of protection here in New Zealand, and there is none of our local daffodil group in Nelson who would now use any other system of bulb fly control.

We leave the covers on until the bulbs are dug in the summer (January). They are then rolled up and stored in the rafters of our shed.

The initial cost of the nylon is small when one considers it against the cost of losing one’s most prized and expensive daffodils. Also one saves the expense and inconvenience of having to apply highly toxic chemical insecticides every year.

(Only Southern Hemisphere times have been discussed in this article. Fly appears on the wing from October through the end of November in the Southern Hemisphere. In the Northern Hemisphere the equivalent flight time would be May until the end of June.)

**SUBSCRIBING TO THE DAFFNET**

If you haven’t subscribed to the Daffnet with your new computer, modem, and Internet Service Provider, do it now. Recent discussions have included doubles, staining of the corona color on the perianth, treating bulbs after they are dug, and bulb fly. To subscribe:

1. Send an email message to listserv@mc.edu.
2. No subject line is required, but you may use one if your provider requires it.
3. Type *Subscribe Daffodil Your Name* (replacing “Your Name” with your actual name).
4. Send the email.
A NEW DAFFODIL DISPLAY GARDEN
IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
Stan Baird, Blue Lake, CA

On October 4, 1998, an estimated crowd of some two hundred gardening enthusiasts, including many Pacific Region ADS members, gathered at the site of the new Humboldt Botanical Garden just south of Eureka, California, to dedicate a new daffodil display garden in memory of Christine Kemp, who died on January 1, 1998. Christine was a very active member of the Pacific Region, a highly regarded judge, an outstanding judging school instructor, and a regular and successful exhibitor at Pacific Region shows. She rarely missed a national convention and frequently judged at the national show. She was truly one of the outstanding horticulturists of northern California and was well known throughout the West Coast region, where she judged at various types of flower shows throughout California, Oregon, and Washington. She was also an accredited judge of the American Rose Society, the American Fuchsia Society, and the National Council of State Garden Clubs. Christine was a charter member and an ardent supporter of the Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation, so it seemed particularly appropriate that the first planting at the new Humboldt Botanical Garden should be a daffodil display garden dedicated to her memory. ADS members were, of course, thrilled that this first planting was to feature daffodils.

Stan Baird was asked to co-ordinate the acquisition of bulbs as well as the design and layout of the planting. All bulbs were donated and generous donations were received from Elise Havens, Jeanie Driver, Steve Vinisky, Leonard and Betty Jean Forster (all of Oregon); Dr. Leone Low, Ohio; Stan Baird, California; and Maria Krenek, president of the Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation. A total of 968 bulbs representing 57 different cultivars were planted in a raised bed measuring

Breaking ground: (1 to r) Dian Keesee, Nancy Wilson, ADS
President Bob Spotts, Stan Baird, Wayne Steele

Kirby Fong photo
12 feet by 50 feet. A retaining wall of concrete blocks cast to resemble stone was used to enclose the bed. The soil was hauled in from another area at the botanical garden site and was amended with approximately 50 per cent redwood compost. After the acquisition of all the bulbs, the position of each clump of bulbs was plotted on graph paper and the clumps numbered sequentially. In order to make use of a large planting crew, the clump number was placed both on the sack of bulbs for each clump and on the name stake for the clump. Then the numbered name stakes were placed at the position where the left front bulb was to be planted in each clump so that each worker knew exactly where to dig the hole for that clump. Much labor was donated by Botanical Foundation members, and many materials were purchased at a reduced rate, which kept the cost of the project to a modest level.

In keeping with the Botanical Garden’s educational function, a sign will be placed in the center of the bed that will explain the daffodil classification system and the color-coding scheme. Each clump of bulbs is identified as to cultivar, division, color code, hybridizer, and date of introduction. The collection of bulbs ranges from such tried-and-true landscaping favorites as ‘St. Keverne’ to Elise Haven’s ‘Silent Pink’ and Sid DuBose’s ‘Raspberry Rose’. Included in Elise Havens’ generous donation were bulbs of ‘Rapture’, which will be identified as a Wister Award winner. The collection includes a large number of pinks because the coastal climate is conducive to intense color in the pink cups. An effort was made to include some older cultivars of good quality as well as newer introductions, because it was felt that many visitors to the garden would be more interested in inexpensive cultivars than new introductions. In coming years the Foundation hopes to add more

Youthful volunteer, Andy Schuler, 4 years old, gets his first lesson in planting a daffodil bulb from Bob Spotts. (l to r) Karen Angel, botanical garden fundraiser, Kathy Leonardi, Jerry Wilson, Bob Spotts, Stan Baird.

*Kirby Fong photo*
cultivars to the display so that every division will be represented as well as eventually including all of the Wister Award cultivars.

The Humboldt Botanical Garden is located directly behind College of the Redwoods, a community college located on Highway 101 about five miles south of Eureka, California. The garden will climb up the hill behind the campus where many hillside viewpoints provide breathtaking panoramas of Humboldt Bay and the ocean beyond. The proximity to the Bay and the damp sea air should result in very intense colors in the pink cupped and red cupped cultivars. This coastal area of Humboldt County receives an average of 40 inches of rain during the winter months, which helps ensure daffodils with tall stems and good size. The long, cool spring guarantees a long bloom season for daffodils extending from the last week of January until early May.

The rain which had been predicted a few days before the dedication ceremony happily did not arrive and the morning of October 4th dawned bright and clear. Bob Spotts, Kirby Fong, and Wayne Steele drove up from the San Francisco Bay Area to join the festivities. Maria Krenek, the Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation’s indefatigable president, presided over the dedication ceremony with contributions from Bob Spotts as ADS president and Stan Baird as the Northern California Daffodil Society’s representative on the Botanical Garden’s Advisory Committee. And of course, Kirby Fong put his photography expertise to good use and preserved images of the event on film. Other ADS members attending were Jerry and Nancy Wilson, Kathy Leonardi, Mike and Dian Keesee, and Louanna Johnson. The Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation provided gourmet refreshments, and music by a brass ensemble from the Humboldt State University Department of Music added a festive air to the occasion. The Humboldt Botanical Garden Foundation is playing a vital role in the area by serving as an umbrella organization for the various plant societies and garden clubs in the area. To that end, six local plant societies accepted the invitation to hold a plant sale in conjunction with the dedication, and most of them did a very good business. Among the great variety of plants and bulbs offered for sale were, of course, daffodil bulbs.

Next spring, the Botanical Garden Foundation will hold a major event at the site of the Memorial Daffodil Garden when the daffodils are at peak bloom. With its proximity to an important highway and in a climate well suited for growing daffodils, this display garden should become a popular spring attraction for tourists on their way to nearby Redwood National Park and increase interest in our favorite spring flower.
Once upon a time not so very long ago an idea sprouted in the restored Colonial capital of Williamsburg, Virginia. This idea began to take root and grow, and eventually developed into a comprehensive garden for children at Matthew Whaley Elementary School. This is our story:

Across the country in recent years, the movement to teach children sound horticultural practices has been spreading, and a small group of gardeners in Williamsburg caught the spirit. These gardeners learned of a children’s garden in Lexington, Virginia and traveled to visit it. Leading the Lexington effort were educators Molly and Dirck Brown from Palo Alto, California, who had relocated, bringing with them the idea they originated there. With strong support from the Browns and backing from The Williamsburg Garden Club, the group went to work.

One of the members designed the garden pro bono with areas for each class, kindergarten through fifth grade. Each class has a program of study and planting which is related to the Standards of Learning for that grade. Kindergarteners build a sunflower house with sunflower and morning glories grown from seed. First graders participate in a program taught by local master gardeners, Ready-Set-Grow, which involves studying, planting, and tending seeds. Second graders have a twelve-week program involving volunteers from the community who come each week to serve as “garden friends.” Classroom and garden activities include studying how seeds sprout, composting, fertilizing, dealing with insects, and planting. One lesson concentrates on plant parts, and each child receives a daffodil bulb to plant at home. The third graders will develop an alphabet garden, using the Internet to research names, history, and growing conditions. The fourth grade will design and develop a Colonial herb garden to tie to their study of Colonial Virginia history.

Planting seedlings at Matthew Whaley Children’s Garden
Medicinal and culinary uses are explored and visits made to Williamsburg’s Colonial Garden and Nursery. The fifth grade has a water garden to research. These students will monitor water quality, study the growth habits of water plants, and raise goldfish.

