



AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY

MID ATLANTIC REGION NEWSLETTER

FALL
2012



American Daffodil Society Officers:

Executive Director: Jaydee Ager, Hawkinsville, GA , jaydeeager@gmail.com

President: **Becky Fox Mathews**, 1006 Waller Rd., Brentwood, TN 37027, bfoxmatt@united.net

First Vice President: Harold Koopowitz, Santa Ana, CA

Second Vice President: Michael Berrigan, Oakdale MN,

Secretary: Sally Nash, Nantucket, MA

Treasurer: Rod Armstrong, Plano, TX

Assistant Treasurer: Mary Semrad, Washington D.C.

Director at Large: Spencer Rainey, Reston, VA
ADS National Nominating Co.: Glenna Graves , Harrisburg, VA for MA Region

glennamgraves@comcast.net

Awards Chairman: Chriss Rainey, Reston, VA

Photography: Robert Darling, Washington D.C.

Judges Credentials and Convention Refresher: Julie Minch, Lutherville, MD

Social Media: Katie Welsh, Washington D.C.

Immediate Past President: Kathy Welsh, Oakton, VA

Mid Atlantic Regional Officers:

Regional Vice President: Kate Carney, 5906 Clevelandtown Rd., Boonsboro, MD 21713, 301 432 4728, Mca1062357@aol.com

Regional Directors:

2013 Doris White, La Plata, MD,

doris409@verizon.net

2014 Cecelia Brown, Gloucester, VA,

ccbzanoni@gmail.com

2015 Janet Hickman, Lynchburg, VA,

hickmanderm@aol.com

Our spring 2012 was quite the roller coaster of blooming! Our first Mid Atlantic show was in Barco, NC on March 24th had 516 exhibits, 848 stems and 45 exhibitors-a new record for the fledgling show. Next on March 29-30 was the Garden Club of VA show hosted by The Garden Club of Gloucester who set a record with 1,046 exhibits, 2130 stems and 108 exhibitors! The next show was to be in Richmond on April 6th but it was cancelled as the Virginia Daffodil Society was bloomed out. But The Somerset County Garden Club did hold their show on April 7th with 264 exhibits, 363 stems and 28 exhibitors. The next show was The Upperville Garden Club's on April 10th who feared a low turnout and had a special section for anything flowering which was quite nice. They had 470 exhibits, 892 daffodil stems and 54 exhibitors. April 11-12 was The District II Federated Garden Clubs of MD in Severna Park, MD show that had 217 exhibits, 463 stems and 29 exhibitors. The Washington Daffodil Society considered cancelling but decided to hold the show on April 14-15 without putting up their risers and they had 594 exhibits, 1,175 stems with 38 exhibitors, much below their normal bloom count. The National Convention Show in Towson, MD on April 20-22nd had 1063 exhibitors, 2,212 stems and 92 exhibitors with many coming from northern areas to enter.

Here is for a successful 2013!

Kate Carney, Regional Vice President



Welcome New Members!

The Mid-Atlantic Region wishes to welcome the following new members:

Leigh Barth
142 Leftwich Road
Madison Heights, VA 24572
leighbarth@hotmail.com

Rebekah Pusey, from Virginia , a Youth Member

Sue Thompson
Tuckahoe Plantation
12601 River Road
Richmond, VA 23238
sue.tuckahoe@gmail.com

Leigh Henry
447 Millner Road
Strasburg, VA 22657
krisvie@shentel.net

The Chartwell Garden Club
2707 Coxswain Place
Annapolis, MD 21401
Edjill@aol.com

The Lake Roland Garden Club
2403 Gadd Road
Cockeysville, MD 21030
lisawaters@gmail.com

2012-2013 Mid-Atlantic Spring Shows and Fall Meetings

October 6th, 2012, The Virginia Daffodil Society and Mid Atlantic Regional Meeting at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, 1800 Botanical Gardens, 1800 Lakeside Ave. Richmond, VA 23228. See further details in this newsletter.

