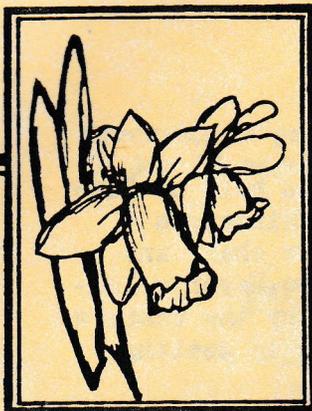


1982

Tête-à-tête



Quarterly Publication of the Daffodil Society of Minnesota

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Since this is my last message to you as your President, I would like to take a few minutes to reflect on the last two years of the Daffodil Society of Minnesota.

When I began my term as your President, the society was young and actively growing. In these last two years, I feel it has continued to grow and develop. We have had two, very successful American Daffodil Society accredited shows and have had the opportunity of meet-a number of judges from the different daffodil-growing regions of the country. Within these two years, we have held here in Minnesota all three sessions of the ADS Judging School. A number of our members are now student judges and well on their way to becoming accredited ADS judges. This will ease the financial burden on the DSM when we have local judges for our shows, since we will not have to bring them in from other areas of the U.S. Both the 1980 and 1981 Fall bulb auction and sales were very successful (an unaudited report appears elsewhere in this newsletter, Ed.). Since the society depends heavily on the income from this function to meet its program of services to the membership, your continued support has meant financial stability and expanding programs.

I would like to express my appreciation to all of you who have helped to make my two years as your President a very gratifying experience. A special note of thanks goes to all who served as officers, chairpersons and members of committees. I sincerely hope that you will support our next President and the society as you did me. Remember, we are a team; in order to be successful, each member of that team must perform his/her duties.

I would like to remind you of our annual business meeting and program on January 14, 1982. Remember that a new slate of officers will be elected at that time, so please participate as a voting member of the society. This is one of the major ways that you - the individual member - can affect the direction of the society. Annual meeting time is also dues time, so either pay them at the meeting or mail your check to the Treasurer.

I hope to see all of you on January 14.

Michael L. Neger

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING and PROGRAM

14 January 1982

PLACE: Jolly Troll Smorgasbord Restaurant, 5418 Wayzata Blvd. (5 miles west of downtown Minneapolis on Hwy. 12 at it's junction with Vernon Ave./Turner's Cross Road.)

DINNER: Optional. 6:00 PM in Banquet Room, \$6.00 per person includes dinner, beverage and dessert.

BUSINESS MEETING, ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND PROGRAM: 7:00 PM in Banquet Room. The program will consist of the newest collection of slides from the ADS: "Poeticus Daffodils."

DAFFODIL SOCIETY of MINNESOTA
MINUTES of the REGULAR MEETING*
September 27, 1981

The regular September meeting of the Daffodil Society of Minnesota was held on Sunday, 27 September 1981, at 0945 hours, in the Snyder Building of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chanhassen, Minnesota, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being absent. In the absence of the Secretary, Mr. Mike Heger volunteered to serve as Acting Secretary and was given unanimous approval by the members present. There were no meeting minutes to be read since the regular May meeting was cancelled by vote of the membership at the regular March meeting.

The Treasurer submitted an interim report indicating a balance of \$217.50 in the checking account and \$544.18 in the savings account; an unaudited cash balance of \$761.68. Action on the report is deferred, pending completion of the required annual audit.

Mr. Swanson reported current membership in the society of 30 single members, five dual and one complimentary.

Mr. Wadekamper moved "to hold the 1982 Daffodil Society of Minnesota Annual Show on 15 May 1982 at the Landmark Center in St. Paul, MN." Mr. Karnstedt seconded. Our show will be held in conjunction with the Minnesota State Horticultural Society's "Mission 125" development drive. The Landmark Center is St. Paul's old City Hall and Court House (Federal). Constructed of red sandstone in Neo-Romanesque style, its significant architectural and historical value have been recognized by inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. In a departure from past shows, this would be a one day show only. Passed. Mr. Wadekamper volunteered to serve as general chairman for the show. Approved.