Among the many talented families at Matthew Whaley is the Brown family. Young Marley Brown’s grandparents are American Daffodil Society judges and noted exhibitors Patricia and George Bragdon of Richmond. (George and Pat chaired the show at the national convention last year.) The students were fascinated to discover the many cultivars with their sizes and shapes as the Bragdons made their presentation on how bulbs grow. This fall over 2500 ‘King Alfred’ 1Y-Y, ‘Carbineer’ 2Y-O, ‘White Ideal’ 1W-W, ‘Fortune’ 2Y-O, ‘Salome’ 2W-PPY, and ‘Ice Follies’ 2W-W were planted according to the garden design plan. Also, miniatures ‘Sun Dial’ 7Y-Y, ‘Little Beauty’ 1W-Y, ‘Minnow’ 8W-Y, and ‘Tete-a-Tete’ 12Y-Y were planted in the butterfly garden to demonstrate “big and little” to the junior garden enthusiasts.

From a glimmer in a few gardeners’ eyes, the children’s garden has become a community project. As a gift to the newly renovated school, the City of Williamsburg donated approximately 500 bulbs of ‘King Alfred’—one to represent each student. The holes were dug for them, and the children planted bulbs along the perimeter of the school grounds to create a beautiful yellow “fence.” There have been workdays which included members of the garden club, school PTA, faculty, Kiwanis, and Master Gardeners. All have donated materials and funds for the indoor and outdoor classrooms. The track team at Lafayette High School built three plant stands with grow lights, and a sunflower trellis was constructed by a group of Boy Scouts for advancement credit.
This year Williamsburg celebrates its 300th anniversary, and the Children's Garden will be open for tours and planted with yellow and blue flowers, which are the city's official tricentennial colors. The Children's Garden will host special tours on Arbor Day, March 12, on April 20 during Historic Garden Week, and on April 30 for its dedication as a tricentennial gift to the children of the City of Williamsburg.

Join us for the celebrations! (For more information about the garden, contact Mary Ann Brendel, 311 Burns Lane, 23185.)

Matthew Whaley Children's Garden before planting

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 22-24, 1999  ADS Convention, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
October 9, 1999   ADS Fall Board Meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana
March 31-April 2, 2000  Ads and World Convention, Portland, Oregon
September 23, 2000  ADS Fall Board Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri
April 5-7, 2001  ADS Convention, Louisville, Kentucky
2002  ADS Convention, Cincinnati, Ohio
2003  ADS Convention, host society still needed
2004  ADS 50th Anniversary Convention, Washington, D. C.

Frank Galyon, Knoxville, TN

The earliest of all is the diploid wildling, the miniature ‘Cedric Morris’ 1Y-Y. It can bloom in the autumn before the occurrence of the winter solstice. Because of its extreme earliness it is unfortunately not readily available to those who would like to grow it. A major drawback is its susceptibility to basal rot; hence, it can be readily lost. After six years I flowered a seedling from ‘St. Keverne’ 2Y-Y x ‘Cedric Morris’ on January 22, 1999, early like its pollen parent.

The next cultivar to flower is ‘Dawn Chorus’ 1Y-Y. This is a seedling of ‘Rijnveld’s Early Sensation’ 1Y-Y (abbreviated ‘RES’ in this article), crossed by pollen of a fall-blooming N. asturiensis. ‘Dawn Chorus’ usually opens here in Tennessee about one week before ‘RES’. In appearance, its perianth is slightly twisty and its segments are quite narrow. It tends to pass on to its progeny the twisting character of its perianth; however, I’ve had three crosses from ‘Dawn Chorus’ pollen that have shown worthwhile flowers. The first is the cross of ‘RES’ x ‘Dawn Chorus’. The first bloom of this cross opened on January 12, 1999. Among the progeny was a nice golden 1Y-Y that bloomed before either parent. The second cross was ‘Chunky’ x ‘Dawn Chorus’ from which I got a very good 6Y-Y that opened on January 28, 1999. ‘Chunky’ is the stable name for a fine 6Y-Y, now extinct, from the cross of ‘Surfside’ 6W-Y x N. cyclamineus. The third interesting cross of ‘Dawn Chorus’ pollen was onto ‘Oregon Beauty’ 4Y-R. As expected, approximately half of these were doubles, and the other half were singles. None showed any orange color in the first generation. The earliest of these double seedlings opened on February 5. Some of them had stigmas, and more of them had pollen. Ron Scamp lists ‘Dawn Chorus’ in his catalog for those interested in obtaining a bulb.

The third extremely early cultivar to flower is ‘RES’, which falls just short of Division 1 when I measure it. It has the largest flower of the group with a yellow perianth and somewhat deeper yellow corona. Its great advantage is that it is readily available as a Dutch bulb. Its major drawback is that it must be fertilized every single year in order for it to set bloom buds in poor soil and it tends to pass this trait on to its progeny. Interestingly I made parallel crosses of ‘Oregon Beauty’ x ‘RES’ in 1990 and ‘Oregon Beauty’ x ‘Dawn Chorus’ in 1991. Here in 1999 only one of 24 seedlings in the ‘RES’ 1990 cross has flowered, yet
essentially all of the clones of the ‘Dawn Chorus’ cross have flowered—many with multiple blooms. These results graphically show the inheritable trait from ‘RES’ of its tendency to be a poor bud setter.

Following a day or two after ‘RES’, the fourth extremely early cultivar to flower is ‘First Hope’, from a cross of ‘Jana’ 6Y-Y by ‘RES’. Although it is classified as a 6Y-Y, it shows no evident characteristics of the species *N. cyclamineus* and should be reclassified as a 1Y-Y in my opinion. Its perianth segments are as deep gold color as its trumpet. Upon first opening, its flowers have a flat perianth, and it would seem to be a show flower. In a day or two as the bloom matures, however, each perianth segment curls back on itself to give a gappy appearance without reflexing. It can pass this trait on to its progeny. In spite of this trait of its perianth, ‘First Hope’ is by all odds the most satisfactory of the four extremely early cultivars as a garden plant. It sets copious bloom buds annually without requiring annual fertilizing like its parent ‘RES’. I can highly recommend ‘First Hope’ as an extremely early cultivar to give lots of winter gold color to your garden. It blooms well in advance of the widespread *N. pseudonarcissus*, known colloquially as ‘Early Virginia’ or “Trumpet Major” and it is almost as large a flower as ‘RES’. A small progeny from the cross of ‘First Hope’ x ‘Dawn Chorus’ yielded nothing to be looked at twice.

‘First Hope’ has a trade designation of JANUARY GOLD. This is not to be confused with the trade designation of ‘RES’ which is JANUARY. I am unaware if ‘First Hope’ is available as a Dutch bulb, but Ron Scamp does list it in his catalog as a 6Y-Y.
UPDATE ON LABELING METHODS
Patricia Jean Smith, Dallas, TX

I thought I had my labeling problem solved two years ago when I used the Eon-type metal plates with the hairpin-shaped wire. I printed on Avery 5660 labels with my laser printer and the labels were classy and easy to read. The ink held up in our Texas sunlight, but the heat and water caused the labels to buckle and flake. I then tried covering them with the expensive new 3M Patching and Repair tape, guaranteed suitable for outdoor use, but after the first winter the tape developed many fine lines making the labels resemble crackleware China.

But the mention in the Journal about Plasti Dip caught my eye. In the hardware store among the Plasti Dip products I spotted a clear, heavy duty, flexible rubber coating spray that promised: “Won’t crack, chip, or peel. Lasts for years. Stops rust and corrosion. Acid and salt resistant.” I sprayed this on my next batch of Eon plates and clear laser-printed labels. They endured the summer of 1998 with 64 days of 100° temperatures and frequent watering. So far they look as legible as when newly printed. The 3M labels did not last the summer.

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FALL FIRSTS
Pearl A. Herder, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, Canada

In 1998 I ordered daffodil bulbs for the first time from Northern Ireland and the United States to be shipped to Canada. It turned out to be quite a patience-testing and expensive experience and I know now why more Canadians have not ventured down this path. However, if the results are beautiful, healthy flowers the ordeal will have been worth it.

April and May, 1998. I placed daffodil orders with Brian Duncan Daffodils, Northern Ireland; Grant Mitsch Novelty Daffodils, Oregon, U.S.A.; Bonnie Brae Gardens, Oregon, U.S.A.; and Wooden Shoe Bulb Company, Oregon, U.S.A.

An import permit is required for shipments from Northern Ireland and the proper paperwork and payment must be sent in to Agriculture & Agri Food Canada at Nepean, Ontario. A permit number is issued and it must be placed on the parcel sent from Northern Ireland. The current cost for this permit is $35.00 and it is valid for three years. The time from faxed forms and payment to receipt of the import permit number was twenty-four days.

In Northern Ireland the exporter must attach a phytosanitary certificate with an additional declaration for potato wart, potato nematodes, and soybean cyst nematode. Bulbs must be free from soil, sand, and related debris. Importing daffodils from the United States requires a phytosanitary certificate from the United States exporter. Therefore I had to pay extra for each phytosanitary certificate; the cost varies from $10.00 to $15.00.

