



Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society Newsletter September 2013



Fall 2013 Meeting: The Fall 2013 meeting of the Northeast NC Daffodil Society will be on Saturday, Oct. 26, at 10 a.m. at the Currituck County Extension Facility, 120 Community Way, Barco.

Please RSVP to Clay & Fran (252) 491-9268 and leave a message, or contact Debbie Kelso at (252) 232-2262 or email Clay and Fran, clayhiggins@centurylink.net, or use the mailer on the back page so that we can get a count of those coming.

Invite your friends--You don't have to be a member to attend this meeting.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, NORTHEAST NC DAFFODIL SOCIETY

I seem to say this every year. I'm not getting any younger 😊 so we need to get more of our members involved with the NENC Daffodil Society. One thing I have learned is that we need a lot of people to run a society and have a successful show. *Please let me know if you are willing to help, even if it is a minor job.* I do thank all who volunteered this year. We couldn't do it without you. You do not have to be a Daffodil Expert to help with the NENCDS.

We had a great Daffodil Show in 2013 with a lot of help from members and the Master Gardener volunteers. Fran and I completed the Master Gardener course ourselves. We enjoyed it.

Our show had a smaller number of exhibitors and a total of 711 daffodils; that is a little above our average of 600. We didn't have as many exhibitors outside our area as in a normal year, but success is success.

Many thanks to The Master Gardener volunteers of Currituck again for carrying the heavy burden of the work that it takes to put on a show. I'd also like to thank the many daffodil society members who pitched in this year. Specifically Debbie Kelso, Peggy Lilienthal, Sharon Huttemann, Shelly Murray, James Fincher, Doris and Buddy Flattum, Joyce Jeidel, Joyce Stallings, and to Jan Perry-Weber for her continuing contributions. I apologize to those I forgot to include.

Respectfully submitted: Clay Higgins

Our Fall Program: We are again having an excellent speaker to talk about daffodils and how to build your own collection. At present the speaker is Brent Heath. The ideal is to have fun and enjoy ourselves while putting on a show and our meeting each year.

Annual Raffle: We will have a bulb raffle of some very good (read expensive or worth over \$15) bulbs that you can take a chance on for a \$2 donation or three for \$5. The donation supports our NENCDS expenses and our efforts to put on a quality show.



Bulb Exchange: I dug a lot of bulbs this year. At the end of the meeting there will again be a Bulb Exchange and Giveaway. Anyone who has named bulbs or plants (they don't have to be daffodils) that they would like to share is encouraged to bring them. You must be a member to participate in the bulb exchange. That's the membership advantage. 😊

New Member Bonus: All new members of NENCDS will receive a minimum of three separate varieties of daffodils in addition to the bulb exchange/give-away. **Please, new members, let me know you are coming so I will make up the proper number of bulb packages.** This is to help new members get started as daffodil growers and exhibitors. Those who worked in our 2013 show will also receive free bulbs.



Pot Luck Lunch: The fall meeting runs to and sometimes through lunch. Everyone is asked to bring a covered small dish (to serve 5 or 6) of their favorite food to share with others.

Minutes of the June 12, 2013 Summer Picnic Northeast North Carolina Daffodil Society

The June meeting of the NENC Daffodil Society was held at Clay and Fran Higgins home in Southern Shores. We met at 10 a.m. Clay welcomed members to his home, we introduced ourselves, congratulated several members for their impressive awards at the 2013 show, and began our meeting.

The 2013 Daffodil Show was a successful show. Attendance numbers were down slightly but there were over 711 blooms displayed and many positive comments received. There was a short discussion on show attendance resulting from lack of signage and members were reminded to try to attend the Commissioners meeting to be held at the old Court House on Thursday, June 13, to show support for a more reasonable ruling on signs advertising events.

Clay commented that he would like to see more miniature daffodils displayed at the next show. A question was raised about the timing for cutting stems to show and Clay answered that although blooms could be cut days in advance and hardened off, the optimal timing was probably two days ahead. Stems should still be cut at a 45 degree angle and flowers kept cool. Our next show is scheduled for Saturday, March 22, 2014.

Members talked about our organization. The executive committee was unanimous in deciding to raise membership fees by \$5 at our next meeting. Individual membership will be \$15 and a family membership will be \$20. We discussed fund raising. Placing a donation jar on our sign-in table and selling small bunches of excess daffodils were among the ideas presented. Clay would like members to take more responsibility for management of the Daffodil Society. A Membership chairman, Publicity chairman, Treasurer and Recording Secretary would help with the division of labor.

Sharon Huttemann, our Design Division chairman, reported a need for 4 bar stools to display floral designs and also the need for a mantel for the miniature designs. Buddy Flattum will help with the mantel, Lesley Miner has several bar stools and members will keep an eye out at garage sales for additional stools.

The final subject on our agenda was a rundown by Clay on daffodils (from the Basic collection of Show Daffodils) that grow well in our area. Members should refer to the list that Clay sent out--the cultivars marked with an asterisk (or two) grow especially well in our area.



Our meeting was adjourned and members shared a pot luck

lunch and many stayed to walk on the beach and talk about their gardens. Many thanks to Clay and Fran for hosting our Daffodil Club at "Higgins Haven".

Respectfully submitted: Lesley Miner

Daffodil Digging: This year Clay dug a lot of daffodils with the help of primarily Kerie O'Toole and

Joyce Jeidel. Many of those daffodils will be available at the fall bulb exchange. The Higgins' have decided that they have too many varieties and must reduce their daffodil holdings. So you can benefit from our "downsizing" by being at the 2013 fall meeting.



DUES DUE: Membership Renewal is due in October 2013.