October 13th, 2012, The Maryland Daffodil Society will hold its Fall Meeting and bulb sale at The Baltimore County Agricultural Center, 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD 20130 beginning at 11:00AM promptly. Contact: Meredith McDonagh 410-583-5509 or meredy@comcast.net

October 20th, 2012, The Washington Daffodil Society will hold its Fall annual meeting and bulb exchange from 1:00PM to 3:00 PM at the Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean, VA 22101. The WDS Board Meeting is 10:00 AM to 12 Noon with all members welcome to attend. Contact: Glenna Graves: glennamgraves@comcast.net

October 26-27th The American Daffodil Society 2012 Fall Board Meeting and Symposium Hosted by the Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society in Nashville, TN. See further details in this newsletter.

October 27, 2012, The Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society will have its Fall Daffodil meeting at 10:0A.M. Guest speaker Glenna Graves will give a talk on Daffodil Horticulture. There will be a bulb exchange and pot luck lunch. Address and contact listed below:

February 23, 2013, The Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society will hold its Spring meeting and will feature a seminar on staging and showing daffodils with all members getting a hands on challenge at staging their own exhibit for the show bench. Following a pot luck lunch there will be a class on Design at 1:00 PM . Address and contact listed below:

March 23, 2013 The Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Show will be held at the Currituck County Cooperative Center, 120 Community Way, U.S. Rte 158 & Aviation Parkway, Barco, NC 27917. Early entries can be made on March 22nd from 4 pm to 7:00pm. Entires continue March 23rd from 7:00 to 9:30 am. Show opens to public 1:00 pm-5:00pm. Awards presentation at 2:00pm. **On March 22, 2013 ADS Judging School III** will be held at the same facility. Contact : Clay Higgins 252-591-9268. ClayHiggins@centurylink.net

March 27- 28, 2013 The 79th Garden Club of Virginia Daffodil Show, sponsored by the **Garden Club of Gloucester**, will be held at Ware Academy, 7936 John Clayton Memorial Highway, Gloucester, VA.23061 Any questions, please contact the chairmen, Petie Matheson, 804-693-4813; rabbithill@cox.net or Betty Barr Ould, 804-693-3773.

April 5-6, 2013 The Virginia Daffodil Society will hold its Daffodil Show at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, 1800 Botanical Gardens, 1800 Lakeside Ave. Richmond, VA 23228. Contact: Margaret Ford 804 200 1597 or sford3115@gmail.com with any questions.

April 6th, 2013 The Somerset County Garden Club's 47th Daffodil Show will be a one day show .Show is from noon-5pm at Saint Andrews Fellowship Hall., 11710 Beckford Ave., Princess Anne, MD 21853. The contact person is Kathy Green at 410-651-0556, billscat1111@aol.com

April 9th, 2013 The Upperville Garden Club will hold its 50th Annual Daffodil Show at Buchanan Hall, Upperville ,VA. Show chair is Janna Leepson 540-687-5192 or jannamleepson@aol.com. The show is open to the public from 2-5PM.

April 8th-10th, 2013 The District II Federated Garden Club of MD will hold its show at Our Sheppard Lutheran Church, 400 Benfield Rd. Severna Park 21146. Early entries can be made on the 8th from 12 noon to 7:00 pm. Show chairs are Marie Coulter, 410-647-8971, frankandmarie@verizon.net and Lissa Williamson, 410 987-9661, ERW510@aol.com

April 12th-14th 2013 The Washington Daffodil Society will hold their show at Brookside Gardens, 1800 Glenallen Ave. Wheaton, MD. This is the **2013 Mid Atlantic Regional Show**. Contact: Glenna Graves: glennamgraves@comcast.net

April 16-17th, 2013, The Maryland Daffodil Society show will be held at The Shops at Kenilworth, 800 Kenilworth Drive, Towson, MD 21204. Contact is Joan Bender, 410-744-8639 or joanbender@comcast.net

April 27, 2013, The Washington Daffodil Society Late Show to be held at St. Neumanns Church, 11900 Lawyers Rd., Reston, VA 20191. Contact: Chriss Rainey triller7@verizon.net or 703-391-2073. Entries start at 8:30 AM, open to public at 1:00 PM.