September 8. Richard & Elise Havens of Grant Mitsch Novelty Daffodils contacted me by e- for my phone number and directions for UPS shipment. (The Mitsch company had also notified me by e-mail to confirm receipt of my order and payment and to issue an order number.)

September 19. Mitsch package not yet received, so I contacted UPS but they said they could not trace the package without the tracking number.

September 22. The Mitsch order finally arrived. The forms showed the import date was September 12. The order had spent some time sitting around before finally being delivered. There was an additional charge of $32.82 for brokerage service charges and government goods and services charges (G.S.T. Goods and services tax of 7%, similar to U.S. sales tax on items).

September 20. Meanwhile, I received a phone call that the Bonnie Brae package was in southern Alberta at Taber. Apparently the mailing
label for an optometrist's package had been stuck on my package so my bulbs were delivered to the optometrist at Taber and he had paid the costs. I suggested that he should take the parcel back to the post office, stressing that the post office should forward my package on to me and not send it back to Oregon.

September 28. After seven days the Bonnie Brae package had not arrived, so I contacted Canada Post to find out where it had gone now and to inquire about the whereabouts of my Northern Ireland order. A Canada Post customer service representative told me my Northern Ireland order was returned after three delivery cards were sent out, which I never received, and the package was sent back to Northern Ireland. Also my Bonnie Brae order had been sent back to Oregon. Canada Post was filing inquiry sheets on my orders. I was not pleased with these reports.

September 29. I contacted a supervisor at Canada Post. After some inquiries she said the Northern Ireland order was on its way from Montreal and should arrive next week. The Bonnie Brae order had been sent from the Taber postal station (another two days there before deciding to "follow procedure") to Calgary customs to re-label and assign cost. However, the package had not been received in Calgary, and the supervisor informed me that a claim form should be filled out and that I should get in touch with Bonnie Brae in case the parcel was returned to them.

October 1. I received a postal card stating that the Bonnie Brae order had arrived in Fort Saskatchewan. The customs cost on this parcel was $9.02. I also checked with the optometrist in Taber and he had also received his missing package.

October 9. I contacted Wooden Shoe Bulb Company who said they had shipped on October 5. (I had decided to send this parcel post because of the lengthy delay and costs of my previous UPS order.) I contacted the Canada Post supervisor who has now given me the postal package number on the Ireland parcel and says I should have it this week. The Ireland order has been in the so-called "system" since September 11 and was sent by airmail. It began to snow today; soon it will be too late to plant.

October 14. After a Canada Post supervisor informed me the parcel from Northern Ireland was not mine and that it had been delivered to St. John, Newfoundland, I contacted plant inspections and customs in Edmonton and the airport office in case it had traveled there. Customs did say that the package could have been taken off the line to be
inspected by Agriculture Canada and then could be sitting somewhere. But where? I asked Brian Duncan to begin an inquiry at his end.

October 16. The Wooden Shoe Bulb Company order arrived. This order did not go through customs so there were no additional charges placed.

October 26. The order from Brian Duncan finally arrived. Maybe the inquiry Brian Duncan sent in got things going, or else someone finally realized it should be delivered. All the correct customs work was completed, the import number was clearly written in red, and the package was strongly wrapped and sealed. Customs had told me that that there could be "slow-ups" if the customs declaration value or import permit number are not on the package or if the parcel is not packaged properly so that contents fall out. None of these excuses applied to the Brian Duncan shipment, so I still do not know why this package was delayed. There were no customs costs on this package. I do not know where the hold-up was, but I am very happy to receive such quality bulbs; it would have been a real tragedy to have lost them. The bulbs were in great shape considering their lengthy stay in the box.

Finally I had one hundred percent delivery on all my daffodil orders and was able to plant before the ground froze solid. It has been a bizarre experience for this fall of firsts in my corner of the world. I do believe that the problems I experienced were due to the postal services, delivery companies, and/or customs. The bulb companies were very efficient and helped wherever they could.

WISTER AWARD WINNERS

1985  ‘Stratosphere’ 7Y-O
1987  ‘Accent’ 2W-P
1992  ‘Ice Follies’ 2W-W
1993  ‘Sweetness’ 7Y-Y
1994  ‘Ceylon’ 2Y-O
1995  ‘Salome’ 2W-PPY
1996  ‘Peeping Tom’ 6Y-Y
1997  ‘Rapture’ 6Y-Y
1998  ‘Intrigue’ 7Y-W
1999  ‘Tripartite’ 11aY-Y
This issue features the second installment of the Cultivar Spotlight, this one written by Harold Koopowitz. Observe your daffodils carefully this season, especially your favorite cultivars, and write a brief portrait for The Daffodil Journal. If you don’t have a photograph, we’ll locate one for you. Brian Duncan furnished the photo of ‘Rimski’ for this feature and said he’d also like to acquire bulbs of ‘Rimster’, which was registered the same year as ‘Rimski’ and is from a similar cross, as he no longer has it.

Fellows Riverside Gardens suggests you visit if you pass near the Youngstown, Ohio area on the way to or from the Pittsburgh Convention. The Gardens have eleven acres of public display operated by Mill Creek MetroParks and displays more than 120 cultivars of daffodils. They are open daily free of charge from dawn to dark and can be easily accessed from the Ohio Turnpike. Contact for a color brochure and directions: 123 McKinley Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44509. phone: (330) 740-7116; fax: (330) 740-7129; email: fellows@cboss.com; web site: http://www.cboss.com/fellows.

In the Cultivar Focus in the December, 1998 issue, page 141, there is a typo in the color code in the title. The photo caption is correct; the code should be 2YYW-Y.

The March reply card for the Quality Paperback Book Club advertises a book titled Clean It Fast, Clean It Right and says “the American Daffodil Society reveals the best ways to clean dried flowers....”

The March issue of the BBC’s Gardeners’ World reports that “botanists at Whitman College in Washington State, USA, analyzed nine wild species of narcissus from southern Spain and discovered that their scents fell into two main groups: those that attracted butterflies and moths and those that were irresistible to bees and flies.”

Joe Hamm reports the death of Phyllis Maish Vonnegut 1926-1999: The death of Phyllis Vonnegut on January 4 has created a void in many of our lives. Phyllis was a keystone member of the Indiana Daffodil Society, serving not only as President in 1979 but on many of the committees. As an ADS member she served as both Regional Director
and Regional Vice President and chaired the 1991 National Convention in Indianapolis. She was always willing to serve as a judge for Daffodil Shows but was also well respected as a National Council of State Garden Clubs judge.

Phyllis promoted daffodils in lectures to garden clubs and elementary schools. She was a deacon at her church and participated in many other church activities. In the community she participated by activities at Butler University and Kappa Alpha Theta sorority, the stamp club, Wedgwood Society, and numerous garden and plant societies.

Phyllis is sorely missed. Our sympathies go to Walter, her husband of 50 years, whom many ADS members know from his attendance at most ADS activities.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Phyllis Vonnegut .................................................. Mr. & Mrs. William Newill
.................................................................................. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Driver
.................................................................................. Naomi Liggett
.................................................................................. Tag Bourne (Color in the Journal Fund)
Neil Macneale ......................................................... Mr. & Mrs. William Newill
.................................................................................. Mr. & Mrs. Frank Driver
Bernice Ford .......................................................... Letitia Hanson
Marie Bozievich ..................................................... Mr. & Mrs. Frank Driver

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IN MEMORIAM: MARIE BOZIEVICH, 1908-1999

"There was a star danced, and under that was [she] born..."

--W. Shakespear

Marie Bozievich was blessed with many talents, not least of which was her effervescent and infectious joie de vivre. Dancer, musician, artist, teacher, gardener and exhibitor par excellence, judge and leader, she approached everything with enormous zest. Born and raised in Utah, she had had an adventurous childhood, running half-wild over the countryside with her brothers. When we roamed together for six weeks on a trip to Japan, she regaled me with hair-raising and hilarious tales of her many escapades. She remained a free spirit always, eventually earning the nickname “Leadfoot” among her daffodil friends, whom she occasionally terrorized by her speed behind the wheel. She loved any excuse for a party, especially one with champagne, her great favorite.

Marie was a charter member of ADS and was continuously involved in its affairs until her health began to fail a few years ago. As Awards Chairman, 1964-67, she codified show rules and procedures and established the first system of awards to be given at shows. This material became a major part of the first comprehensive handbook on daffodils. She held various other jobs before becoming Second Vice President in 1976, one of which was the assignment to design a logo pin for ADS members. The result was the lovely stylized pin with ‘Accent’ 2W-P on it, which became available to members in 1978. These are now collectors’ items. The beautiful drawings on the cover of Daffodils to Show and Grow are also her work.

