



## NCDS Newsletter Winter 2000



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Show Chairman (Mother Lode Show): Bob Spotts, 409 Hazelnut Drive, Oakley 94561 (925) 625-5526

### Welcome new Members!

Now is the time for you to join us and get acquainted. We want to help you stage some blooms and win some blue ribbons in the beautiful shows to be staged this spring. Be sure to introduce yourself as a new member and get yourself a mentor. That's how we all got hooked! A great way to get involved and learn about daffodils and judging is to help with the Livermore and Mother Lode shows in the Spring. We need hosts to staff the information table during all hours that the shows are open. We need clerks to be with the judges to place ribbons and record entries and winners in each class. This is a great way to learn about our favorite flower. If you would like to be a host or clerk at one of the shows in the spring, contact Bob Spotts (Mother Lode Show) or Kirby Fong (Livermore Show), using the contact information above.

### Daffodil Dates for 2000

NCDS "Entering Your Blooms" Demonstration - Alden Lane Nursery - Livermore -  
February 27 - 2pm

#### California Daffodil Shows

NCDS Annual Spring Show - Alden Lane Nursery - Livermore - March 11th & 12th

NCDS 5th Annual Mother Lode Show - Kautz Ironstone Vineyards - Murphys - March 18th & 19th

Fortuna Garden Club Spring Daffodil Show - Fortuna - March 25th & 26th

World Daffodil Convention - Portland, Oregon - March 31-April 2, 2000

The **WORLD DAFFODIL CONVENTION** will be held in Portland, Oregon on the weekend of March 31-April 2, 2000. The Convention will be preceded by three weekends of daffodil shows and festivals in California.

### NCDS "Entering Your Blooms" Demonstration - Alden Lane Nursery - Livermore - February 27 - 2pm

Kirby Fong has made arrangements with Alden Lane Nursery for the NCDS to show members and the public how to pick, groom, transport and enter blooms in a daffodil show.

### NCDS Annual Spring Show - Alden Lane Nursery - Livermore - March 11th & 12th

Kirby Fong reports that we'll have the tent and tables as in previous years although the location might be a little different as they are rearranging things at the nursery to accommodate the relocation of parking. We could use help Friday night setting up and staging flowers. Contact Kirby Fong for the time if you are available to help.

The **NCDS Annual Dinner meeting** will be on Saturday night at Pasta's Trattoria, 4040 East Avenue in Livermore (same place as last year but under new management). **Dinner will be at 7 pm.** The restaurant is on the northeast corner of the intersection of East Avenue and Hillcrest Avenue. **If you coming on I-580 from the west**, get off at Livermore Avenue and head south. Three blocks after crossing First Street, there is a crazy intersection where five streets meet. About 50 feet after you cross Fourth Street, turn left on to East Avenue. You turn about 45 degrees left. If you turn 90 degrees left, you've made a mistake and turned onto Fourth Street. The restaurant is about a mile down the road. Turn left onto Hillcrest at the stop light and then make an immediate right into the parking lot. **If you come from the east on I-580** (or you miss the Livermore Avenue exit coming from the west), get off at Vasco Road and go south to East Avenue. Turn right on East Avenue and proceed about a mile and a half to Hillcrest. Please let Kirby Fong know by Tuesday March 7 that you plan to attend so he can tell the restaurant how many people are coming. If we have fifteen or so people like we did last year, we can order individually off the menu.

### **NCDS 5th Annual Mother Lode Show - Kautz Ironstone Vineyards - Murphys - March 18th & 19th**

Bob Spotts reports that the Mother Lode Show will again be held at Kautz Ironstone Vineyards in Murphy's in conjunction with their Spring Symphony. If you would like to know more about Kautz Ironstone Vineyards' Spring Symphony, they have a beautiful web site at <http://www.ironstonevineyards.com>.