Mid Atlantic Regional Election 2011

Glenna Graves, ADS National Nominating Committee

Below is our current slate of officers for this year's Mid Atlantic Region. We have strived to get board representation from around the region.

The nominating committee presents the following slate for the Mid Atlantic Region for 2012 through 2013:

_____ Vice President	Kate Carney (MD)	(year 2 of three year term)
_____ Director	Cecilia Brown (VA)	(year 3 of three year term)
_____ Director	Janet Hickman (VA)	(year 2 of three year term)
_____ Director	Joan Bender (MD)	(year 1 of three year term)

Additional nominations may be made to the slate but permission of the nominee must first be granted. The vote will take place at the Mid Atlantic Regional Meeting to be held with the Virginia Daffodil Society Fall meeting on October 6th at Lewis Ginter Botanic Garden, 1800 Botanical Gardens, 1800 Lakeside Ave. Richmond, VA 23228. New candidate positions will take office at the April 11-14th, 2013 National Convention in Columbus, OH. Member ballots must be reported to the ADS Nominating Chair by October 1st, 2012.

BALLOT FOR THE ADS MID-ATLANTIC REGION

Please mark your ballot and send to Glenna Graves, 2621 Smithland Road, Harrisburg, VA 22803-1133, 540-434-8587, glennamgraves@concast.net

_____ Kate Carney, VP	Second Term
_____ Cecilia Brown, Director	Third Term
_____ Janet Hickman, Director	Second Term
_____ Joan Bender, Director	First Term
_____ Glenna Graves , ADS National Nominating Committee Second term of a two year term.	

Recipients of the Mid Atlantic Region Leadership and Service Award

Please take time and consider someone you feel worthy to nominate for the Mid Atlantic Region Leadership and Service Award. This is a very deserving award for members of our region that have gone above and beyond just planting and showing daffodils. The goal of the American Daffodil Society is to stimulate and encourage wide interest in the daffodils through education, exhibition, and dissemination of information. I think that you will agree all of those winners listed below have been very deserving of this award and the silver medal that it symbolizes. So please nominate someone in your area or someone in the Region that you think would be a deserving recipient of this award. Just send me a letter proposing the candidate. Two seconding letters from individuals within the Region who are ADS members or are affiliated with a local daffodil society (this affiliation may be through a garden club) are also requested. I would like to have nominations before the deadline of October 1st, 2012 for the fall regional meeting on October 6th when the award is to be presented in Richmond.

Thank you, Kate Carney, RVP

1993	Mrs. Merton S. Yerger and Mr. Quentin E. Erlandson
1994	Ms. Delia Bankhead
1995	Mrs. Thomas W. Smith
1996	Mrs. Laura Lee and Mr. Bill Ticknor
1997	Ms. Anne Donnell Smith
1999	Mr. and Mrs. George Bragdon
2000	Mrs. Ann Corson
2001	Mrs. Mary Koonce
2002	Mrs. Kathy Welsh
2004	Mrs. Marie Coulter
2005	Mr and Mrs. Skip Ford
2006	Mr. and Mrs. Sam Nock
2010	Mr. and Mrs. Mitch Carney
2011	Mrs. Glenna Graves

October 6th, 2012, Mid Atlantic Regional Meeting to be held with the Virginia Daffodil Society Fall Meeting

at : Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens, 1800 Botanical Gardens, 1800 Lakeside Ave. Richmond, VA 23228-3700. Telephone (804) 282 9887. The meeting will be held in the Garden Room located in the Education Building. Registration for the meeting opens at 9AM with coffee and Danish. The VDS meeting starts at 10AM and then there will be the Regional meeting. After that Mitch Carney and Kate Carney will give a talk on: "Miniatures, How to Grow, Show and Judge". It will also be a **judge's refresher** for those who need one at a cost of \$3.00 to be paid to the ADS. Miniature daffodils are a challenge and knowing their species background helps with their culture. Our Power Point presentation has pictures of species in their native habitat in Spain and Portugal and the cultivars that were bred from them. Mitch grows many species daffodils from seed along with his own daffodil seed crosses. Losses are expected with mini culture but knowing what conditions they like will increase your success with them. We hope to offer you all our experience and guidance with this lecture. Following the lecture there will be a bulb raffle and a bulb exchange.