Seedlings in ADS shows had received little attention until 1978, when the Board approved two new trophies for standard and miniature seedlings in national shows. The attractive Mitsch and Larus silver trophies were designed, and made entirely by hand, by Marie. (See June, 1979 Journal for a fascinating account of how they were made.) They are a testament to her love for daffodils and for ADS.

In 1980 Marie became the first woman to be elected president of ADS. In that year she was also awarded the ADS Silver Medal for her long record of service to the Society, and on leaving office in 1982, she was made an Honorary Life Member of ADS.

During those forty-odd years she was a frequent contributor to the Journal and gave many programs--at conventions, regional meetings and to countless garden groups. She also taught many of our best judges in the judging schools. Though a fierce competitor in shows, she was always generous with help and advice to newer exhibitors. She was a
master at packing flowers and staging them, and her many exhibitor’s workshops always produced better exhibitors wherever she gave them.

Her expertise in growing was as legendary as her show successes. The amazing quantities of healthy excess bulbs from her garden provided the foundation for four major daffodil plantings in public gardens in the Washington, D.C. area. As Test Gardens Chairman, 1984-85, she also donated thousands of bulbs to various other public gardens. Through the years, thousands more went to many ADS members in the Middle Atlantic region.

Marie brought her ever-young sense of fun and adventure to everything she did, but at the same time, a true commitment. She often said that there was no such thing as a “green thumb,” that it was genuine interest, love of the work and taking the time for it, and perseverance that make a successful gardener.

A legend has passed from the daffodil scene, one that will live on as long as any of us whose lives she touched remember her. Our sympathies to her family.

Delia Bankhead

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A DOWN UNDER EXPERIMENT IN PITTSBURGH

Steve Hampson, Waynesburg, PA

It all began with an invitation to commercial daffodil growers and hybridizers to set up exhibits at April’s ADS Convention and National Show in Pittsburgh. Dianne Mrak sent letters last October to growers, including our friends from the Southern Hemisphere, who ordinarily would be planting daffodil bulbs in April, not selecting blooms for display. She suggested that a Down Under exhibit might include photographs of flowers, catalogs, information, and possibly bulbs to sell. Dianne received a return letter from Rod Barwick of Glenbrook Bulb Farm in Claremont, Tasmania in late November. Rod was, in his own words, “rather intrigued by the possibility of having a commercial display.” His idea for a Glenbrook display was to have copies of his catalog available as well as bulbs of Glenbrook-raised miniatures for sale--and to have pots of those miniatures in bloom! This was something that, to our knowledge, had never been attempted. He explained that quite a few of his miniatures started flowering in Tasmania’s autumn, April and May; and that he could send bulbs of 12 to 15 different cultivars and species in late December, to be potted and brought into bloom for the Convention. His only provision was that there be a “competent bulb grower who would be prepared to help.” Evidently, Dianne put great faith in my horticultural skills and willingness to be helpful. So you can guess who was chosen as the bulb grower. I have been forcing daffodils and other spring bulbs commercially for several years, but have no experience with what the ADS Daffodils to Show and Grow lists as Season 7 daffodils--those with an unusual period of bloom, such as autumn or winter.

On January 8 a package from Glenbrook Bulb Farm arrived at Dianne’s doorstep. Inside were several bulbs each of 24 different registered and unregistered daffodil cultivars, Glenbrook crosses, and a species. These are ‘Fyno’ 10W-W, ‘Gadget’ 10Y-Y, ‘Gallygaskins’ 10Y-Y, ‘Mitimoto’ 10W-Y, Nylon Group 10W-W, Nylon Group 10W-W x N. bulbocodium var. tenuifolius, Nylon Group 10W-W x N. bulbocodium var. citrinus, ‘Smarple’ 10W-W x N. bulbocodium var. citrinus, Nylon Group 10W-W open pollinated, eight crosses of ‘Tarlatan’ x ‘Julia Jane’ 10Y-Y, two crosses of ‘Fyno’ 10W-W x ‘Julia Jane’ 10Y-Y, N. romieuxii open pollinated, three crosses of N. fernandesii x N. cyclamineus, and N. cantabricus. All bulbs were potted the next day. A note gave growing suggestions. Obviously, Rod has never spent winter in western Pennsylvania. He suggested putting the potted bulbs in an open or slightly protected garden location, making

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sure the temperature did not go below freezing. I looked outside at the six inches of snow blanketing the ground and opted to place the pots in my cool greenhouse.

Ten days after potting, the first roots of some bulbs were visible through drainage holes in the bottom of the pots. Four days later, all were rooted, and on day 18, foliage of 'Nylon' x *N. bulbocodium* var. *citrus* appeared at the soil surface. So far, so good. The potted bulbs are spending a few weeks in a 40°F cooler before returning to the cool greenhouse to grow and hopefully flower by late April for the Convention, where they will be displayed and auctioned.

Rod believes we will be successful if four to six of the twenty-four cultivars and species bloom. The pressure is on. (Note: Another Down Under grower, Spud Brogden of Brogden Bulbs in Normanby, Taranaki, New Zealand, will also have an exhibit at April's Convention and Show.)

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THREE ROBINS
Leone Y. Low, Robin Chairman

The decades-old, original hybridizer’s round robin, named The Hummingbird, has been joined by the New Hybridizers robin, now two years old. There are ten members exchanging letters via the Hummingbird and nearly that many in the New Hybridizers’ group. The two robins also exchange letters.

Past members of the Hummingbird have included Dr. William Bender, Dr. Tom Throckmorton, Roberta Watrous, and Meg Yerger. Just as they advised new members of the Hummingbird, the current members now advise the next wave of hybridizers.

Lavern Brusven, director of the robin for new hybridizers, has decided that there is room for new members. He welcomes people who are considering hybridizing daffodils, people who would like to learn more about hybridizing, or people who are actually creating new daffodils. Those who are interested may write him at 1331 Cobb Hill Road, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Elise Havens, Frank Galyon and others have written special letters for the new robin. Many queries and solutions are handled within the normal rounds of the letters.

The Hummingbird Comments

There are general statements about the hybridization of daffodils as well as comments on remarks and comments of other members. For example, Hummingbird members have recently reported the following:

Robin Jerrell, originator of ‘Eileen Squires’ 2W-GPP, ‘Windhover’ 3W-GYR, and others, has been making crosses since the early sixties. His particular objective was to aim at Division 2 or with luck Division 3 white perianth flowers with colored cups. More recently, he has been aiming at earlier season flowers with these colors.

Helen Link, originator of numerous daffodils, reported some excellent blooms among the new seedlings. Her goal is to obtain blooms with long lasting quality.

Mary Lou Gripshover, hybridizer of ‘Three of Diamonds’ 3W-GWO is crossing miniature trumpets and Division 6s, as well as standard daffodils. She described several interesting crosses using her pink seedling 80-31-2, ‘Fine Romance’ 2W-WPP, ‘Cape Point’ 2W-P, ‘Soprano’ 2W-GPP, ‘Catalyst’ 2W-R, ‘Artful’ 2W-P, and ‘Personable’ 2W-P. Mary Lou also included a list of all bulboocodium hybrids and their pedigrees in her letter. There are very few cultivars in the new Division 10, and new hybridizers may find results come more quickly by
crossing bulbocodiums with other divisions or crossing different bulbocodium species as Rod Barwick has done.

Donna Dietch reported that she harvested seeds from a cross of two of her pink seedlings and from a cross using Charles Wheatley’s Rose Ribbon winning seedling with a named 3 W-W.

There was also discussion about John Reed’s (and others’) progress toward P-P’s. Bob Spotts, originator of ‘Kokopelli’, reported on green coloration in third generation viridiflorus seedlings. Henry Hartman discussed the show and garden potential of his Y-Y seedlings.

Dave Karnsle notes that many new hybridizers begin with open pollinated seeds. He advises, “It doesn’t prove to be a very productive pathway. One can be very choosy about which capsules (seed pods) to collect, but it requires discipline. As the numbers of your crosses multiply, and you are faced with thousands of seeds, seedlings, and selected stocks, collecting and sowing OP seeds loses its luster. I can’t emphasize too strongly that you must have some very clear goals in mind when you begin a disciplined hybridizing program. For example, mine are few: 1) Improved bicolor trumpets (whether W-Y, -P, -O, -R or Y-O, -R, -P, -W) and 2) Sun-fast Y-R and W-R hybrids. The first has been a goal for thirty years. The last has evolved more recently after observing the number of new hybrids in these color combinations whose cups turn to brown crepe paper within a few hours of opening on a sunny day.”