Bob has blocked a set of rooms for those attending the KIV Show. There are rooms at the **Murphys Inn Motel** in Murphys at \$85 per night (10% discount available for AAA members or seniors). These rooms are non-smoking with two queen beds, so actually can be shared by more than two persons. (The Motel said nothing about the number of people per room.) Murphys Inn is one-year old and very convenient, being just two blocks from "downtown" Murphys and one mile from the Ironstone Vineyard complex. The telephone is (209) 728-1818. When you call, ask for the "NCDS block" and make sure you say March 17-18 (apparently there is a group with a similar acronym coming a weekend earlier).

He also has a small block of rooms at the **Gold Country Inn Motel** in Angels Camp, the town 10 miles "down the hill" from Murphys. These rooms are also non-smoking with two queen beds. The rate there is \$61 per night for two people, with some extra cost for more than two. The savings by staying in Angels Camp means a 10-mile drive to the show (and back from the evening banquet at KIV where there will be wine). However if you intend to take in the Celtic Fair in Angels Camp, it would be a good location. The Gold Country Inn is older, but well maintained. Their telephone number is (800) 851-4944 or (209) 736-4611. Be sure to ask for the "NCDS block" on March 17-18.

**Rooms at the Murphys Inn Motel must be reserved by February 15. The deadline for the Gold Country Inn Motel is March 1.**

**Please contact Bob Spotts** to tell him whether you will have Saturday dinner at the KIV Gourmet Banquet (\$54 per person) or at the Murphys Hotel dining room (order off the menu). He'd like to know **by March 1**, but late reservations WILL be accepted.

There will be three separate events in Murphys and Angels Camp during show weekend. Our **Daffodil Show** will be at the Kautz Ironstone Vineyards in Murphys on Saturday and Sunday. It is a part of the KIV Festival "Spring Symphony of Daffodils and Wine". We invite you to bring and enter flowers (priority one!), to help set up the show on Friday afternoon and evening, to clerk during show judging on Saturday morning (you get to hear the judges deliberate), to spend time as a "host" during Saturday or Sunday afternoon, to enjoy Rod Barwick's presentation on "Growing Daffodils Upside Down." (He told Bob Spotts that it should be subtitled: "Enjoying Daffodils with Your Wine.") on Saturday afternoon and to help us disassemble the show on Sunday at 3pm (only takes an hour). Take a look at the NCDS Home Page <http://www.daffodil.org> for pictures of the Daffodil Show last year on the winery floor.

Bob describes **Rod Barwick** is a daffodil personality extraordinaire. Not only does he not have a web page or a computer, he doesn't even have a telephone. Nevertheless, he manages to communicate with daffodil friends throughout the world. You don't need to like daffodils to appreciate his wit! Bob lured him out of Tasmania for his first (and he says his last) trip abroad. We hope to have many of his exquisite daffodils in bloom for you to see. Rod is world famous for the beautiful daffodils he has created. He is most famous for his miniature daffodils - tiny, exquisite blooms on plants only six inches high. Daffodil lovers around the world buy his daffodils using the little catalog he issues each year. In Tasmania his daffodils bloom in September, and it takes us a year or two to acclimate them to the Northern Hemisphere.

**Brian and Betty Duncan** from Northern Ireland - likely the best known daffodil couple in the world - will be at the Murphys show (not to mention other notable visitors from Holland, New Zealand, England, and the eastern regions of the USA.) Bob expects that Brian & Betty Duncan, Tony & Pat James (England) and Phil & Jennie Jamieson (Australia) will make both the KIV and Fortuna Shows. This will be a prelude to the Millennium Daffodil Convention coming later in Portland, Oregon.

We invite you to join us for dinner on Saturday evening. We encourage you to attend the KIV Festival Banquet Saturday evening if you can. There will be great food (each dish the winner of a special chef's competition) and the many overseas or out-of-State visitors to the Daffodil Show. You'll sip wine and feast with people you will long remember.