REGISTRATION FORM FOR ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 6, 2012

_____ I/We plan to attend the annual meeting on October 6 but not staying for lunch

_____ I/We plan to attend the annual meeting and want to order a box lunch

_____ I/We want to get credit for the Judges Accreditation Refresher Course

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Total Number of People Staying for Lunch _____

JUDGES REFRESHER REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Cost: \$3.00 with check made payable to **The American Daffodil Society** and enclose along with registration form for VDS Annual Meeting and Box Lunch Order.

BOX LUNCH ORDER FORM

Box Lunch: Cost \$ 20.00

Box Lunch Choices (Please put how many sandwiches desired next to order)

Roast Beef & Swiss _____ Chicken Salad on Croissant _____ Vegetable Wrap _____

Please enclose your check, made payable to **Virginia Daffodil Society**, and send with form to:

Kim Sadler

416 Popular Hill Court

Richmond, VA 23229

PLEASE RETURN BY SEPTEMBER 29, 2012

Daffnet on 8/16/12 had a listing from Jason Delany on these vintage photos for sale on eBay. This one is from 1955 of the Maryland Daffodil So. show held in the Baltimore Art Institute.



"Aunt" Betty Smith, relative of Anne Donnell Smith, picking daffodils with pearls! Then addressed as Mrs. Thomas Smith.



Registration ADS 2012 Fall Board Meeting and Symposium

*open to all ADS members and their guests with advance reservation

Millennium Maxwell House, Nashville, TN.

Friday and Saturday, October 26-27, 2012

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Name(s) for name tag(s): _____

Easy Weekend Registration

The deadline for early discounted easy weekend registration is **Sept. 28** ____ @ \$170 = _____

Weekend registration postmarked after **Sept. 28** ____ @ \$180 = _____

Easy weekend registration includes Friday night dinner, Saturday board meeting box lunch, Saturday Symposium, and Saturday night dinner.

*Sign up below for optional Judges Refresher Credit for "Judging Starry Flowers?" with Bob Spotts and Harold Koopowitz (included in the Symposium).

Itemized Registration

The deadline for itemized registration is **Sept. 28**. There will be no onsite registration.

Please check your choices and submit the amount required.

Friday night dinner (chicken entrée) ____ @ \$55 = _____

Saturday box lunch ____ @ \$25 = _____

Saturday "Future of Daffodil Breeding" Symposium ____ @ \$35 = _____

Saturday night dinner (beef entrée) ____ @ \$65 = _____

Other Options:

Judges Refresher Credit ____ @ \$ 3 = _____

Total: _____

Please list any special dietary requirements here: _____

Flight details (if known): Arrival date/time _____ Departure date/time _____

Traveling by car? Y/N ____

Make your registration check payable to: The American Daffodil Society. For questions, contact Carol at Carol.Smith@vanderbilt.edu, (cell) 615-720-2294 or Becky Fox Matthews before Sept. 10 or after Oct. 10

at bfoxmatt@united.net, (cell) 615-838-1359.

Mail check payable to **American Daffodil Society** and send check and registration to:

Carol Smith

Blair School of Music

2400 Blakemore Ave

Nashville, TN 37212

Hit a High Note in Music City!

American Daffodil Society

2012 Fall Board Meeting and Symposium

Hosted by the Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society

October 26-27 in Nashville, TN

*open to all ADS members and their guests with advance reservation



Millennium Maxwell House

2025 Rosa L. Parks Boulevard

Nashville, TN 37228

Reservations: 800-457-4460 M-F 8am - 5pm or www.millenniumhotels.com/millenniumnashville

Group Code: 1210DAFFOD for special room rate \$110 + tax, single or double occupancy.

Hotel reservations must be made no later than **Tuesday, September 25**, to receive the group discount. **You are encouraged, however, to book your room ASAP.**

Please also **send in your registration ASAP**, as it helps with advance planning.