Dave continues, “One always makes some spur-of-the-moment crosses each season, but the majority of the crosses you make should be made according to a plan that directly relates to your hybridizing goals. The process requires four-five-six years of time to obtain flowers, a very small portion of which, optimistically, are of high enough quality to retain—a not inconsiderable investment in time and resources! Common sense behooves one to cover as many bases as possible to obtain the highest likelihood of that event’s occurring. Most of us need to use our limited space at its most productive level. It is only through a disciplined approach to this process that you can expect consistent results. You’ll find that most non-line bred crosses produce a great many mediocre seedlings. Line-breeding has greater potential for producing something of quality. Use only the best hybrid material available to obtain consistent results with the least investment of one’s time and resources.”

If this inspires, rather than discourages you, I’ll relay Clive Postle’s advice. When I had just planted my second year of seeds, with first blooms years away, Clive said that to make real progress, I needed to be making crosses with my own seedlings, preferably seedling to seedling. This seemed like an excellent long-term goal. When my seedlings eventually bloomed, I used the few that showed some advancement or
other distinctiveness as a parent with another bloom which had several desirable qualities. Care was taken to avoid serious faults and not to use parents which both had a characteristic that I didn’t want.

For instance, this year I harvested a number of seeds for a hoped for 3Y-P from my own seedlings. A brightly colored 3W-P maiden bloom’s pollen was put on some ‘Earthlight’ 3Y-WY seedlings which were 3Y-W and 3Y-Y, as well as named 3 Y-W’s. It will be at least a decade before the health and vigor of the most beautiful progeny can be assessed.

Clive also mentioned that John Lea usually only crossed one bloom(!) per cross and thought that about 14 seeds would produce the desired result if the cross had any potential. However, John had at least one cross that yielded hundreds of seeds.

Helen Link suggested that I cross miniature daffodils, and this has yielded more immediate results. The results toward my goal of introducing more color into the miniatures currently lag behind those of Tasmania’s Rod Barwick.

**New Hybridizers’ Robin Topics**

Some goals of New Hybridizer’s robin members included improved excellence in 1Y-Ps, development of Division 11 flowers, and increased fertility in jonquil hybrids. Other members just expressed a desire to get seeds from their crosses and to have them germinate. This was apparently a difficult year for either to occur in some areas of the U.S. Donna Dietsch also included some helpful comments on planting seeds.

There are also informative articles on this subject in previous issues of the *Journal*. The one that has helped me the most is in the March 1981 issue, pages 161-167. The title is “Hybridizing,” and it is the transcript of a phone conversation between Dr. John Tarver and Bill Pannill, who made the bulk of the comments.

In addition to crosses, seeds, and how to grow daffodils, other related matters are mentioned. Lewis Turner mentioned hot water treatment, and Clay Higgins mentioned several types of equipment for HWT, as well as chemical and solar treatment of soil with the goal of eradicating pests.

**The Robins’ Structure**

Most robins consist of one loop, with the letters going successively to those on the membership list. Robins with this structure include Mary Koonce’s Miniature Robin, Sandra Stewart’s Species Hybrid Robin, Scott Kunst’s Historic Daffodils Robin, Nancy Smyth’s second Historic Robin, and Suzy Wert’s Youth Activities Robin. (These last two are startups and really need additional members.)
Leone Low, ADS Robin Chair and interim Hummingbird Director, and Lavern Brusven, Director of the New Hybridizers’ Robin, are following a modified loop model by exchanging copies of the letters of the two robins. In addition, Lavern is experimenting with a variation that he believes will allow for many additional members. Please contact him if you are interested in more information.

**Species Hybrid Robin Notes**

The Species Hybrid Robin was formerly called the V-IX, or Five Through Nine Robin. With bulbocodium hybrids displacing the daffodil species from the Division 10 slot, this robin now discusses Divisions 5 through 10. Members were given the choice between new names V-X Robin or Species Hybrid Robin. However one of the members said that “The RHS says only Arabic numerals.” Another member said that since now he knew he was being naughty to use Roman numerals for division numbers, he would try to correct his ways. Another commented, “Since they were the beginning, shouldn’t species be Division Zero rather than Thirteen?”


Early foliage on Division 8 cultivars was worrisome north of the Mason-Dixon Line. ‘Geranium’ 8W-O, ‘Avalanche’ 8W-Y, ‘Matador’ 8Y-O, ‘Minnow’ 8W-Y, and ‘Canaliculatus’ 8W-Y were mentioned. A suggestion relayed from the Scamps on how to grow ‘Canaliculatus’ was to plant it a foot deep in some clay. Tazettas are favorites of southern daffodil lovers.

There was an unusual degree of interest in Division 9 cultivars such as ‘Como’ 9W-GYR, ‘Killearnan’ 9W-GYR, and ‘Phebe’ 9W-GYO. Several hybridizers were interested in obtaining breeding stock to work toward earliness or pink in the cups of poets. Meg Yerger’s cultivars ‘Secret Circle’ 9W-GYR, ‘Greenspring’ 9W-GGR, ‘Lime Ice’ 9W-GGP, ‘Lime Sherbet’ 9W-GGP, ‘Sweet Rose’ 9W-GGP and ‘Whit’ 9W-GWP are sought. ‘Pinkie’ 9W-WWP, ‘Grey Lady’ 3W-WWP, N. poeticus var. helenicus, Mavis Verry’s seedling, and other early blooming poeticus species (and breeding stock for miniature Division 11s) are also wanted.

Division 12 species hybrid daffodils such as ‘Bittern’ 12Y-O and ‘Tete-a-Tete’ 12Y-Y may be added to the robin’s scope.
Suggestions were given regarding use of poultry grit, PermaTill, Consan Triple Action 20, Sharpie permanent pens, floral shovels, forks, 5-10-20 and 6-24-24 fertilizers.

Our Minnesota member has the last word(s): “The robin members wish all of you the best 1999 season and that it finds you and all of your loved ones safe, well, and happy. May you be hopelessly behind in your work but somehow able to get it all done. May you be able to garden as much as you want. May your blooms be plentiful and may the judges find your daffodils to be without fault.”

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Len Forster, President, Oregon Daffodil Society
Jan Moyers, President, Northern California Daffodil Society

Pre-Convention Tour: San Francisco to Portland, March 19-30, 2000

During the eleven days leading up to the 2000 Convention the Oregon Daffodil Society's Pre-Convention Tour will introduce participants to the scenic and horticultural sights of northern California and Oregon. It will immerse us in daffodils: a show, gardens of growers and fields of hybridizers, public display gardens and naturalized plantings. The tour starts with overnight at the Vintage Court Hotel in San Francisco on Sunday, March 19. The bus tour will begin on Monday morning, March 20 at the hotel and conclude Thursday, March 30 at the World Daffodil Convention Hotel in Portland, Oregon.

Soon after leaving San Francisco and crossing the Golden Gate Bridge, our first stop will be at an award-winning garden on the Tiburon Peninsula belonging to an artist and avid gardener. We will enjoy coffee and muffins while strolling through this garden filled with an array of rare plants, many newly discovered. Travelling northward, we'll savor the beauty and diversity of northern California's wine country with visits to noted wineries and private gardens in both the Napa Valley and Sonoma Valley. We'll sip fine wines while enjoying daffodils and other plants in their gardens. Lunch will be enjoyed under the gazebo at the Trefethen Winery, the last remaining nineteenth century wooden winery in Napa Valley, where the buildings date back to 1886. Then on to the garden at Matanzas Creek Winery, which is noted for its innovative use of California native plants.

After an overnight in Santa Rosa, we travel north and west, passing through the picturesque Anderson Valley and along the Navarro River to the Pacific coast. Among the redwood groves, the dogwoods, trilliums, and other wildflowers should be at peak bloom. We'll enjoy dramatic seascapes along the Mendocino Coast as we travel to the historic town of Fort Bragg. Several highlights here will be a tour of the Mendocino Botanical Garden and visits to several private gardens. A ride on the famous narrow-gauge "Skunk Train" will be a memorable experience as the train passes through forests of stately redwoods to the summit of the Coastal Range.

After an overnight in the colorful town of Willits, the tour continues north to Garberville and the renowned daffodil garden of Nancy and Jerry Wilson filled with miniature hybrid and species daffodils. The Wilsons will host us for lunch. The afternoon is filled with more
highlights--wine tasting and the inspiring "Avenue of the Giants," where Coast Redwoods (Sequoia sempervirens) tower overhead.

In the town of Fortuna we'll participate in their Annual Spring Daffodil Show. This show draws exhibitors from Oregon and California. If arranged in advance, some of us may help judge the show. We'll visit the unique nearby town of Ferndale, where buildings adhere to a strict and beautiful Victorian theme. There will be a special daffodil show banquet in the evening.

We'll also spend time in local daffodil gardens such as the Christine Kemp Memorial at the Humboldt Botanical Garden (see story on page 000) and Stan Baird's garden at his home. As our trip continues north we'll visit the Sun Valley Bulb Farm. Then there will be final vistas of seascape and redwood forest before entering Oregon.