Mr. David Karnstedt, as immediate past-President of the DSM, is chairman of the Nominating Committee. The members elected Mr. Julius Wadekamper and Mrs. Lillian Maroushek to serve on the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 1000 hours.

*Minutes edited for publication. Original signed by Michael Heger as Acting Secretary. Original is on file with the Secretary.

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RESULTS OF THE BULB SALE

Results are incomplete and unaudited, but give a good idea of income from this activity.

<u>Sales:</u>	\$ 370.00
<u>Auction:</u>	390.00
<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>-329.00</u>
<u>NET:</u>	\$ 431.00

Heartfelt thanks to all who donated bulbs and who gave of their time to purchase bulbs, bag them and help with table sales during the day — and afterward.

PROPOSED 1982 BUDGET

Herewith is presented for consideration and approval by the membership at the 14 Jan 82 regular meeting, a proposed budget for fiscal year 1982.

- Finance Committee

INCOME

Memberships	\$ 40.00
Bulb Sale and Auction	1300.00
Interest	<u>50.00</u>

TOTAL INCOME: \$ 1390.00

EXPENSES

ADS Membership	\$ 10.00
Bulb Sale	500.00
Contributions - Arboretum daffodil collection/test garden	250.00
- Harrison School	50.00
Annual Show	400.00
Publications	100.00
Programs	<u>80.00</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 1390.00

* * * * *

5 W-W ICICLE

Word has been received from Peggy Macneale, Chairwoman of the ADS Committee on Miniatures that 5 W-W Icicle (Blanchard-1962) has been added to the Approved List of Miniatures. Only those clones and species that are listed on the 'ADS Approved List of Miniatures' are eligible for ADS awards when entered and exhibited at ADS approved shows. The only exception is certain, unregistered seedlings grown and exhibited by the seedling's originator.

Volume 18, No. 2, December 1981, of THE DAFFODIL JOURNAL contains an up-to-date ADS Approved List of Miniatures. It is recommended that all Student Judges insert this page (or a Xerox copy) in the back of their current copy of 'DAFFODILS TO SHOW AND GROW'. If you'd like a copy of this page, let me (Dave Karnstedt) know and I'll get one to you.

In general, miniatures are scarce little creatures much in demand. Perhaps no more than 15% of the approved list are ever available commercially at any one time. One of the major suppliers, Broadleigh Gardens, has temporarily suspended operations while its owner, Lord Skelmersdale, serves in the House of Lords. It is my understanding that English law prevents a sitting Lord from simultaneously engaging in commerce. The good news is that the collection is sitting there and multiplying! I would imagine that when Broadleigh Gardens opens for business once again their stocks will largely be complete. The fancier of miniatures will be first in line with list in hand! There are few other sources for miniatures around, but if we would like to star these totally delightful plants in our next Bulb Sale, that fact should be made known to the Bulb Sale Chairman as soon as possible so the necessary inquiries can be made. There is considerable interest in miniature daffodils in this area, not only from daffodil fanciers, but also from our membership and others interested in rock gardening.

2 W-P — PINKS*
by Bob Sterling

In recent years, it has been customary to include a pink cupped flower in group classes in addition to the usual single bloom class.

I am not alone in my admiration for the few top class exhibitors who can choose the right flower to blend and improve a group. The majority of exhibitors (myself included) use a "pink" that does nothing to improve the overall impact and most times detracts from the brightness of the exhibit by using a flower that is not quite up to standard.

'Passionale' - time has marched on, and this flower has served its purpose with dignity and should be retired to a corner in the paddock with a label "R.I.P."

'Fair Prospect' - a "must" for every exhibitor with its beautiful white perianth that illuminates the coral pink cup. One of the few that enhance a collection. Rather pricey as yet, but better to buy one of this than three that lack its quality.