We realize that the KIV Banquet is relatively expensive (last year \$54 per person). As an alternative, we'll have an NCDS group dinner elsewhere in Murphys. Last year we had a great dinner and social time at the Murphys Hotel dining room. Ask any of the 20 NCDS members who were there! We'll try to make similar arrangements again. That will give you a choice of dinners: both winners!

The second event of the weekend is the "**Irish Days**" in 'downtown' Murphys on Saturday. This is their famous St. Patrick's Day celebration and draws a big crowd. There will be shuttle buses between Ironstone Vineyards (with its big parking area) and Murphys a mile away. (There is a picture of the celebration on the NCDS Home Page <<http://www.daffodil.org>>.)

The third event during the weekend will be the renowned "**Celtic Fair**" at the county fairgrounds in Angels Camp, ten miles down Highway 4 from Murphys. That event is open both Saturday and Sunday. Come spend the weekend with us. "You be pleased with the way you did. I guarantee it." (Apologies to George Zimmer.)

### **Fortuna Garden Club Spring Daffodil Show - Fortuna - March 25th & 26th**

You are invited to attend the Fortuna Daffodil Show on the weekend of March 25-26. The beautiful show is in a magnificent new show building on the bay. Come on Friday evening and you can help stage exhibits: California habit is to bring more flowers than can be staged (especially blooms from Sid DuBose who doesn't travel to shows). Then on Saturday morning you can pitch in to stage and fill the tables. It is a wonderful learning experience! On Saturday night there will be a memorable dinner at the Scotia Inn in the quaint old lumber town a few miles down the highway. Plan on arriving Friday afternoon or evening. While in Fortuna, be sure to visit the nearby village of Ferndale, where the homes are Victorians maintained to highest standards.

Show Chairman Dian Keesee <[mizmik@htan.org](mailto:mizmik@htan.org)> has provided a motel list and prices for the Fortuna show. Call directly or fax for the special rate. Anyone interested in staying at the **Scotia Inn** is offered 10% off for one night, 2nd night half price. They can be seen on their website <<http://www.scotiainn.com>>.

Motel Accommodations in **Fortuna** (Except for the Scotia Inn, these modern motels are right across the street from the new exhibition building.):

**Holiday Inn Express - AAA**, 1859 Alamar Way, Fortuna CA 95540, (707) 725 5500 - Mention Daffodil Society, Fax 707 725-2379, Two queen beds \$54. plus tax, Up to 4 per room, Complete buffet breakfast, Recently re-modeled, **Reservations to be made by March 22**

**Best Western Country Inn - AAA**, 2021 Riverwalk Drive, Fortuna, CA 95540, (707)725-6822 - Mention Daffodil Society, Fax 707 725-5270, Two queen beds \$55. plus tax, Up to 4 per room, Continental buffet breakfast, **Reservations to be made by March 22.**

**Super 8 Motel - AAA**, 1805 Alamar Way, Fortuna, CA, (707) 725-2888 - **Mention Daffodil Society**, Queen single \$50., Two queens \$55. (2 persons), Continental breakfast

**Jerry and Nancy Wilson** are having a garden Open House on the Friday of the Fortuna Show - March 24. They live in Briceland, which is about 8 miles from Garberville, on the route to Fortuna. Call (707)923-2407 for instructions to get to 6525 Briceland Thorn Road.

### **The World Daffodil Convention 2000**

You are cordially invited to Portland, Oregon on March 31-April 2, 2000 for the World Daffodil Convention. The Convention will begin with the ADS World Daffodil Show, which should bench nearly 3000 blooms. The special feature of the show will be the hybridizers' competition. Special rules permit hybridizers to grow and cut their blooms in any garden, so there may be competitors from down-under joining those from the US and UK. Convention judging teams will have international composition.