The small membership dues of \$15 individual or \$20 family help pay for postage, show costs, and other expenses of the society. This increase has become necessary because the NENCDS has not met expenses in the last few years. *New as well as existing members more than recover the \$15 membership fee with free bulbs.*

NEWSLETTER: The NENC Daffodil Society publishes a minimum of three newsletters each year. These three Newsletters are envisioned as:

- 1) Before the fall meeting
- 2) Spring (end of winter) before our spring meeting and show, and
- 3) Late Spring/Early Summer as the show report.
- 4) And, as needed.

Location of the Fall Northeast North Carolina

Daffodil Society Meeting: The Fall meeting is in the Auditorium in the County Cooperative Extension Agency center located at 120 Community Way, Barco, off of US Route 158.

DAFFODIL CULTURE

Bulbs for our area: The daffodils listed as early are too early, and the ones listed as mid-spring can be both on time and too late. But as anyone doing horticulture will tell you, the actual bloom time will be dependent upon the local weather each spring. We do have more of the "Early Mid-Spring" bulbs for our fall meeting.

Planting time: Late October, November and early December is the preferred daffodil planting.

Mulch: After growing daffodils in the hot sand in Harbinger, NC for over five years now, I can safely say that to have the daffodils come back from year to year, about three to four inches of mulch is a necessity.

Dear friends at NENCDS...last March I gave a talk to my garden club about my daffodil faves and passed out the handout below. Most probably wouldn't win a ribbon, but they've sure been winners in my garden. (It was difficult narrowing down choices to just ten.) I live in Virginia's Northern Neck, zone 7, you guys are usually a week or more ahead.

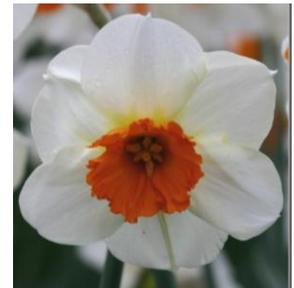
Nancy Fuchs

1 – CARLTON 2 Y-Y – Just can't beat it for a landscape daffodil that comes back year after year, one of the earlier ones. And Old House Gardens says it's easily forced—just put bulbs in fridge in the fall, then in January set in pebbles like you do paperwhites. Blooms quickly, no odor!
Hybridizer: Percival D. Williams, England, pre 1927



2 – RIJENVELD'S EARLY SENSATION 1 Y-Y – I've never encountered a yellow trumpet earlier than this guy. Not unusual to see them bloom on New Year's Day, though they generally wait until late January to flower in our area. They may not be great for the show bench, but they sure can lift your spirits.
Hybridizer: F. Herbert Chapman, England 1956

3 – BARRETT BROWNING 3 WWY-O – among the first of the white bloomers, it has an orange center and comes back year after year. It has special meaning for me since we used the bulbs for gifts when my son Mike married (in October, perfect time). Ten years later, friends still report blooms.
Hybridizer: J.W.A. Lefeber, the Netherlands, pre 1945  2011



4 – ICE FOLLIES 2 W-W – Earliest white for me, when mature it has a flared yellowish-white trumpet and white petals. Combine with Carlton and other early yellow trumpets for a big landscape daff splash.
Hybridizer: Konynenburg & Mark, the Netherlands, pre 1953  1992

5 – ST KEVERNE 2 Y-Y – One of the brightest yellows ever, this regal daff holds it head high, lording it over some of the others. Often one of the parents of show winners.
Hybridizer: Michael Percival Williams, England, pre 1934
 2007





6 – CUM LAUDE 11A W-P –Some daffodilians don’t like these “splits” but I’ll always have room for them. White petals, a divided (split) trumpet that folds back instead of standing up straight. Early. I’ve gotten some blue ribbons for these, though admittedly the competition wasn’t *that* fierce.

Hybridizer: J. Gerritsen & Son, the Netherlands 1984

**Note: Brent Heath introduced ‘Mary Gay Lirette,’ another 11A W-P, in 2000 and it is turning into a good performer, she blooms on the heels of Cum Laude. And her namesake was a beloved musician in Gloucester and Mathews. You really need both...*

7 – CEYLON 2 Y-O – Yellow petals, orange trumpet, once planted, you’ll have it forever. (If you can’t find Ceylon, Pinza [Y-YYO] is a close second, same hybridizer, 1962.)

Hybridizer: J. Lionel Richardson, Ireland, pre 1943  1994

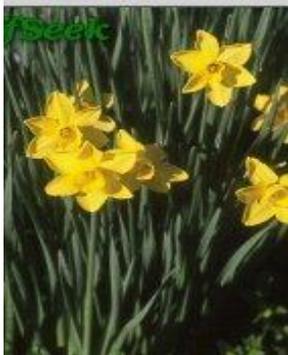


8 – FRAGRANT ROSE 2 W-GPP – A little late, but worth the wait. It has survived numerous replantings in my yard and continues to bloom each year; the scent does come pretty close to that of a rose. And a vase of three won a blue in Upperville several years ago.

Hybridizer: Brian S. Duncan, Northern Ireland, UK, 1978  2005

9 – RAPTURE 6 Y-Y – This delight has been around since 1976, but still topped the list of the “Winning-est Cultivars” compiled by American Daffodil Society member Bill Lee, who tabulates the spring show results yearly. Like Fragrant Rose, my Rapture has survived numerous re-plantings but always comes back. What’s not to love about that stovepipe trumpet with its swept-back petals.

Hybridizer: Grant E. Mitsch, Oregon, 1976  1997



10 – SWEETNESS 7 Y-Y – Appropriately named, this fragrant cultivar was No. 2 on Bill Lee’s winning-est list. It’s early, has a vigorous growth habit and should be in everyone’s garden.

Hybridizer: R.V. Favell, England, 1939  1993

 Wister Award, awarded annually since 1985 for superior performers. For complete list of winners, go to www.daffodilusa.org/references/wister.html