



florida daffodil society news

ISSUE NO. 45

October 2003

2003 BULB SALE

Saturday, November 1

9:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Goodwood – Jubilee Cottage

There will be a sprinkling of unsold bulbs (the Flower Carpet bulbs are huge with noses!) and lots of Carlton.

We will have fertilizer 6-24-24 with trace minerals for sale but we need a new volunteer to help bag and dispense. Ruth Castain held down this job for many years but she had moved to Gainesville. If you can help bag bulbs or help with the sale, Call Linda Van Beck at 878-9753.

Our first sale in in Panama City on October 29. The FDS board voted to jointly sell bulbs with the Daffodil Garden Circle to Tallahassee Garden Club members October 19 to benefit LeMoynes's Helen Lind Garden.

We ordered 4,200 Carlton (in lots of 2,100 as it is the cheapest rate), of which 2075 are preordered. If the remaining bulbs not designated for public plantings are not all sold, they will go to local schools, where Vice President Emily Millett will establish pilot programs.

PUBLIC PLANTINGS & USES

Public plantings of Carlton: 500 to Panama City Garden Club, 500 to Live Oak Garden Club, 300 to sell to benefit Le Moynes's Helen Lind Garden, 200 to Smith Williams Center (plus 100 Ice Follies), and small amounts to public plantings in Gainesville and master gardener plots at Extension Service Centers in Bunnell and Tallahassee.

Out of John's garden, Ziva will be sent to its "reward" to numerous American Daffodil Society members. The bulbs had broken down to hundreds of non-productive bulbs. 200+ bulbs of n. intermedius are off to Tall Timbers.

REGISTRATION OF DAFFODILS

The plan was to do the paperwork (read many measurements) on three old cultivars but when the time came we did not have sufficient measurements on the tazetta at Bradford-Cobb House so we will submit it next year. The official lists will be published at the end of the year and certificates sent out.

"Minor Minor" is now "Nat Williams". As Nat's original garden (FDS's first public planting in Paradise Park, Thomasville GA, is going to move to a new home, we will work with FDS member Harriett Hawkins and celebrate, in the spring, the new garden and Nat's registered tazetta.

Another misnamed cultivar was n. x incomparabilis (2W-Y). Found first in Monticello, then Pavo GA and this year in Tallahassee, the distinctive flower starts out all light yellow, petals enlarge, turn white, cup darkens and then the flower lifts up to face the sun. We wanted to honor John Van Beck for this "find" so the new name is "John's Old Fashion." As this name also applies to John's favorite drink, we hope you will like our choice. By the way, "we" is Sara Van Beck, regional director of the American Daffodil Society, who did the paperwork, Melanie Darst who did the measurements and Linda Van Beck who helped. The Royal Horticultural Society's official registrar Sally Kington was especially helpful.

NEW NEWS

You won't believe what's out there for sale this year!! Linda was asked to write a *Tallahassee Democrat* "formulae" article on naturalizing daffodils, so a survey was taken of 3 local nurseries and a hardware store. At the latter, Van Bloom was offering "America's Favorite Daffodil", no cultivar name although the photo showed good old Dutch Master. Also

packages labeled "Paper White" but no name to warn that Ziva lurked inside. Some Van Bloom boxes at Tallahassee Nurseries said "good for warmer climates" (Elicheer, Golden Dawn and Avalanche). Other boxes said "deer and rodent resistant." Did that mean dafs in unlabeled boxes weren't? The local nurseries have fewer no-no's this year (mixed lots, Fortissimo, Minnow and Baby Moon, and Winston Churchill are marginal here). But the real one-time-onlys are at Home Depot: Salome, Pink Pride and Topolino. There is a bulb for planting in pots (forcing) that is "heavenly" -- worth seeing but won't repeat bloom -- at Native Nurseries by the name of *Albus plenus odoratus*. This one goes back to the days of Clauses -- 1601!

In writing the article, the question of fall overplanting came up. Editor Phyllis Graham suggested rye grass (looks wonderful with potted daffodils) and Jody of Native Nurseries said the big 3 were pansies, petunias and dianthus, which includes Sweet William. He also voted for rye grass.