Check in time is 3 pm and check out time is 12 noon. Guests must present a valid photo ID at check in.

- Free parking
- Free shuttle within 5 miles of hotel (including Frist Center for the Visual Arts, downtown Nashville, and many restaurants and tourist attractions)

Getting here

- Driving directions can be found at the hotel website here:

<http://www.millenniumhotels.com/millenniumnashville/hotel-location/>

- Fly in to Nashville International Airport (BNA) <http://www.nashintl.com/>

- Free on call hotel shuttle service from and to Nashville International Airport (BNA)

Friday, Oct. 26

Throughout the day – Arrival of ADS members and guests

2:30 – 4:30 pm Finance Committee meeting

5:00 – 6:30 pm Registration

6 pm Reception (cash bar) and dinner, followed by Bulb Auction

Costumes based on daffodil themes optional at Reception and Dinner. Prizes for the most creative!

Saturday, Oct. 27

Breakfast on your own

8 am – noon Board meeting

Noon Lunch

1– 5 pm Symposium “The Future of Daffodil Breeding” with Wilf Hall, NZ; Lawrence Trevanion, Australia; Brian Duncan, N. Ireland; Bob Spotts, USA; Harold Koopowitz, USA

6:00 pm Reception (cash bar)

7:00 pm Dinner featuring guest speakers, Nancy Tackett and Ben Blake, the ADS tech team who manages Daffnet and Daffseek, on their experiences of New Zealand and the 2012 World

Daffodil Convention in Dunedin

Sunday, Oct. 28

Breakfast on your own and goodbyes or stick around a few more days and check out some of the great attractions on the following pages! October can be beautiful in Tennessee with cool weather and colorful fall leaves.

Attention all ADS Judges!

The Maryland Daffodil Society is making available judges badges. These badges have a “daffodil” yellow background and a strong magnetic backing. They eliminate the messy sticky tape backs, pins and clips that leave holes in your clothing, or do not hold! Cost of the badge is \$15.00 (inclusive). Be sure to print your name clearly for the badge. All orders must be prepaid. Make checks payable and send

to: Maryland Daffodil Society

Joan Bender

117 Oak Drive

Catonsville, MD 21228



Royal Horticultural Society
International Cultivar Registration Authority for the Genus *Narcissus*
Horticultural classification of daffodils
Definition of Division 9

At a meeting on 7 June 2012, the International Daffodil Registrar, with the support of the RHS Advisory Sub-Committee on Narcissus Classification, took the decision to adapt the horticultural classification of daffodils, following international consultation in 2011-2012 on the definition of Division 9.

From 1 July 2012, Division 9 will be defined as follows:

Characteristics of *N. poeticus* and related species clearly evident; perianth segments pure white; corona very short or disc-shaped, not more than one-fifth the length of the perianth segments; corona usually with a green and/or yellow centre and red rim, but sometimes wholly or partly of other colours; anthers usually set at two distinct levels; flowers fragrant.

The revised definition reflects overriding support for Option 2 as laid out in the consultation paper. Underlined below are the four criteria that Option 2 incorporated:

Characteristics of *N. poeticus* and related species clearly evident; perianth segments pure white; corona very short or disc-shaped, not more than one-fifth the length of the perianth segments; corona usually with a green and/or yellow centre and red rim, but sometimes wholly or partly of other colours; anthers usually set at two distinct levels; flowers fragrant.

The revised definition also includes three changes that the consultation paper flagged up for committee debate: 1) replacement of the word 'group' by the phrase 'and related species', in order to avoid confusion with the special meaning of the word 'group' in another context (as 'cultivar group'); 2) removal of the phrase 'usually one flower to a stem', because multi-headed plants exist; and 3) removal of the word 'usually' from 'flowers usually fragrant', because *N. poeticus* and related species are consistently fragrant. In addition, in order to clarify the range of corona colouring, the words 'wholly or partly' have been inserted.

The Registrar and the Advisory Committee acknowledge with respect and thanks all views expressed in the course of this consultation and hope that the revised definition will serve its purpose.