Crossing into Oregon, we'll encounter additional natural and horticultural treasures. The famous Oregon Pacific coastline is unmatched for scenic beauty. A day of surprises awaits as the tour takes us northward with visits to sea lion caves, stunning coastal dunes and beautiful gardens. Just south of Coos Bay and nestled along the shoreline we visit Shore Acres State Park, where an incomparable display of more than 5000 daffodils and tulips should be at the peak of bloom. Many of these spectacular blooms will also be in the display gardens of the Oregon Daffodil Society. Later, a stop will be made to visit the Darlingtonia Botanical Wayside, a sphagnum bog noted for cobra lilies.

Departing the coast, the tour bus will follow the Siuslaw River inland to the coastal crest and then drop down into the horticultural and garden mecca of Eugene. Here we will visit several outstanding gardens and nurseries. Gossler Farms Nursery contains one of the largest collections of magnolias in North America as well as many rare and unusual shrubs, perennials and bulbs.

The final day of the journey will allow a stop in Hubbard, Oregon at Grant Mitsch Novelty Daffodils. Here, acres of seedlings and cultivars registered by Grant Mitsch and Elise and Richard Havens await our view--a perfect way to whet our appetite for our return visit during the Convention.

Daffodil Festival Weekend Tour, March 16-19, 2000

For those who want even more daffodils, the Northern California Daffodil Society presents a preliminary weekend tour. This tour will begin with overnight on Thursday, March 16 at the Vintage Court Hotel in San Francisco and end Sunday late afternoon, March 19 at the Vintage Court Hotel.
On Friday morning we will travel by bus from San Francisco to the town of Murphys, 125 miles east in the foothills of the Sierra. In the mid-1800s this was the region of the California Gold Rush (the "Mother Lode"). Now it is an area of outdoor activities, historic sites, scenic wonders and lush vineyards. Along the route we'll stop to see a grower's daffodil garden and visit "Daffodil Hill," where acres of naturalized daffodil plantings trace back to 1877. The spring displays include over 300 historic cultivars with an estimated 400,000 blooms.

On Saturday we'll visit the "Spring Symphony of Daffodils and Wine," hosted annually by the Kautz Ironstone Vineyards. A major feature of this festival is the Northern California Daffodil Society's Mother Lode Daffodil Show. As well as daffodils in the show, there will be naturalized daffodils blooming throughout the vineyards and hundreds of show varieties grown in half-barrels for public display. Will we agree with the judges' decisions on paintings entered in the daffodil-theme art show? A serious competition, one winning painting will appear as the label on the next release of wine!

Make a special note of this: the Festival's featured daffodil personality will be Rod Barwick of Tasmania! Rod will be making his first trip abroad. In addition to being present at the Daffodil Show, Rod will delight us Saturday afternoon with a presentation: "My View of Seeing Daffodils Up-side Down."

Nearby, the historic town of Murphys will be celebrating Saint Patrick's Day. There will be a shuttle bus between Kautz Ironstone Vineyards and Murphys, where special events are scheduled throughout the day. The historic town is full of shops, boutiques, pubs, and inns.

On Friday evening and Saturday morning we will be able to help stage and judge the daffodil show on the working floor on the winery. On Saturday evening we'll feast at the festival's Gourmet Banquet where KIV opens its wines of the next vintage, pairing them with special dinner dishes. Each banquet dish will have been the category winner in the festival's culinary competition. Rod Barwick will again entertain us at the Banquet.

Sunday morning we depart from Murphys to the Sierra Nevada, where above snowline we find one of California's natural wonders—the famous "Calaveras Big Trees" Giant Redwoods (Sequoiadendron giganteum). Among the world's oldest living things, their life range can reach 4000-5000 years. Differing from the Coastal Redwoods, which resprout from stumps, these stately giants only reproduce from seeds.

At historic Columbia, we visit one of the largest and most important mining towns along the Mother Lode. Between 1850 and 1870, 87 million dollars worth of gold was extracted from the local placer mines.
Step back in history as you stroll through the restored village closely resembling its appearance in the Gold Rush days.

Late afternoon return to San Francisco.

**Cost of Tours**

The San Francisco to Oregon Tour cost estimate is $1525US (double occupancy) with a minimum of 30 participants. Should there be 40 or more participants, the cost per person will be $1395US (double occupancy). (Prices are subject to change.) Cost includes: all transportation by bus, Skunk Train, eleven nights’ lodging (Sunday through Wednesday of the following week), four dinners, seven lunches, entrance fees where required, wine tasting, services of an ADS member and an accompanying tour guide, and gratuities to the bus driver. A deposit of $200US will secure a reservation for the San Francisco to Portland Tour.

The Weekend Murphys Daffodil Festival Tour cost estimate is $495US (double occupancy) for the minimum of 20 participants. Should there be 40 or more participants, the cost per person will be $405US (double occupancy). (Prices are subject to change.) Cost includes: all transportation by bus, Friday evening dinner and Saturday evening banquet, three nights’ lodging (Thursday through Saturday), entrance fees where required, wine tasting, services of an accompanying tour guide, and gratuities to the bus driver. A deposit of $100 will secure a reservation for the Daffodil Festival Tour.

Meals other than those specified on the itinerary as well as extra personal expenses (for example, laundry, phone calls, alcoholic beverages) are NOT included in the tour cost.

**Tours Contact and Information**

Tour reservations and arrangements are to be made with the tour operator: Geostar Travel Inc., 4754 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 650A, Santa Rosa CA 95403 (telephone 800-624-6633; fax 707-579-0604; or e-mail: jbhopper@sonic.net). Call for brochures and information on the two tours including itineraries and cancellation/refund policy.

Direct any general questions on the SF-to-Portland Tour to the Oregon Daffodil Society 2000 Tour Manager: Gene Cameron, Box 503, Newberg, OR 97132 (telephone: 503-628-0204 or e-mail: godsawesomeacres@compuserve.com).

Direct any general questions on the Daffodil Festival Weekend Tour to the Northern California Daffodil Society Tour Manager: Bob Spotts, 409 Hazelnut Drive, Oakley CA 94561 (telephone: 925-625-5526 or email: rspotts@netvista.net).
OLD-TIMERS MAKE PROGRESS

Scott Kunst, Historic Daffodils Chairman

What do Kathy Andersen, Jaydee Ager, Kirby Fong, Richard Ezell, Leone Low, and Helen Trueblood have in common? (No, they’re not old-timers!) They’re all top-notch exhibitors, and each of them won a lilac ribbon last year for their Best Historic Cultivar.

With competitors as serious as these folks getting involved, historic daffodils continued to make progress in 1998. Nearly 80% of the 36 shows that were held offered the ribbon (and most included the entire section), up from 60% the year before. A wider array of cultivars won the ribbon, too, including the following, from oldest to most recent:

1731: ‘Orange Phoenix’/ ‘Eggs and Bacon’ 4 W-O, the very old double that was recognized by 1731
1868: ‘Sir Watkin’ 2 Y-Y, winner at the national show
1907: ‘Beryl’ 6 W-YYO, perennial favorite; won four times
1910: ‘Scarlet Gem’ 8 Y-O
1914: ‘Daphne’ 4 W-W, the double poet
1916: ‘Silver Chimes’ 8 W-W
1927: ‘Actaea’ 9 W-YYR, still a standard; won three times (a measure of its ubiquity as much as its excellence?)
1928: ‘Hawera’ 5 Y-Y
1928: ‘Trewirgie’ 6Y-Y, rarely seen; exhibited by oldies collector and Indiana Daffodil Society president Joe Hamm
1930: ‘Geranium’ 8 W-O
1930: ‘Sea Green’ 9 W-GYR
1932: ‘Cantabile’ 9W-GYR, elegant and green-eyed; won three times
1932: ‘Rippling Waters’ 5 W-W, won twice
1934: ‘Erlicheer’ 4 W-Y
1938: ‘Armada’ 2 Y-O, Guy Wilson’s rare cultivar
1938: ‘Green Island’ 2 W-GWY
1938: ‘Kingscourt’ 1 Y-Y, the classic yellow trumpet
1939: ‘Sweetness’ 7 Y-Y, won four times in 1997 but only once this past year

Winners were drawn from every division except, surprisingly, Division 3, which is rich in old cultivars such as ‘Barrii Conspicuus’ 3Y-YYO, 1869, and ‘Seagull’ 3W-Y, 1893. (Could it be that many 3s are too old to compete successfully, at least until our standards for histories evolve a bit more?) There were three winning cultivars from Divisions 2, 9, 8, and 4 (another surprise, since doubles don’t often win major awards). Three of the winners were hybridized by P. D. Williams (‘Beryl’, ‘Scarlet Gem’, and ‘Trewirgie’), and two each by J. L.
Richardson ('Kingscourt' and 'Green Island') and Guy Wilson ('Armada' and 'Cantabile').