'Fragrant Rose' - not yet on my shopping list for a couple of reasons: "price and proof." I have not yet seen it as a serious competitor to a few existing top class flowers. It could develop into the top three and with its fragrance could be a winner. A couple of years will provide the answer at a price that will suit.

'Salmon Spray' - this one still seems to be very scarce, but some lovely specimens have been exhibited in London. It's like a modern day 'Salmon Trout' in style, but with a much better stem, brighter colour and greater size.

'Violetta' - this one didn't impress me until this year when I potted three bulbs and the resulting five flowers were perfect for both the single bloom and group classes. The texture of the perianth is such that it is quite easy to smooth out; it does need this dressing to make of it an eye-catcher. The cup is unique in colour — hence, the name 'Violetta.'

'Roseate Tern' - this is my number one. I praised this flower a couple of years ago in our Newsletter and it has improved on that. A really beautiful flower that will demand a waiting list, so now is your opportunity to get in to the stock. "Better looking at it, than looking for it."

'Gracious Lady' - I have had the pleasure of admiring this one, both in open ground and in pot culture. I would hesitate before suggesting that you purchase it, as I have never seen it as good as when grown at Waterford.

*Reprinted from the NEWSLETTER of the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group, Vol. 1, No. 9, August 1981. Bob Sterling is editor of that publication and a noted exhibitor at daffodil shows in both Northern Ireland, as well as London.

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HEAR YE! HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

1982 DUES ARE DUE! Such a value for your \$1 you don't get anymore, since this significant annual membership fee to the DSM will cover a single membership, husband and wife (and assorted kids, dogs and cats) membership and even dual membership (SPOTOSSTR). Bring your dollar clutched in your frozen hand to the January meeting or mail it to the Treasurer.

2 W-W — WHITE LARGE CUPS*
by Malcolm Bradbury

My article in the current issue of THE DAFFODIL SOCIETY JOURNAL examined the record of best bloom awards at the major English shows between 1971 and 1980. Nine of the forty-one awards recorded were to 2W-W's — more than to any other sub-division. The successful 2W-W's were 'Inverpolly' (four awards), 'Ashmore', B.967, 'Canisp', 'Castle of Mey' and 'Dover Cliffs' (one award each). Both this record and the steady flow of new introductions in recent years suggest that the refinement of 2W-W's has been — and remains — a major objective for most breeders. Not surprisingly, a strong selection of 2W-W's needs to be grown by exhibitors hoping for success in the major collection classes. This said, and even allowing for the fact that I do not have a special interest in 2W-W's, I was surprised to discover when writing this article that my collection of 2W-W's consists mostly of varieties introduced well over a decade ago.

Most unusually, the Richardsons appear to have had little success in breeding 2W-W's. I say "appear", simply because the premature dispersion of new introductions when Mrs. Richardson ceased trading has prevented such apparently promising varieties as 'Inishmore' and 'Persepolis' (1976) from being adequately tested on the show bench. Conversely, all white daffodils were Guy Wilson's specialty and it is to some of his 2W-W introductions that I now turn.

'Castle of Mey' (1953) was best bloom at Birmingham last year. Although I did not see it myself, it clearly created quite an impression. Not surprisingly, perhaps, when one recalls its eligibility for a class with a 50p price limit. As 'Castle of Mey' seems to have slipped my net, I leave comment to others.

'Easter Moon' (1956) caused a sensation when first introduced and has since proved to be an outstanding parent. At its best, 'Easter Moon' has a broad, smooth waxy perianth and a shortish fluted cup with a cold, sage-green base. In this condition, 'Easter Moon' can still sometimes beat its children. The problem is that 'Easter Moon' is not consistent. All too often petals are split, or heavily ribbed, and cups distorted. The average exhibitor cannot spare the space to grow 'Easter Moon' in the quantity needed to be confident of getting exhibition quality blooms.