3rd August 2012
Sharon McDonald
International Registrar
RHS Garden Wisley
Woking
Surrey
UK

Tuckahoe Plantation, Mid Atlantic's Newest ADS Display Garden

By Sara Van Beck

ADS Historic Daffodil Committee Chairman



Tuckahoe Plantation is a well-documented surviving example of daffodils in garden landscapes dating to the late 19th Century. Planted before 1898, the daffodils in the garden were well-described in 1923. Photographs of the property in possession of the family from the turn of the 20th Century provide further evidence of a Victorian gardener in love with bulbs and daffodils in the grand Virginia tradition, which helped lay the foundation for Virginia's continuing love of daffodils.

While Tuckahoe is best known as the childhood home of Thomas Jefferson, the pleasure garden's history begins much later. Mrs. Virginia Allen moved to Tuckahoe sometime between 1860 and 1865; she and her husband in turn sold the plantation in 1898. Virginia had a penchant for bulbs, and for writing letters to the editor to "gently" correct erroneous information published about her

gardening work. In one letter, she invited the ladies of Richmond out to admire her 800 hyacinths she bought and planted in a row from Thomas Jefferson's school house to the garden gate, bordering *her* box maze (not planted in Colonial times, thank you very much, as she clearly delineated in another such letter).

Mrs. Allen planted daffodils and other bulbs along the edge of the grass and down the slopes to the canal and ice pond on the south (front) of the house, as well as near the ice house and along the ice pond slope edge. The ravine behind the school was the slope alongside Mrs. Allen's prized box maze. These daffodils still grow, albeit struggling in the shade.

Period photographs in the possession of the current owners show daffodil foliage across the lawn around the turn of the twentieth century. Now, primarily two daffodils remain – 'Telamonius Plenus' and a single trumpet. Fortuitously for restoration efforts to replant the daffodils, Edith Tunis Sale's detailed descriptions came from first-hand observation – at the time she was writing and editing the classic book *Historic Gardens of Virginia* in 1923. Ms. Sale resided at Tuckahoe as a caretaker, likely gazing out the window as she wrote:

"Below the schoolhouse, jonquils have spread into a veritable Cloth-of-Gold field, flinging high their April trumpets above a mass of periwinkle blue as the sky. These signals of spring that dance so joyously leave the memory of their beauty throughout the garden year. And there are so many varieties of daffodils and narcissi at this charming old place. Beginning with the short-stemmed Obvallaris the beautiful Stellas follow in profusion. These bulbs were planted long before the days of the Olympia as the Gold Spur and the double sorts – Orange and Golden Phoenix, familiarly known as Butter and Eggs and Eggs and Bacon – will attest. But, daintiest of all the daffodil family which blooms at Tuckahoe, is the delicate, old-fashioned, little white flower known as "The Lady of Leeds." "Scattered about the garden, and all over the lawn, are four varieties of narcissi – the Polyanthus, which, though in the

minority, compensates in its bright yellow flowers; the white Biflorus, and, most pleasing of all, Ornatus and Poeticus.”

The daffodils along the front walk and lawn suffered serious losses in the late twentieth century, and Mrs. Allen’s box maze was lost to disease. Planted around huge American elms lost to Dutch elm disease, some of the bulbs lining the drive were inadvertently destroyed when the stumps were ground out. Once this was determined, the remaining stumps have been left to rot naturally, preserving the bulbs. Historic images of the house and lawn show daffodils, but alas these too have gone. Given the heavy visitations to the plantation during the spring and summer seasons, replanting the front lawn has been left for further study.

Mrs. Allen seems to have planted areas of the garden with a bit of a color scheme in mind. The now-shaded slope from the school house to the water was once predominantly yellow, with a light accenting of white. Conversely, her mid- to late season lawn planting was predominantly white, with a light accent of yellow. The lawn planting would have bloomed after the predominantly white Stellas under the elms.



Tuckahoe has been a participating garden in the Garden Club of Virginia’s nationally renowned Garden Week, drawing hundreds of guests during the week. The Plantation is open to tour groups the entire spring and summer season; demand is such that the owners are consider opening for a designated second spring “garden week.” .