Once again, the Historic Ribbon winner at the national show was unusually old. Last year Kirby Fong won with 'Flore Pleno' 4Y-Y from before 1611, and this year the big winner was Kathy Andersen with an exceptional bloom of the Victorian landmark 'Sir Watkin' 2Y-Y from before 1868. Are the judges trying to tell us something? It's a reminder, in any case, that historic daffodils have their own standards and charms and the finest of them needn't be the one that looks most modern.

Changes for This Spring's Shows

A complaint voiced at some shows last year was that judges failed to divide the Historic Section into classes. When the number of entries warrants it, judges are encouraged to divide the section on the spot and as needed into classes, by either division or date. Awarding more ribbons, as deserved, is sure to encourage even more participation in this new section.

Requirements for the Historic Ribbon are being tightened this spring or, rather, the requirements adopted by the ADS Board of Directors in 1996 are going to be fully enforced this spring after two years of transition. For example, though in the past two years Awards Chairman Kirby Fong has allowed the ribbon to be awarded to a collection, this will not be permitted this year. The ribbon must be awarded to a single stem. Probably the biggest change is that Kirby will also require, as directed by the authorizing resolution, that the Historic Ribbon be awarded only in shows that have added the entire Historic Pre-1940 Cultivars Section and not just a single class or section.

Will 100% of the shows include the section and ribbon this spring? Will all sections be packed with entries and divided into classes? Will an even wider--and older--range of cultivars win the lilac ribbon? Watch this space--or come to the shows and see for yourself.

And may I suggest bringing a few old-timers with you?

(Questions, complaints, and suggestions about the Historic Section and Ribbon are welcomed by the ADS Historic Daffodils Committee. Please contact Scott Kunst at 536 Third St., Ann Arbor, MI 48103-4957; phone: (734) 995-1486; fax: (734) 995-1687; email: OHGBulbs@aol.com)
1999 Daffodil Shows

The following list has a few changes from that published in the December issue: (1) The Georgia Daffodil Society show in Atlanta will be a display show only and only on March 20. (2) There is an added show on March 26 in Onancock, Virginia, sponsored by the Garden Club of the Eastern Shore. (3) The Nashville show is changed from April 3-4 to April 2-3. (4) The contact for the Morristown, NJ show has changed. (5) The Amity, Eugene, and Hillsboro show dates have changed from three-day shows to two-day shows; see the revised dates below.

Kirby Fong, Awards Chairman

March 6-7, 1999 Livermore, California
Northern California Daffodil Society at Alden Lane Nursery, 981 Alden Lane. Contact: Kirby Fong, 790 Carmel Avenue, Livermore CA 94550, (925) 443-3888, kfong@alumni.caltech.edu

March 13-14, 1999 Murphys, California
Northern California Daffodil Society at Kautz Ironstone Vineyard. Contact: Bob Spotts, 409 Hazelnut Drive, Oakley CA 94561, (925) 625-5526, rspotts@netvista.net

March 13, 1999 Clinton, Mississippi
Central Mississippi Daffodil Society at Hederman Science Building, Mississippi College. Contact: Ted Snazelle, 418 McDonald Drive, Clinton MS 39056-5340, (601) 924-7959, snazelle@mc.edu

March 20-21, 1999 Amity, Oregon
Oregon Daffodil Society at Amity Grade School gymnasium. Contact: Barbara Rupers, 2245 Oak Grove Road NW, Salem OR 97304-9510, (503) 364-0774

March 20-21, 1999 Dallas, Texas
Texas Daffodil Society at DeGolyer House, Dallas Arboretum. Contact: Dottie Sable, 4301 Edmondson Avenue, Dallas TX 75205, (214) 526-5379

March 20-21, 1999 Conway, Arkansas
Arkansas Daffodil Society at Hulen Hall, Hendrix College. Contact: J. A. Strauss, 322 Hall St., Malvern AR 72104, (501) 332-2109

March 20-21, 1999 Fortuna, California
Fortuna Garden Club at River Lodge Conference Center. Contact: Dian Keesee, 1000 Angel Heights Avenue, Fortuna CA 95540, (707) 725-2281, mizmilk@htan.org

March 20, 1999 Atlanta, Georgia
Georgia Daffodil Society at Atlanta Botanical Garden. Contact: Tom Roche, 179 Vidal Boulevard, Decatur GA 30030, (404) 377-6651, troche@itt.state.ga.us. NOTE: This is a display only, not a judged show.

March 26, 1999 Onancock, Virginia
The Garden Club of the Eastern Shore at The Hermitage. Contact: Mrs. Samuel A. Nock, Box 178, Quinby, VA 23423, (757) 442-3545.
March 27-28, 1999 Southern Regional Show Hernando, Mississippi
Garden Study Club of Hernando at Desoto County Courthouse. Contact: Angie Cook, 4960 Chamberlin Road, Hernando MS 38632, (601) 429-4892, acook@azo-inc.com

March 27-28, 1999 Southeast Regional Show Knoxville, Tennessee
East Tennessee Daffodil Society at Ellington Hall, University of Tennessee Agriculture Campus. Contact: Lynn Ladd, 1701 Westcliff Drive, Maryville TN 37803-6301, (423) 984-6688, lladd1701@aol.com

March 27-28, 1999 Chapel Hill, North Carolina
North Carolina Daffodil Society and North Carolina Botanical Garden at The Totten Center, North Carolina Botanical Garden. Contact: Luan Smyth, 2306 Jones Ferry Road, Chapel Hill NC 27516

April 2-3, 1999 Eugene, Oregon
Oregon Daffodil Society at Valley River Center. Contact: Betty Jean Forster, 31875 Fayetteville Drive, Shedd OR 97377-9701, (541) 491-3874

April 2-3, 1999 Nashville, Tennessee
Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society at Botanic Hall, Cheekwood Botanic Gardens. Contact: Richard Frank, 1018 Stonewall Drive, Nashville TN 37220, (615) 383-7058

April 3, 1999 Saint Louis, Missouri
Missouri Botanical Garden and the Greater Saint Louis Daffodil Society at the Missouri Botanical Garden Orthwein Display Hall, 4344 Shaw Boulevard. Contact: Jason Delaney, Department of Horticulture, MOBOT, P.O. Box 299, St. Louis MO 63166, (314) 577-0234, ext. 7, jasondelaney@hotmail.com

April 3, 1999 Louisville, Kentucky
Kentucky Daffodil Society at Bashford Manor Mall, Bardstown Road. Contact: Bill Evans, 11103 Rothburg Court, Louisville KY 40243 (502) 245-6531

April 3, 1999 Gloucester, Virginia
Garden Club of Gloucester at Page Middle School, Rt. 17. Contact: Mrs. H. Randolph Barbee, 5878 Five Gables Drive, Gloucester VA 23061, (804) 693-9677

April 3-4, 1999 Princess Anne, Maryland
Somerset County Garden Club at Peninsula Bank, 11732 Somerset Avenue. Contact: Lou Whittington, P. O. Box 1386, Salisbury MD 21802, (410) 548-2641

April 7-8, 1999 Goochland, Virginia
Three Chopt Garden Club and Garden Club of Virginia at St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, 12291 River Road. Contact: Mrs. William B. Power, 7507 Hill Drive, Richmond VA 23225, (804) 320-3317, ljpwbp@erols.com

April 10-11, 1999 Pacific Regional Show Hillsboro, Oregon
Oregon Daffodil Society at Washington County Fairground. Contact: Steve Vinisky, 21700 S.W. Chapman Road, Sherwood OR 97140-8608, (503) 625-3379, stevev@europa.com
April 9-11, 1999  Edgewater, Maryland
District II, Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland at London Town Public House.  Contact: Marie Coulter, 342 Prestonfield Lane, Severna Park MD 21146, (410) 647-8971

April 10-11, 1999  Wichita, Kansas
Wichita Daffodil Society at Botanica, 701 Amidon. Contact: Ray Morrissette, 1840 N. Ridge Drive, Wichita KS 67206

April 10-12, 1999  Scottsbug, Indiana
Daffodil Growers South at Leota Barn. Contact: Helen Trueblood, 3035 Bloomington Trail Road, Scottsburg IN 47170-9529, (812) 752-2998

April 10-11, 1999  Cincinnati, Ohio
South West Ohio Daffodil Society at Cincinnati Zoo. Contact: George and Kathryn McGowan, 3003 Cornstalk Road, Waynesville OH 45068-9601, (513) 862-4461

April 10-11, 1999  Richmond, Virginia
Virginia Daffodil Society and Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. Contact: George Bradon, 8702 Shadow Lane, Richmond VA 23229, (941) 592-7014 before March 15, (804) 282-7233 after March 15, gandpbradon@webtv.net or Mrs. A. C. Ford, Jr., 5313 Tuckahoe Avenue, Richmond VA 23226, (804) 282-1399

April 13, 1999  Upperville, Virginia
Upperville Garden Club at Trinity Parish House. Contact: Lucinda Mullett, 301 Archer Court, Berryville VA 22611, (540) 955-0428

April 14-15, 1999  Middle Atlantic Regional Show Baltimore, Maryland
Maryland Daffodil Society at The Church of the Redeemer, 5603 North Charles Street. Contact: Bruce Ann Gillet, 17020 Evna Road, Parkton MD 21120, (410) 343-1373.