'Knowhead' (1954) is distinguished by a trumpet which rolls back as the flower ages. Of Division 1 characteristics, 'Knowhead' lacks the size, form and substance now required in top level competition. However, 'Knowhead's' whiteness, tall stem relative to foliage height and vigour do make it a very good garden plant.

'Homage' (1955) has a tall strong stem and its large blooms of Division 3 characteristics are well presented. Unfortunately, blooms which look promising when viewed from the rear often have to be discarded on closer inspection because the very ruffled cup tends to split, or even grow semi-doubled.

'Stainless' (1960) has a shallow bowl-shaped crown, elegantly fluted, and a perianth which tends to reflex slightly as the flower ages. Unusually, the cup often seems to be whiter than the perianth. Like 'Homage', 'Stainless' tends to flower late mid-season, whilst 'Easter Moon', 'Knowhead' and 'Desdemona' are early mid-season varieties. Though still widely shown in collection classes, I dislike 'Stainless' because I feel it has too wide a cup relative to its perianth.

'Desdemona' (1964) is a smooth flower of trumpet characteristics and having a good stem and foliage. Though sometimes successful at small shows, or in the novice classes, 'Desdemona' can be "floppy" and is usually outperformed by newer introductions.

With the possible exception of 'Castle of Mey', all of the above daffodils have proven to be good parents. However, except for 'Castle of Mey' which I have not grown, I have regrettably had to discard all the above Guy Wilson introductions in recent years. In my abnormally dry growing conditions (about 20 inches of rain per year on poor, gravel-like soil), they are not as successful as the Fred Board introductions which I now consider.

B.967 ('Easter Moon' x 'Homage') is a very similar flower to its sister 'Danes Balk'. Despite its best bloom award at Birmingham in 1971, B.967 is likely to be my next reject. By current standards, B.967 lacks size and has so much substance that ribbing is often a problem.

'Broomhill' (1965) was raised from 'Easter Moon' x 'Knowhead'. A remarkably consistent flower judged either between seasons or along a row of blooms. This year I picked all my sixteen blooms for our local show where I successfully showed a vase of seven, two vases of three and two single blooms. Except for slight variation in size, all blooms were identical; there were only two nicked petals in the entire crop. Of classic show form, 'Broomhill' has lovely smooth waxy petals of good substance, a strong tall stem and a useful early mid-season flowering time. Although widely grown and very successful on the show bench, the absence of major best bloom in show awards in the past decade is indicative. 'Broomhill' is safe and sound, but lacks the distinctiveness (and perhaps the size) needed for the highest awards.

'Misty Glen' (registered in 1976, but shown earlier) was bred from 'Easter Moon' and 'Pigeon'. It was selected from Fred Board's seedlings after his death and rescued for posterity by Tony Noton. As I have only grown 'Misty Glen' for a year, I reserve comment, except to say that it flowers later than 'Broomhill' and has made a good start in my garden to living up to its reputation as Fred Board's best 2W-W.

'Dover Cliffs' (1956). Despite being registered a quarter of a century ago, 'Dover Cliffs' ('Riber' x 'Cantatrice') was only introduced recently. Rescued from obscurity and shown with great success by Jim Pearce, 'Dover Cliffs' is an enormous, very white bloom of trumpet style with extremely wide petals and, when well grown, a very smooth texture. As my growing conditions are similar to Jim's, I shall persevere with 'Dover Cliffs', despite this year's floppy blooms.

I next consider three, widely grown and very successful flowers raised by John Lea.

'Canisp' (1960) was raised from 'Ave' x 'Early Mist'. It is a variety which I should have bought years ago, but have just obtained as an early mid-season stopgap whilst updating my collection. The comments which follow are, therefore, based on looking at other people's blooms. Both personal observation and inspection of show records suggest that 'Canisp' has good years, in which it is widely and successfully exhibited, and poor years, in which it is hardly shown at all. At its best, 'Canisp' has a commanding presence. I attribute this to the elegance given by combining pointed inner petals and near-trumpet proportions. A variable feature is the mouth of its slightly expanding trumpet, which I have seen both with and without a roll.