If you would like to visit:

Tuckahoe Plantation Phone: 804-389-3631
12601 River Road Email sue.tuckahoe@gmail.com
Richmond, VA 23238
web site: www.tuckahoeplantation.com



The Potter Family Triumph at 2012 Spring Show in Barco, NC

Left: Ryan Potter wins Best Youth 5 Stem

**Middle: Katelyn Potter wins Youth Vase of
Three**

Right: John Potter wins Best Youth Bloom

Way to go!!!!



Heath Daffodil Dynasty

By Cecilia Brown, Mid Atlantic Regional Director

Initially, I had planned to do an article just on Brent Heath. When I arrived, he and his 4 year old grandson, Van, were in the garden catching butterflies. This story is more about a Daffodil Dynasty that spans five generations.

This tale began more than a century ago when Charles Heath, a New Yorker, ate a delicious cantaloupe and wanted to order more. He discovered it was grown at Elmington in Gloucester.

Later he would visit there and buy Auburn in Mathews for \$5,000. Charles noticed wild daffodils grew well there and he had a vision. He connected with the Dutch firm M. Van Wavern and Sons to buy better daffodil bulbs and thus started a bulb business.

At this time the Dutch dominated the bulb industry. In 1928 the US placed a ban on Dutch bulb imports because a microscopic worm had infested their bulbs. Mr. Van Wavern needed an American supplier and he turned to his friend, Charles Heath. It was at this time Charles' son, George W. Heath (1893-1968) came home from China, where he had been employed by the American Tobacco Company, to take over his father's business. George would learn bulb management from the Dutch. The bulb farm would move from Auburn to Cradle Point, both in Mathews, to Elmington. After ten years the Dutch embargo was lifted. During this period, Gloucester would come to be known worldwide as the Daffodil Capital of America. By this time, hundreds of acres were planted in bulbs not only by the Heaths but other families.

In the 30s the Great Depression brought great hardships. The northern flower markets still wanted spring blooms and the daffodil cut flower industry provided income through the war years.

In 1942, George Heath was now 49. Too old to fight, he worked for the war effort as an inspector at Yorktown Naval Mine Depot. His bulb operation would now be in Yorktown near the present Coast Guard Station. Brent stated, "His father and new partners would concentrate on bulbs for garden centers".

By this time George had been divorced twice and fathered 3 children, one son by the first marriage and 2 daughters by the second. In the fourth decade of his life he would meet Katherine Cartmell, who had 3 children from previous marriages. Katherine, who was a Gloucester business woman, the owner of the Hodge Podge which was located on Gloucester Court Circle. Together they would also continue the Heath Daffodil Dynasty. Brent Cartmell Heath was born on December 9, 1945. Brent states, "His birth was a surprise. For his first 3 years they lived in a house next to his mother's shop on Main Street."

In 1948, the family would buy Poison Point and start the Daffodil Mart. Brent remembers working in the daffodil fields picking and digging as early as age five. He would save his daffodil money to purchase a bicycle, a canoe, and an inboard motor boat. As a child, he wintered with his parents at Sanibel Island in Florida. He graduated from Christchurch School, in 1964, then attended Roanoke College for 2 years and transferred to Old Dominion University. Fearing the Draft, he enlisted in the Naval Reserves and was stationed at Little Creek. He was granted a discharge in 1967 to help his Mother run the business when she had health issues. His father died in 1968 and his mother had by then recovered to good health. That same year, Brent was offered the job of Director of Nature Camp in Vesuvius. He spent many wonderful summers there as camper as well as a counselor and received many high honors. He was a perfect candidate to be the new director.

Four years later, his mother wanted to retire and Brent would inherit enough money from an aunt to buy the Daffodil Mart. He immediately began to modernize the operation with Dutch advice and equipment. He would acquire more daffodil cultivars from companies that ceased operation. For a short time he operated Heath Trails, a boys' camp that operated overnight canoe trips on the rivers of Virginia.