April 15-16, 1999  Indianapolis, Indiana
Indiana Daffodil Society at Meridian Street Methodist Church. Contact: Joe Hamm, 4815 Fauna Lane, Indianapolis IN 46234-9531, (317) 293-3381

April 16-17, 1999  Morristown, New Jersey
New Jersey Daffodil Society at Felinghuysen Arboretum, 53 East Hanover Avenue. Contact: Mrs. Richard S. Ellwood, 12 Auldwood Lane, Rumson, NJ 07760, (732-842-7945, lellwood@aol.com

April 17-18, 1999  Columbus, Ohio
Central Ohio Daffodil Society at Franklin Park Conservatory. Contact: Cindy Hyde, 8870 State Route 22 East, Stouftville OH 43154, (740) 474-7488

April 17-18, 1999  Wheaton, Maryland
Washington Daffodil Society at Brookside Gardens. Contact: Chriss Rainey, 2037 Beacon Place, Reston VA 20191, (703) 391-2073, sjrainey@erols.com

April 17-18, 1999  Chambersburg, Pennsylvania
Chambersburg Garden Club at First Lutheran Church. Contact: Richard Ezell, 94 Willowbrook Drive, Chambersburg PA 17201, (717) 264-2269
April 17-18, 1999 Northeast Regional Show Kennett Square, Pennsylvania
Delaware Valley Daffodil Society at Longwood Gardens. Contact: Kathryn Andersen, 7 Perth Drive, Wilmington DE 19803, (302) 478-3115, ksa@del.net

April 17, 1999 Shelter Island, New York
The Garden Club of Shelter Island at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Contact: Mrs. Andrew Fiske, P.O. Box 636, Shelter Island NY 11964, (516) 749-0626, trinawaldr@aol.com

April 19, 1999 Chillicothe, Ohio
Adena Daffodil Society at Veteran's Medical Center. Contact: Mary Rutledge, 704 Ashley Drive, Chillicothe OH 45601, (740) 775-6663

April 22-24, 1999 ADS National Show Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania at Pittsburgh Marriott City Center. Contact: Dianne Mrak, 124 Fieldgate Drive, Upper St. Clair PA 15241, (412) 831-1672

April 24-25, 1999 Nantucket, Massachusetts
Nantucket Garden Club at the Point Breeze Hotel, Easton St. Contact: Joan Barnes, P.O. Box 192, Nantucket MA 02554, (508) 228-4133

April 28-29, 1999 New England Regional Show Greenwich, Connecticut
Greenwich Daffodil Society at Christ Church Parish Hall. Contact: Nancy Mott, 38 Perkins Road, Greenwich CT 06830, (203) 661-6142

April 30-May 1, 1999 Peterborough, New Hampshire
Northern New England Daffodil Show at Peterborough Town House. Contact: C. H. Anthony, P. O. Box 320, Dublin NH 03444, (603) 563-8222, aestony@cheshire.net

May 1-2, 1999 Central Regional Show Rockford, Illinois
Northern Illinois Daffodil Society and the Council of Rockford Gardeners at Klehm Arboretum. Contact: Nancy Pilipuf, 11090 Woodstock Road, Garden Prairie IL 61038, (815) 547-6244

May 1, 1999 Midwest Regional Show Akron, Ohio
Northeast Ohio Daffodil Society at Rolling Acres Mall. Contact: Carol McKeeman, 2773 Boltz Road, Akron OH 44333, (330) 666-0722

May 5, 1999 West Boylston, Massachusetts
Seven-State Daffodil Society at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, 11 French Drive. Contact: Nancy Mott, 38 Perkins Road, Greenwich CT 06830, (203) 661-6142

May 8-9, 1999 Saint Paul, Minnesota
Daffodil Society of Minnesota at the Como Park Conservatory. Contact: Myrna Smith, 1605 Fulham, St. Paul MN 55108, (612) 644-3530
AWARDING THE SILVER RIBBON

There has recently been some discussion on the Daffnet about handling ties for the Silver Ribbon. In the absence of ADS policy on ties, I want to say that as Awards Chairman I am willing to send additional Silver Ribbons for co-winners so that you do not have to break the tie. If you do wish to break the tie, you are currently free to choose your own criteria for doing so.

Kirby Fong, Awards Chairman

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ADDENDUM TO 1998 SHOW REPORTS

The following awards were omitted from the results of the 1998 National Show:

**Best Bloom in Hybridizers’ Section:** Elise Havens, TEH 26/1 2W-Y

**Link Award:** Leone Low
536-1 1W-W (N. minor 13Y-Y x ‘Candlepower’ 1W-W)
506-1 1W-W (Link ‘Little Beauty’ seedling x ‘Candlepower’ 1W-W)
97-1 6Y-Y (‘Mite’ 6Y-Y x ‘Pequenita’ 7Y-Y)

**Evans Award:** Elise Havens
Y93/35 5Y-Y
Y93/38 5W-W
Y93/33 5Y-Y
Y93/56 5Y-Y
‘American Family’ 5 YYW-W
Y93/51 5Y-Y

**ADS Challenge Cup:** Elise Havens
TEH 122/1 3W-YOO
‘Smooth Sails’ 3W-W
TEH 6/3 2W-P
WW 4/4 3W-GYY
Y149/5 2W-GWW
TEH 72/2 4Y-R

Y149/10 3W-GWW
TEH 35/1 3Y-Y
‘American Classic’ 2Y-WYY
TEH 103/2 3W-GGO
‘Junior Prom’ 4Y-R
TEH 26/1 2W-Y

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‘Pacific Rim’ 2Y-YYR

‘Quail’ 7Y-Y
Trials at Wisley
George Tarry
photo
CULTIVAR SPOTLIGHT:
‘RIMSKI’ 2W-YWP
Harold Koopowitz, Irvine, CA

Brian Duncan registered ‘Rimski’ 2W-YWP in 1984, bred from ‘Stainless’ 2W-W by ‘Foundling’ 6W-P. Neither a small standard nor a failed miniature, it is to my mind the perfect intermediate. In my garden in southern California the plant is among the earliest to flower and a harbinger of spring. Flowers tend to have immaculate flat form with a shortish flared cup that shows off its colored rim. The perianth is comprised of smooth, overlapping, rounded, clean milk-white tepals. The flaring cup opens yellow with a pink rim but rapidly loses the yellow in the cup that becomes, in my climate, a clean white with a well defined but broad banded rim of clear baby pink. If there is yellow in the throat I have never been aware of that. The flowers are simply enchanting and held on stems that are usually less than 30 cm. Flower stem, flower size, and leaves are well balanced. The bulbs are generous with the number of flowers they produce.

I was introduced to ‘Rimski’ in a trade stand put up by Jeanie Driver at a show in Oregon two seasons ago, and was immediately taken with the small flowers. I just had to get some and was so delighted with their performance that I bought even more the following year. ‘Rimski’ has the form and coloration one might like to see one day in miniature daffodils, so I was doubly delighted to find that it was pod fertile for me and flowers have produced seed from pollen of a variety of miniatures including ‘Candlepower’ 1W-W and N. dubius. I thought it might be a vehicle for getting both improved form and interesting color into the miniatures, but it will be several years before I know if it is true to its promise. Nevertheless I plan to keep using it for several more years.

‘Rimski’ may be available from Bonnie Brae Gardens, Cascade Daffodils, and Ron Scamp Daffodils or others. In my opinion it is well worth the modest investment. Plant it near the front of the daffodil bed or, even better, in pots so that it can be enjoyed at eye-level. (Suppliers say that the supply of ‘Rimski’ is small. Brian Duncan does not list it this year.)
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Daffodils for American Gardens, B. Heath ................................ 28.00
Daffodil Pests and Diseases, Dr. Ted Snazelle ........................ 5.00
Narcissus, A Guide to Wild Daffodils, Blanchard, 1990 ....... 40.00
Daffodil Culture, Merrill, 1996 ............................................. 7.95
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Ohio residents add 5.75% sales tax ..................................... Prices subject to change without notice.
Prices include postage in U.S.A. Make checks payable to American Daffodil Society, Inc. Correspondence is invited concerning out-of-print publications on daffodils. Copies of these are sometimes available or names will be placed on want list.

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