

The Washington Daffodil Society

www.washingtondaffodilsociety.org

NEWSLETTER, SPRING 2009

WDS Bulb Order Due May 25, 2009!!!

Bob Huesmann Article on Bulb Order, inside Newsletter

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Spring Lunch Meeting:

LucyRhame

2009 Daffodil Show:

Tom Taylor

2009 Pie Eater's Show:

Chriss Rainey

The WDS Newsletter

is published in the Fall, Winter and Spring for members of WDS, with information on the activities of the Society, and of the American Daffodil Society when of local interest. Please send comments, ideas, and articles to the Editor: Mary Anne Barton, 3707 Burrows Avenue, Fairfax, VA 22030

Message from the President

Dear Daffodil Lovers,

What a spring this year gifted us! With all the cool weather and numerous overcast days, the daffodils bloomed and bloomed for one of the longest and most colorful seasons I can remember. The orange and red cups glowed with bright color making wonderful displays on the show benches throughout the Mid-Atlantic region.

For those of you that were able to attend the WDS show at Brookside Gardens over Easter weekend, you know what I mean. The show boasted 2070 beautiful stems, exhibited by 54 exhibitors, almost double the number of blooms from last year. However the added stems did not deter show chair Tom Taylor, who did a wonderful job organizing all of us for the show. And because of the glorious weather over the holiday weekend, many who came to visit the gardens had the opportunity to view and enjoy the show. And once the show was over, the remaining daffodils were delivered to those in retirement homes who were thrilled to be remembered. You growers certainly spread a lot of joy in many places.

And finishing off the season was the Pie Eater's Show organized by Chriss and Spencer Rainey in Reston, VA. Read on where Chriss will tell all.

While the blooms for the year might be over, the daffodil fever is not. Mary Koonce, Bob Huesmann and Mitch Carney have put together a very tempting bulb order this spring. I have been reviewing the choices nightly and must admit to wanting them all! No doubt you will find something on that list you cannot live without, so please get your order in to Mary by the May 25th deadline.

Did you say you needed a bit of advice on which are the winning bulbs, or planting, or digging? Search the updated WDS website, www.washingtondaffodilsociety.org, for informational articles in newsletters from the past three years that Paul Botting has archived. The website is full of current and relevant information that can answer questions you may not have even thought of yet!

Our next two meeting for the year are already scheduled so mark your calendars. The June picnic will be hosted by Mary Koonce at her home in West Virginia on June 13 and the fall board meeting and bulb exchange has been set for October 17 at the Falls Church Community Center. We hope to see you all there.

Lucy Rhame, WDS President, lrhame@aol.com

WDS Summer Picnic- June 13

See Page 2!



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WDS Summer Picnic

June 13, 2009 at the Home of Mary Koonce, 304-725-5609

28 Brittany Lane Summit Point, WV 25446

**PLEASE RSVP BY TELEPHONE AND LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR
MARY KOONCE (304-725-5609)- our hosts need a head count**

Board Meeting 11 am

Picnic 1:30 pm

WDS will provide the main dish (fried chicken), eating utensils and soft drinks. Members provide their own chair and a dish of their choice: a salad, appetizer or dessert (alcoholic beverages, if you want them); and a plant for the Plant Exchange

During the picnic, we will have a short business meeting, a plant exchange, and a short discussion led by Glenna Graves:

"June is the beginning of the daffodil digging season!! How/when do you dig? Do you dry in the sun? Use a fan? Do you use hot water treatment for healthier bulbs? Do you HWT immediately after digging? What type of container do you use? What additives do you add to the water? How long? Please come to the meeting/picnic ready for a brief discussion of the above topic. It would be great to have a "Show and Tell" with your container and whatever else you use for hot water treatment, so bring those items with you."

This meeting and picnic will be followed by a short field trip/tour from 3:30 - 4 PM, for those interested:

"Mary Koonce has arranged for a private tour of Harewood, one of the 7 remaining (of 12) Washington homes in Jefferson County. Owner, Walter Washington, is the last of the Washington descendants to occupy a Washington home in the county. Built in the 1770's, it is the oldest of the 12 homes and was the site of the marriage of James and Dolly Madison."