In 1973, Brent married Elizabeth, an old girlfriend, divorced with a son. He would expand his bulb operation and move to Mathews. He adopted Edward and two more Heaths would follow, Dorothy and Robert. This marriage ended in 1978. He had to liquidate much of his bulb stock when he moved the operation back home to Gloucester.

It wasn't long before he would meet Becky, an elementary teacher with two sons, who was teaching his son, Edward. In 1979 they married. Side by side, he and Becky have transitioned their 20th century bulb farm into Brent and Becky's Bulbs. This company now sells not only daffodil bulbs but spring and fall flowering bulbs and plants.

Becky's strengths include managing the business operations and Brent does what he does best, promoting the business. Jay Hutchins, (one of Becky's sons) and his wife, Denise, are now in the business. This 4th generation is now bringing different strengths to the Heath Dynasty through the world wide web and retail sales. It is their son, Van, who Brent was teaching about butterflies.

Isn't it amazing how this five generation daffodil dynasty began from eating one delicious cantaloupe? Now that's one story that needed to be told.

Sunburn Protection--Not Just for Red Cups

By Janet Hickman, Mid Atlantic Regional Director

Red-cupped daffodils are not the only things in the garden susceptible to sun damage; we gardeners need protection as well. Much as we appreciate the value of the sun in the bulb garden, we need to be aware of its ill effects. The ultraviolet radiation from the sun is responsible for a range of skin problems, from sunburn to aging to cancer. Yes, 90% of what we call visible "aging" is really the damage the sun does to the elastic tissue, collagen, blood vessels and pigment cells of our skin. Skin cancer is the most common of all cancers--there are more skin cancers yearly than all other cancers combined.

Fortunately the majority of skin cancers can be prevented by careful sun protection. That means proper use of sunscreen. Labeling of sunscreens is going to be updated later this year by new regulations from the FDA. The SPF (now renamed the sunburn protection factor) will still be on the label, though the highest protection products may say only SPF 50+ rather than numbers like 85 or 100. The SPF is an indication of the protection from the medium ultraviolet wavelengths, UVB, that cause sunburns. In our mid-Atlantic region it's wise to use at least an SPF 50, particularly since most people don't apply a sunscreen as thickly as it was tested to get that SPF result.

Labels in the future will also indicate if a sunscreen protects from the longer wavelength UVA radiation that causes deeper skin damage and cancers. Look for "broad spectrum" on the label to ensure that the product protects from UVA damage. Until the new labels appear, look in the fine print for the ingredients avobenzone, mexoryl, titanium dioxide, or zinc oxide. Water resistance measurements will also be standardized on the new labels.

Here are the guidelines for sunscreen use:

- Use sunscreen every day, summer, winter, cloudy, anything. It's easier to keep the habit going and there is the potential for UV damage all year.
- use at least SPF 50
- "Give it your best shot": it takes a shot glassful amount to properly cover the body
- Apply 30 minutes before going out and reapply every 2 hours plus after swimming or sweating.
- If sunscreen burns your eyes, use a stick sunscreen around the eyes and a hat rather than sunscreen on your forehead.

There's more to sun protection than sunscreen.

- Wear a hat with at least a 4 inch brim to protect the scalp, ears and neck.
- Use sunglasses.
- Wear specialized sun-protective clothing--often easier than lots of sunscreen.
- Time outdoor work before 10 AM and after 4 PM (the better times to gather daffodils for the show anyway.)
- Seek the shade when possible.

- Check your skin regularly. If you notice moles or skin bumps that are growing, bleeding or changing color or rough thickened spots on your sun exposed skin, let a dermatologist examine you. Most skin cancers are curable when treated early.



Roberta Watrous wears a good sun protective hat hybridizing in her garden.



Message from Kate Carney, RVP:

Thank you all for your help and contributions to this newsletter. The Mid Atlantic is a strong region and I hope you enjoyed a bit of our history in this current newsletter.

I would also like to express thanks to our past RVP Lissa Williamson for doing a wonderful job these past three years. Thank you too Doris White for stepping in to replace my Directorship vacancy.



Photos by Richard Ezell

Mid Atlantic Regional Newsletter
5906 Clevelandtown Road
Boonsboro, MD 21713

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