The *Democrat* article should appear near the end of October.

THE BOOK

We're in the polishing stage! The first reviewer, Mary Lou Gripshover, gave us an "A" and offered good suggestions and critique. Now we're waiting on the next two reviewers. We still have no publisher, but we plan to publish, not perish. Much has changed in the daffodil world since we started, so the slow development of the manuscript has been beneficial.

WHAT SHONE AT THE SHOW

Since 1999 a list has been kept of the daffodils exhibited at the Annual Flower Show that is held the first weekend in March at Tallahassee Nurseries. Granted, it's Mary Maude Sharpe's flower refrigerator that makes much of the exhibits possible, but the number of varieties present and accounted for do vary from year to year. As editor Phyllis Graham and chief writer Linda Van Beck kept running out of space in previous issues, we thought it was about time to get the list published. Rarely does the public see the very early blooms, but for 2003 the long, cold wet spell in December caused a number of exceptions.

Early Bloomers Not Ordinarily Seen At Show: All Paper Whites 8W-W, including Miss Linda 8W-W, *N. italicus* 13W-W, Soliel d'or 8Y-O, Miss Lindsay 8Y-Y, and Nat Williams. 8W-Y.

Division I: (Large Trumpet) Rejveld's Early Sensation 1Y-Y, Flower Carpet 1Y-Y.

Division II: (Large Cup) Fortune 2Y-O, Gigantic Star 2Y-Y, Ice Follies 1W-W, Carlton 2Y-Y, Monal 2Y-O, Bryanston 2Y-Y, St. Keverne 2Y-Y, Ceylon 2Y-O, Carbineer 2Y-Y, Duke of Windsor 2W-OOY, 3 unknown heirlooms 2-W-Y, John's Old Fashion 2W-Y.

(Division III) Small Cup: Barrett Browning 3WWY-O.

Division IV: (Doubles) Elicheer 4W-Y, Double Campernelle 4Y-Y.

Division V: (Two to a Stem) Frosty Morn 5W-W.

Division VI: (Reflexed) February Gold 6Y-Y, Itzim 6Y-R.

Division VII: (Jonquilla) Sweetness 7Y-Y, Early Jonquilla (Louisiana clone) 7Y-Y, Orange Queen 7Y-Y, Trevithian 7Y-Y, Golden Perfection 7Y-Y, Waterperry 7W-YPP, Porthchapel 7Y-O, Quail 7Y-Y.

Division VIII: (Tazettas) Cragford 8W-O, Cloth of Gold 8Y-Y, Grand Primo 8W-Y, Polly's Pearl 8W-W, Early Pearl 8W-W, n. Tazetta var Tazetta 8W-Y, Miss Sara 8W-Y.

Division XII: (Other Daffodil) Tête a Tête 12Y-Y.

Division XIII: (Latin Names) *N. pseudonarcissus* subsp. *pseudonarcissus* 13Y-Y, *N. x intermedius* 13Y-Y, Campernelle Jonquilla (*N. x odoratus*) 13Y-Y.

Cultural Note: Looks as if we may not have to water in October, as the 2" needed by dafs appears to be coming naturally. Rains may cause early Paper White bloom -- it's happened once before. Where it's warm, the Paper Whites and Chinese Sacred Lilies are up with the blooming lycoris.

A GIFT THAT GIVES

Thanks to Annette Folsom, who has donated a book in memory of John Van Beck to the Goodwood Museum and Gardens Library to start a collection of resource material on daffodils. The title is [Narcissus: A Guide to Wild Daffodils](#) by John W. Blanchard.

WANNA HELP?

FDS is looking for people who would like to test bulbs. We have ordered 2 varieties of early blooming yellow tazettas from England that should do very well for us. Testing would involve planting 2 or 3 bulbs and keeping

simple records for 4 years. We're looking for a variety of locations and garden soils. If you're interested, call Linda Van Beck at 878-9753.
