



VDS Newsletter

55th edition Virginia Daffodil Society – P.O. Box 514 – Rockville, VA 23146 February 2024

President

Kathleen Pender
Gardensunflower28@gmail.com
804-840-3648

Vice President

Nancy Fuchs
nanfox@gmail.com
804-580-1952

Treasurer

Carol Rush
cyrush4@sbcglobal.net
434-964-9610

Recording Secretary

Dianne Spence
dsspence@widomaker.com
757-870-3154

Corresponding Secretary

Erica Gilliam
erica.gilliam@comcast.net
804-784-5592

Membership

Jennifer Potter
Jpotter890@msn.com
804-360-1982

Historian

Carla Stanley
carlastanle@yahoo.com
804-815-9582

Daffodil Show Chairman

Jennifer Potter
Jpotter890@msn.com

Nancy Fuchs, Co-chairman
nanfox@gmail.com

Message from the President...

I'm hoping this finds everyone well and excited for the New Year! I'm getting really excited for our upcoming Spring Meeting on Saturday, Feb. 3 at Covenant Woods in Mechanicsville.

We are planning to have an "All Hands-on Deck" approach for the board and members alike to participate in hands-on demos and training for all aspects of the upcoming VDS Spring Show!

VDS Members have many years of combined experience in growing and showing daffodils and are a great wealth of information. If you have any early daffs in bloom, please bring them to share with those in attendance as we will use these early bloomers to demonstrate how to groom your bloom for entering the show as well as the proper way to fill out the entry cards, as that can be rather confusing if you're not sure, and much more.

Please plan on attending and bring a friend to share the wonderful world of daffodils and like-minded souls to collaborate yellow cheer this New Year!

We hope to see you there!

Kathleen Pender



Virginia Daffodil Society (VDS)

Next VDS Meeting

Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024 - 10 a.m.

Covenant Woods Manor Building

7090 Covenant Woods Dr

Mechanicsville, VA 23111

Manor building will be straight ahead.
Some parking available in the circle in front and more parking on either side of the circle.

Sign in with the Concierge at the Manor entrance and you will be issued a visitor badge and given directions to the meeting.

10 a.m. - Noon

- Business meeting
- Program: Hands-on workshop to learn how to enter your daffodils in the show
- Lunch available in Traditions, also in the Manor building

you want to participate; she will have to retrieve them from storage. Email Jpotter890@msn.com.

VDS has new Facebook page

The old Facebook page that had been under Community Development has been deleted and replaced with a new Virginia Daffodil Society group page. Be sure to check it out, it's frequently updated and everyone is invited to comment and contribute. It's a great way to stay connected with fellow members.

Website on the way

VDS is getting its own website and the web address VirginiaDaffodilSociety.org has been secured! We will be taking advantage of the American Daffodil Society's server to host our site which is offered at no charge.

The new website will help the public find out about VDS, promote daffodils and the activities of VDS, and provide membership information. We hope the website will be a tool that brings new members to VDS.

The website will be created in WordPress which is the preferred platform of the ADS. Anyone having the tech know-how about utilizing WordPress, please contact Kathleen Pender (gardensunflower28@gmail.com) or Nancy Fuchs (nanfox@gmail.com). We hope to have our site live in time for the March 2024 show!

Members busy with public plantings

VDS daffodil planting efforts benefited three public sites in 2023: Patrick Henry's Scotchtown in Hanover, Forest Hill Park on Richmond's southside and Great Shiplock Park on the Capital Trail, just east of downtown Richmond.

Scotchtown - On behalf of VDS, one of our members donated historic bulbs, *N.*

Pseudonarcissus and *Telamonius Plenus* to the Hanover Master Gardeners who maintain the display gardens at this Preservation Virginia site. We hope to continue this relationship with the Hanover Master Gardeners and Preservation Virginia with future historic bulb donations.

Forest Hill Park - In late May 2023, VDS members dug and divided overcrowded and overgrown bulbs

Daffodil Exhibiting 101

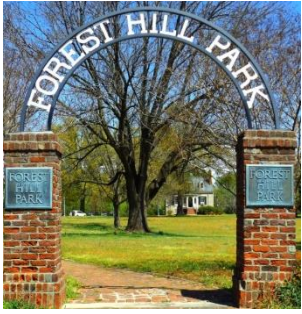
A first-time exhibitor can feel overwhelmed when trying to enter a bloom at a show, that's why the VDS has scheduled a hands-on workshop at the Feb. 3 meeting.

Experienced members will help newbies with the whole process—from registering, to understanding the schedule, to filling out entry cards, grooming, placing entries on the show floor and more.

If you have any daffodils blooming by February, please bring them to the meeting. These blooms do not have to be show-worthy, they will be for practice.



To make sure we have enough properties on hand for practice, please let Jennifer know by Jan. 30 if



at the entrance to Forest Hill Park and at the historic Stone House on the property. Most of the rescued bulbs were immediately replanted near their original locations, just moved farther out for best

visibility. Anyone driving along Forest Hill Avenue this spring will surely see the improved display of *Ice Follies*.

This past November, VDS members gathered again to plant the bulbs remaining from the spring dig. These were planted near the park's pickleball courts and children's playground. Participating members were Chris Catanzaro, Linda Reynolds, Susan Hollister, Sunae Harkett and Susan Auman. Thanks also go to Sunae's son who also participated.

Great Shiplock Park - Thanks to bulb donations from VDS and ADS friends Matt Duddy, Allen Haas, and Sara Kinne, the VDS was able to complete Phase I of historic bulb planting at Great Shiplock Park in Nov. 2023. A dozen volunteers from VDS and Capital Trees planted approximately 500 bulbs of *Ornatus*, *Stella/Stella Superba*, and *Empress* that will provide early bloom at the park's entrance parking area.

