



VDS Newsletter

52nd edition

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VDS 2020-2021 OFFICERS

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Second verse, same as the first...

As we continue to sail these uncharted waters, one thing is certain—we miss our daffodil friends.

Board members all agreed that times are still uncertain for public gatherings and that it would be best to cancel the 2021 show set for April 3. Surely we'll be able to have an on-site show by next year—in fact, Jennifer has already booked Lewis Ginter for March 26, 2022.

Meanwhile, Erin Degnan, the youngest member of VDS (she's already completed Judging I) and probably the most cyber-literate member, has been working on a plan for a virtual show at the end of March-early April.

Full details and dates will be furnished in a separate mailing. It will be scaled-down, not ADS sanctioned and easy to enter, use whatever containers you have. Yes, it will be judged—but by the members.

I want to remind everyone that we still have an active Facebook page. It was started by Skip Ford's granddaughter 10 years ago. Please "like" this page and as your blooms begin, share them. They don't have to be show specimens,

Our next meeting is set for this Saturday, Feb. 20, 10 a.m. and will be via Zoom. Members will receive their invitations a few days before the meeting. Please plan to attend.

Nancy Fuchs

Fall Meeting

The VDS fall meeting was held Oct. 10 at Freedom Park in Williamsburg. Approximately 16 masked members attended.

Minutes:

Jennifer Potter reported that the VDS daffodil show is tentatively scheduled for Saturday April 3, 2021 at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond, Virginia. Set-up, staging and entries will be accepted on Friday, April 4; with additional entries, show judging, public opening and take down on Saturday, April 3. The show is still on at this time, but because of the uncertainty of virus conditions, a determination as to whether or not the show will take place will be made later.

The American Daffodil Convention and Show scheduled for April 2021 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania has been postponed to April 2022.

Nancy thanked Diane Spence for making arranging arrangements and securing the space for the meeting today, as well as providing refreshments. Diane read a letter from Judith Alberts, Chair of the Board, Williamsburg Botanical Garden, welcoming VDS to enjoy the garden and extending warm greetings.

Rick Simon reported that dues were ahead of last year at this point. VDS has spent \$240 more than receipts. In January the VDS bank balance was \$6,500.00. The current balance is \$6,150.00.

There is a raffle being held today. Tickets are \$2 for one ticket; \$5 for three.

Peggy Bowditch reported that VDS currently has 60 members, including 2 new members. Of those, 31 owe dues as of October 31, 2020. Eleven of the 31 have paid their dues. Those who do not send in renewal dues will be reminded after the first of the year, then reminded again in the next newsletter. Four members have sent in a second dues payment for the year. Several members have increased their membership level.

Old Business:

1. Renewal of 501(c)(3) status – in a follow-up discussion from the February meeting, the consensus of the membership was not to pursue non-profit status.

2. Carla Stanley has volunteered to fill the Historian position. She and Carol Rush (last Historian) will get in contact regarding responsibilities.
3. Kathleen Pender has contacted Fifty-Third Winery and Vineyard in Louisa County. They would be happy to host VDS's summer picnic.
4. It is unknown whether or not the spring meeting will take place because of COVID concerns. Westminster Canterbury in Richmond is very strict on access to its facility, so that space may not be available to us. Erin Degmen volunteered to see if St. Catherine's School in Richmond might host us. Tentative date for the meeting will be Saturday, February 20.
5. There is no program for today, other than the bulb exchange and raffle.
6. Next year is VDS's 30th anniversary.
7. Discussion ensued as to whether or not we could charge a fee to enter the daffodil show. Neither ADS nor Lewis Ginter would permit that. Donations may accepted, however.
8. Program ideas discussion – Brent or Becky, daffodil jeopardy, hybridizing.

New Business: none

The meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m. for the bulb exchange and raffle.

Submitted by:

Carol Rush, Secretary



L-R: Jim Taylor, Dianne Spence and Barbara Covington confer at the Oct. 10 VDS meeting.



The 2021 American Daffodil Society's annual convention was to be held in Gettysburg, PA in April but will be online instead. It will begin Feb. 25 with programs scheduled throughout subsequent weeks, ending in May. It is open to everyone, not just ADS members.

For a complete listing of the programs, which range from hot water treatment of bulbs to Historics to talks by well-known international hybridizers, go to <https://daffodilusa.org/events-show-calendar/national-convention/2021-virtual-national-convention/#events>

ADS members who register by Feb. 20 will pay \$25; after that, \$35. Non ADS members who register before Feb. 20 pay \$35; afterward, \$45.



'Marieke' wins 2021 Wister Award

'Marieke' (1 Y-GYY) has been named the 2021 ADS Wister Award winner. In order to earn that honor a cultivar must be a widely available, resistant to basal rot, and have a long-lasting bloom with a record of excellent garden performance.

