



Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society News

November 2007

The fall meeting of The Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society was held at the home of Clay and Fran Higgins in Harbinger, Currituck County, NC at 10:00am Saturday October 27th. It was raining and damp outside so everything was restricted to the inside areas. There was a good turnout of members with 14 being in attendance, not counting the host and hostess. We had started the sign-up of daffodil enthusiast in March of this year at the Currituck Flower and Garden Show with 17 new members. Other members joined the society since that early date. Clay hosted the meeting and went over a large number of informative bits and details about daffodils.

Clay discussed the agenda for the meeting, the speakers, the bulb exchange and the luncheon afterwards that Fran had prepared. He also discussed the organizational needs for a show committee for the first show in 2008. The first show will be held at the Currituck County Extension Facility in Barco on March 22, 2008. The show will need six to eight volunteers to help with the conduct of the show on March 22, 2008 to set up the show and to assist members in placing exhibits in the show. Additionally, during the judging process these volunteers will be assisting the judges and recording 1st place winners, and Awards. Clay also discussed that a mini-seminar will be held in the late winter/early spring of 2008 to demonstrate staging daffodils for the show, and how to fill out entry cards. Materials for the seminar will be furnished by the show committee. The date, place and time for that seminar is still being determined, however, the planning dates are for early March 2008.

Jan Perry-Weber the Currituck County Extension Agent spoke on the behalf of the Master Gardener Volunteers of Currituck County. The Master Gardeners are looking forward to taking on a "light" project like a Daffodil Show.

The American Daffodil Society Mid-Atlantic States Regional Vice President, Evelyn Nock and her husband Sam was able to travel from the Maryland Easter Shore, and brought the guest speaker Master Gardener Anne Corson with them. Evelyn welcomed everyone, spoke about the ADS support for new shows and introduced Anne Corson.

Mrs. Corson gave basically the Master Gardener presentation on Daffodils that included a history of daffodils, the horticulture, the 13 divisions and planting instructions. Show daffodils need to be named and labeled so they can be shown at the daffodil show. Various labeling systems were discussed. The 13 divisions of daffodils proved to be the hardest part of the presentation as Mrs. Corson usually gives this in the spring where she shows live examples of the different daffodil divisions. Mulch considerations were discussed as well because the daffodils need the mulch to keep them cool in the summer and help defeat weeds. Mulch also helps keep the daffodils clean in case of spring showers.

The bulb exchange was successful, even when we had to hold it in the garage because of the rain. Sam Nock and Clay put together three tables with bulbs. The members lined up according to sign-in and took turns drawing bulbs from the table. Each member received at least 10 bags of



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show quality bulbs that were named with color codes on the bags. All the members that came and had signed up at the Currituck Spring Garden and Flower show was given a starter collection of five varieties of bulbs in addition to being able to draw more bags of daffodils from the tables.

It is important that the bulbs not be mixed and the names of the daffodils be kept by inserting a label or some other method to assure that the name is known. **Daffodil names are required to enter the show next year.**

The meeting was concluded after the bulb exchange with everyone participating in the lunch that Fran had prepared. The meeting was successful and we thank all that attended.

Planting time for daffodils in Northeast North Carolina is late November and Early December. We hope all that came will come to the show in 2008 and bring your daffodils. We are expecting to have stewards there to help classify the daffodils and get them entered. There is no requirement to be a member to show daffodils. Bring your daffodils and enjoy.

As a new Northeastern North Carolina Daffodil Society and Show we want to open membership to all that want to get involved. If you know of anyone that is interested in becoming part of the Daffodil Society, please feel free to invite them to the spring meetings, or have them contact Fran or I at the address below. If you are interested in helping, and have not done so, please contact us about helping at the show next year. It's a lot of fun.

Thank you,

Clay and Fran Higgins

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