Directions to 28 Brittany Lane, Summit Point, WV--

From I-81: take the Inwood/Rt. 51 East exit. Go to stoplight and turn right. At next stoplight turn left onto Rt. 51 east/Middleway Turnpike by Sheetz. Go 8 miles and turn right onto Shirley Road. Go 2.7 miles and turn right onto Brittany Lane. First house on right.

From the east:

Go to Frederick. Take Exit 52/Rt. 340 - Charles Town, Harpers Ferry.

Rt. 340 becomes Washington St./Rt 51 west upon entering Charles Town. Go through town to Y in the road.

Bear right. Road then marked Martin Luther King Boulevard/Rt. 51 west/Middleway Turnpike. Go 3.8 miles after crossing first railroad tracks. Turn left onto Shirley Road. Go 2.7 (dippy) miles and turn right onto Brittany Lane. First house on right.

From D.C./Northern VA area:

Go to Leesburg. Take Rt. 7 to Rt. 9/Charles Town. Rt. 9 becomes George Street. At 2nd stoplight, turn left onto Washington St. Go through town to Y. Bear right. Go 3.8 miles after crossing first railroad track. Turn left onto Shirley Rd. Go 2.7 miles and turn right onto Brittany Lane. First house on right.

Receive Your Newsletter Electronically

If you don't receive your newsletter via email and would be willing to do so, please contact Kathy Welsh at: Kathywelsh01@aol.com. Electronic newsletters save us printing and mailing costs.

WDS 2009 Daffodil Show

By Tom Taylor

The 2009 WDS daffodil show is now history and I hope that it brings many pleasant thoughts to mind. It was unfortunate that it competed with Easter this year, but we must accept the fact that daffodils bloom at Easter time and every few years we will conflict unless we adjust our show dates.

Right up to the show I was worried that the cool spring weather would retard the blooming time and prevent us from having a good show. But, when the entries opened, our exhibitors flocked in carrying big buckets of beautiful, diverse daffodils I got over it. After a while, we became worried that we didn't have enough room. The miniature exhibits were added into the main auditorium because Brookside Gardens had other plans for the space we have used in previous years. The Artistic exhibits were staged in the auditorium to make them more visible, but in the end, it worked out well. The final tabulation showed that 54 exhibitors entered 2,070 daffodils in 769 entries.

A highlight of the show for the judges and WDS staff was a cleverly themed chuck wagon luncheon which they enjoyed as the public streamed in to admire the show. The photography exhibit set up in the atrium welcomed visitors entering from the rear door.

The Show was closed at 4:00 pm on Easter and the show properties were loaded in a truck to be taken to their new storage shed at Merrifield Garden Center in Fairfax, Virginia. It is a new 12 feet by 14 feet shed that has ample room to have access to our supplies. We will need to organize a work party this summer to paint the trim and inventory the contents.

We have already begun making arrangement for future shows. I will be the Show Chair again and Donna Clausen will be the Co-Chair. Carol Kennedy has agreed to help Donna. The Show will be held at Brookside Gardens April 9-11, 2010 (week after Easter.)

As the show chair I want to sincerely thank all of the members who worked so hard to make the show a success--working on committees, coming early to setup and staying late to pack on an Easter Sunday. I dare not try to mention everyone's name who helped for fear of omitting someone, but I am convinced all those who could help, did. Thanks.

Support For Brookside Gardens

By Tom Taylor

The WDS has had a great working arrangement with Brookside Gardens for many years. It has been an excellent facility to hold our show and the management staff at Brookside has been very supportive of our purposes. We are the largest plant society show using their facility and are an important partner to them. They need our support.

Brookside Gardens is a facility of Montgomery County Parks and like all other governmental authorities is being forced to cut expenses. They have already reduced the purchase of plants, equipment, and garden supplies. They will probably be asked to take measures to further reduce costs such as hours of operation, personnel, and programs.