Participating VDS members were: Kathleen Pender, Sunae Harkett, Christy Brennan, Susan Auman and Linda Reynolds.

Phase II planting is planned for fall 2024 and we will again be relying heavily on bulb donations from members! The historic bulbs we need for Phase II are Emperor, *Conspicuous* (3Y-Y00), and *Sir Watkin*. If you grow any of these, and have enough for us to dig this spring, please speak up!



From the Show Chairman

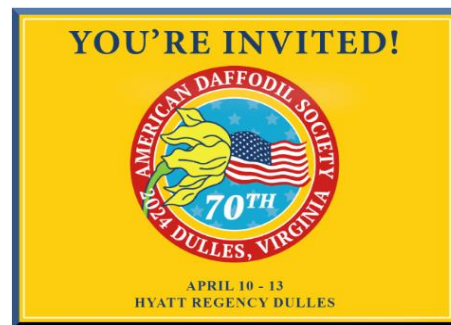
Happy New Year! It is hard to believe our VDS show is just around the corner.

Join us March 23 & 24, 2024, at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. Entries will be accepted Friday, March 22 – noon until 6 p.m. and Saturday, March 23 – 7 a.m.-10 a.m.

Electronic Copies of the schedule and advance registration for horticulture and photography will be emailed the first of March. Be on the lookout for it!

Looking to help with the show? It takes many hands to run our show. Volunteers are needed to set up Friday, March 22 at 9:30 a.m. and take down on Sunday afternoon at 3:45 when the show closes.

We also need volunteers to walk around during the show on Saturday and Sunday to answer questions. If interested in learning more, please email Jennifer at Jpotter890@msn.com. Lots of opportunities to help with show!



**ADS 2024
National
Convention
is in Virginia
this year!**

The American Daffodil Society Convention is set for April 10-13 at the Hyatt Regency Dulles in Herndon. The Washington Daffodil Society is hosting the convention with help from members of the Mid Atlantic ADS region.

Co-chairs Kathy Welsh and Karen Cogar can use your help. A message from them follows:

Convention year has finally arrived. We are 3 short months away from the big event. There is lots of activity taking place to prepare for the upcoming 70th Anniversary Convention in April and we want you to be a part of it.

Registration started a few weeks ago. I'm sure you received the email to register. If not, please visit the convention website to familiarize yourself with the process to register, the schedule of events, and all other Convention related activities. Don't forget to make your hotel reservations as well. Making the needed room count is what

provides us with the show space at no charge. <https://daffodilusa.org/events-show-calendar/national-convention/2024-national-convention/>

Entering and visiting the show is free of charge. The above website has information on entering horticulture, photography, and design. Mark your calendar for Wednesday, April 10 for entries and the Newcomer's reception, and April 11 at 2 p.m. for the Show and Boutique opening to the public. Convention attendees will be treated to 2 days of lectures and fabulous tours on the 12th and 13th.

Speaking of the **Boutique**, the committee is seeking donations of lightly used daffodil related items. If you have items you would like to donate, please respond to Kathy Welsh at 703-244-4076 or email her at Kathy.Welsh@phmloans.com.

Would you like to **volunteer** and haven't been assigned a job yet? Please respond to Kathy.

Donations are also being accepted. Thanks to the many people who have already donated to this cause. It helped us reduce our registration fee significantly. Please contact Kathy if you would like to make a donation, or fill out the donation field when you register.

We look forward to seeing you soon!!

Kathy Welsh & Karen Cogar
ADS Convention Co-Chairs

Calling all Hybridizers




Northern Ireland's Brian Duncan began hybridizing in 1963 and hasn't stopped since. *Fragrant Rose*, *High Society*, *Dena*, *Elizabeth Ann*, *Goldfinger*, *Maria Pia*, *Sandycove* and *Hyperbole* are among the many he has bred.

And he's also a poet! "A Hybridizer's Poem" first appeared in St. Louis Daffodil Society's 2008 newsletter and is reprinted here with permission from the SLDS.

A Hybridizer's Poem

Be not discouraged, do the deed
Gather and sow your daffodil seed.
If you ask many folks, for methods to be used
As sure as a tangle, you'll get all confused.
Don't be impatient – or hasty be
And in no time at all, little flowers you will see.
And the longer they take, the greater your glee
If you've been more selective than any old bee.
Make crosses with care, with an end point in view,
Pick parents well, perhaps only a few
With good colour, nice form and vigorous genes
Be canny and thoughtful, don't go to extremes.
The results may surprise you, both good and bad!
But that's not a reason to complain or be sad.
You sowed a few seeds, you raised your own Daff
And with ADS friends, you'll have many a laugh.

Poeticus horridificus (Brian Duncan) St. Louis Daff Society
Newsletter Fall 2008 (reprinted with permission of SLDS)

	The Virginia Daffodil Society Membership Form
DATE _____	
NAME _____	
ADDRESS _____	

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____	
EMAIL _____	
PHONE _____	
_____ 1 year individual \$20.00	
_____ 3 years individual \$50.00	
_____ 1 year family \$30.00	
_____ 3 years family \$75.00	
_____ 1 year youth \$5.00	
Mail form with check to: Virginia Daffodil Society PO BOX 514, Rockville, VA 23146-0514	
Exhibitors are also encouraged to join the American Daffodil Society. The Society publishes a quarterly journal <u>containing</u> articles, color photos and national daffodil news.	
To join, go to ADS on the website: http://www.daffodilusa.org	