While the emphasis is on garden performance, a Wister winner may also be of show table quality.

'Marieke' is a 1986 Konynenburg & Mark (Netherlands) hybrid. It has a huge, upward facing flower with a vivid, yellow perianth and a long, darker yellow trumpet.

Sad News

Former VDS member Anne Grigg passed away Feb. 10, 2021. An avid gardener, she was a member of the VDS for many years and once hosted the society's summer picnic. Friends said her health had been failing during the last year. She was a widow and is survived by four children and four

grandchildren. Private graveside services were held and the family plans a memorial when it is safe to meet again. Gifts in Anne's memory may be made to All Saints Episcopal Church and Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.

Outreach Project!

Kathleen Pender, who supplied the bulbs, compost and mulch—and the idea—along with fellow VDS members planted bulbs near the entrance to the 53rd Winery in Louisa County in November.

When they bloom in the spring, VDS plans to make promotional handouts available at the winery telling about the society and how to join.



Planters included Skip Ford, Jennifer Potter and Kathleen Pender.

Nancy Fuchs planted daffodils at the Good Luck Winery in Kilmarnock (Northern Neck) and supplied the Rivah Vineyards at the Grove in Kinsale with a number of bulbs.

These bulbs were donated by Brent & Becky's Bulbs—because of Covid, many of the company's orders were canceled and they generously donated bulbs to nearby organizations and businesses.

VDS handouts will be made available at these wineries, also.

Gloucester Daffodil Show

Nearly every daffodil show in the U.S. has been canceled, though Gloucester County plans a hybrid show for March 27 at Newington Baptist Church instead of the usual show venue, Botetourt Elementary School. (The church is near the school.)

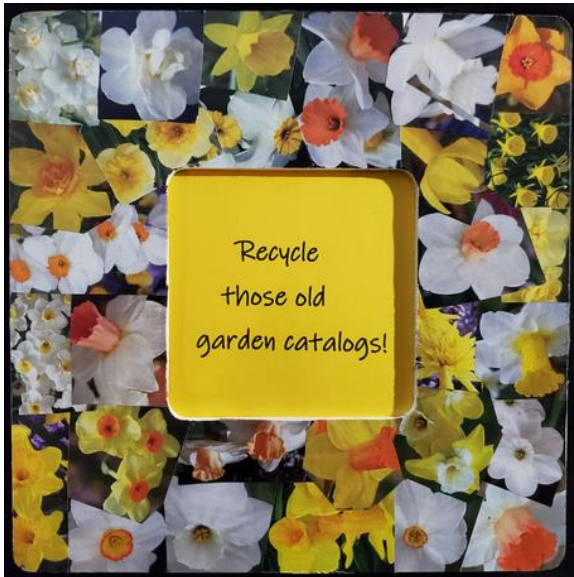
Horticulture exhibitors will have two opportunities to pick up show properties in advance: March 13 and 20. They will bring their entries at an appointed time to the church.

ADS judges (scaled down to two) will judge and then the entire show will be filmed by Gloucester Parks and Recreation and made available on their website for public viewing.

The design portion of the show was eliminated.

Don't throw away those catalogs!

Looking for a mindless task? Old garden catalogs are a great source of decoupage materials. Get out the scissors and glue sticks while you binge-watch something on Netflix.



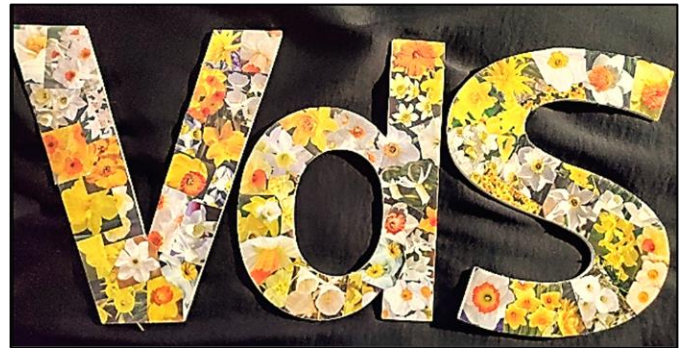
Have you downloaded Zoom?

Many folks have been dragged, kicking and screaming, into virtual meetings, thanks to the Covid restrictions.

It is free, quick to download and easy to participate in. You can use Zoom on your phone, tablet, laptop or desktop as long as the device has a camera.

When there is a meeting you want to attend, the host of a Zoom meeting will send you an email containing the time of the meeting and a link to click to join in.

See you at the meeting Feb. 20.



The Virginia Daffodil Society

Membership Form

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ email _____

1 year Individual - \$20

3 years Individual \$50

1 year youth \$5

1 year Family \$30

3 years Family \$75

Mail form with check payable to Virginia Daffodil Society to:

VDS, c/o Peggy Bowditch, 8303 Robins Neck Road, Gloucester, VA 23061