'Inverpolly' (1980 — but exhibited since at least the early 1960's) has an outstanding record of best bloom in show awards. So far, I have found 'Inverpolly' a frustrating flower: very late flowering, slow of increase and possessing a rather long neck. 'Inverpolly' opens with a hint of pink in the cup, but that soon fades to pure white. Of true large cup form, the inner petals of 'Inverpolly' are perhaps a little narrow by current standards. This said, like many other exhibitors I continue to hope that next season 'Inverpolly' will produce for me the once in a decade bloom of which it is capable. Meanwhile, I anticipate that 'Inverpolly' will earn its keep for me by living up to its reputation as a good parent of 2W-P's.

'Ben Hee' (1964) was raised from 'Easter Moon' x 'Omeath' and is an early flowering sister of 'Inverpolly'. Under valued when first introduced, 'Ben Hee' has been very successful in the single bloom classes at the R.H.S. Competition. In my garden, 'Ben Hee' increases well, producing blooms which are whiter and earlier than 'Broomhill'. Although 'Ben Hee' rarely nicks its petals, it can be faulted for the rather untidy mouth to its cup.

I turn now to flowers which I have seen, but not grown.

'Ashmore' (Blanchard 1974), raised from 'Easter Moon' x a seedling was best bloom at the R.H.S. show in 1975. It has a good stem and neck, lots of substance and a very rounded perianth of broad overlapping petals, shortish cup and seems to vary between blooms. I have seen both nicely finished cups and very unattractive, plain cups looking as if the end had been sawn off. Apart from the price, an important element in my decision not to purchase 'Ashmore' was the harsh grey tone underlying its whiteness.

'Churchman' (Ballydorn 1968) runs counter to current fashion. Though not of trumpet character, 'Churchman' has a long and expanding cup with a plain flange and pointed petals. I bought 'Churchman' this year for very specific hybridizing purposes, but hope that it will also add distinctiveness to my entries in early season collection classes.

I saw and discussed 'Guiding Light' (Brogden unregistered) with Bob Sterling at the R.H.S. Show in 1978. The bloom we inspected was small and looked much like a Division 2 version of LW-W 'Silent Valley'. Other blooms which we did know in the same collection were small and had suffered from their trip across the Atlantic. On the assumption that we were right in believing that it will grow bigger and better, 'Guiding Light' looked an interesting gamble in "something different." Having planted a bulb imported from New Zealand earlier this year, I hope to know the answer in about three years time!

I am told that 'Immaculate' (Jackson unregistered 1978) created a sensation at a recent New Zealand National Show. Peter Ramsay's colour slide certainly suggested that 'Immaculate' is worth watching. The slide showed a very rounded perianth with very wide petals whose edges incurved slightly. Again, the proof of the pudding is in the eating and I hope for the best as my bulb acclimatizes.

'Tutankhamun' (Abel Smith 1972) was raised from 'Ave' x 'Empress of Ireland'. It flowers in early mid-season, has plenty of substance and is very white. However, it lacks the distinctiveness needed to overcome my dislike of failed trumpets.

There remains a wide range of recent introductions which I have yet to evaluate. In the next few seasons, I shall again be looking at such flowers as 'Glenside' (Board), 'Innisbeg' (Carncairn), 'Troon' (Duncan), 'Croila' and 'Pitchroy' (Lea) and 'Cold Overton' and 'White Mist' (Noton). Subject to this qualification, and restricting my selection to widely grown varieties, my top four are: 'Inverpolly', 'Broomhill', 'Canisp' and 'Ben Hee'. However, I would be surprised if this ranking remained intact for long and would expect 'Dover Cliffs' and 'Misty Glen' to make the grade when more widely grown. In any event, given the key role of 2W-W's in collection classes, most exhibitors will have little difficulty in justifying the growing of more than four different 2W-W's.

June 1981

*Reprinted from the NEWSLETTER of the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group, Vol. 1, No. 9, August 1981.

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