**There is \$50 reduction in the registration fee for those who are first-time attendees at the ADS Convention. They are also to be given a one-year ADS membership free.**

During the Convention there will be field trips to Grant Mitsch Daffodils (Elise and Richard Havens), Oregon Trail Daffodils (Bill and Diane Tribe), Cherry Creek Daffodils (Steve and Heather Vinisky) and Bonnie Brae Gardens (Jeanie and Frank Driver). You will be able to walk among the best of daffodils - new and old. You'll see your favorites, new introductions and the seedling selections still awaiting names and registration.

In the comfort of the Hotel you'll be offered programs such as:

- historic daffodils worldwide
- renowned hybridizers and geneticists sharing their knowledge
- miniature daffodil specialists sharing their insights on the tiny ones
- comparison of judging worldwide
- Mitsch & Havens accomplishments in Divisions 5-7

One evening during the Convention the dinner and entertainment will be aboard a riverboat on the Columbia River. In the evenings after dinner you'll enjoy the welcome from Elise Havens on opening day, the keynote address by John Pearson and the farewell from Lesley Ramsay on our final day. On the last day of the Convention, there will be a real treat: a luncheon with John Blanchard, where John will speak on his "Wild Wanderings."

Attendees can also join optional day or half-day tours. There will be three different tours: the Oregon Coast (during and after show judging); Portland City and Gardens (immediately after show judging); and Mt. Hood and the Columbia River Gorge, including lunch at the famous Timberline Lodge (the day following the Convention).

The NCDS is participating in the ADS Convention by providing a table favor for one of the banquets. KIV and the NCDS are sharing the cost of providing a lovely daffodil wine glass for attendees.

If you are not yet a member of the American Daffodil Society, membership information is available on the ADS web site (<http://www.mc.edu/~adswww/>). You may also contact the Executive Director, Naomi Liggett at [NLiggett@Compuserve.com](mailto:NLiggett@Compuserve.com) or write to her at 4126 Winfield Road, Columbus OH 43220-4606.

### **E-mail**

The NCDS sends out e-mail to those members who have an address in our database. If you have a new or changed e-mail address or have an e-mail address and have never received electronic mail from us, please send an e-mail message to Nancy Tackett at [nancyt@netvista.net](mailto:nancyt@netvista.net).

### **NCDS on the Web**

The Northern California Daffodil Society web page is located at <http://www.daffodil.org>. Nancy Tackett (and husband Ben) have spent numerous hours taking pictures and posting them with information about daffodils and the NCDS with links to other daffodil information and organizations. You will also see examples of Kirby Fong's fantastic photography. If you do not have Internet access at your house, please go to your public library and take a look. If you have come to any NCDS activities, you may even find a picture of yourself!

### **NCDS Lapel Pins**

Nancy Tackett reports that the NCDS pins are being prepared and that she hopes to receive them soon. They are being made from a photo of one of Sid DuBose's beautiful pink daffodils. Look for the NCDS pins to be available for sale soon.

### **Dues**

Your dues are due if you didn't pay them at the bulb auction/raffle in the fall (unless you paid for multiple years in the past). You may send them to Nancy Tackett at the address at the top of the newsletter.

The job description of the Secretary in the NCDS Bylaws has included membership responsibilities and has become too large for one person to do. Nancy Tackett has taken on too many responsibilities as our Secretary as well as the membership tasks she does as Webmaster. Thanks, Nancy, for doing all of this for so many years. The NCDS Board of Directors would like to propose the following Bylaws change to redefine the responsibilities of the Secretary:

Current Bylaws:

8. The Secretary shall keep accurate written minutes of the proceedings of the Society, conduct its correspondence, make reports as may be required, and keep up-to-date membership records.

Proposed change:

8. The Secretary shall keep accurate written minutes of the proceedings of the Society, conduct its correspondence and make reports as may be required.

Nancy will continue to maintain the membership records and maintain the NCDS web site.

A Nominating Committee will be appointed to propose a slate of candidates for NCDS Officers for the next two years. We hope to add some new faces to the slate. If you would be willing to have your name included on the slate, please contact Jan Moyers, using the information at the beginning of this newsletter.