Those of us who believe public gardens are living things of significant human benefit that must have continued care should express our concerns to the Montgomery County Executive as they struggle with the County budget. Letters, emails, telephone calls may be helpful to let officials know how important Brookside is to us and the WDS.

They will be particularly interested in the views of Montgomery County residents.

Please contact:

Issiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
Phone:(240)777-2500 email: oemail@montgomerycountymd.gov

Joseph F. Beach, Director, Office of Management & Budget
101 Monroe Street, 14th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
Phone:(240)777-2800 email joseph.beach@montgomerycountymd.gov

Awards at the WDS Daffodil Show & ADS Mid Atlantic Regional Show

April 11-12, 2009

(Contact the Editor for a complete Horticulture Awards (both ADS and WDS) report with blooms listed for collections, and for a complete listing of ribbon winners in Photography and Design)

Horticulture: 54 Exhibitors 769 entries 2,070 Blooms

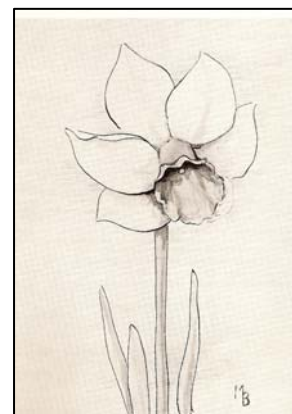
ADS Awards

- Gold Ribbon(Best in Show) – Karen Cogar Entente 2Y-O
Rose Ribbon(Best Seedling) – Anne Donnell Smith 91A-509
Mini Gold – Mitch & Kate Carney N. triandrus sub. triandrus 13W-W
White Ribbon(Best Vase of 3) – Rod Armstrong Sugar Rose 6W-GWP
Mini White – Kathy Welsh N. willkommii 13Y-Y
Best Youth Bloom – Sarah Sensibaugh Crystal Blanc 2W-GWW
Best Youth 3 Stems – Sophia Masciarelli High Society 2W-GWP
Small Grower Award – Mary Ann Thompson Rapture 6Y-Y
Historic Award – Mitch & Kate Carney Actaea 9W-YJR
Historic Best Vase of 3 Stems – Kathy Welsh Scarlet Gem 8Y-O
Intermediate Award – Karen Cogar Pink China 2W-P
Container Standard Award – Kathy Welsh Jetfire 6Y-O
Container Mini Award – Jeurgen Steininger Tete-a-Tete 12Y-Y
Silver Ribbon (most blue ribbons): Tie- 17 Blue Ribbons each: Kathy Welsh & Bob and Lina Huesmann
Youth Collection of 5 – Sarah Sensibaugh
Red, White & Blue(American Bred Collection) – Richard Ezell
Maroon Ribbon (Reverse Bicolor Collection) – Kathy Welsh
Purple Ribbon (Best collection of 5) – Bob & Lina Huesmann (from WDS King Award class)
Historic Collection of 5— Mitch & Kate Carney
Elise Havens Award (Collection of 12 from Divisions 5-9) – Glenna Graves
Marie Bozievich Award(Collection of 12) – Kathy Andersen
Harry Tuggle Award -offered only at Regional Shows (Best Collection of three stems each of 5 different cultivars and/or species from 3 Divisions)– Kathy Welsh
Tom Throckmorton Award (Collection of 15 with different color codes) – Karen Cogar/
Carey Quinn Award(Collection of 24 from 5 different divisions) – Bob & Lina Huesmann
Lavender Ribbon (Collection of 5 minis) –Richard Ezell
Aqua Ribbon (Collection of 9 minis) – Bob & Lina Huesmann
Roberta Watrous Award (Collection of 12 minis) – Kathy Welsh
Miniature Bronze Ribbon- offered only at Regions shows (Best collection of 3 stems each of 5 different cultivars) – Mitch & Kate Carney



WDS Awards

- WDS Reserve Bloom(Runner Up for Best in Show) – Karen Cogar- Hambleton 2YYW-Y
WDS Culpepper (Best Standard White) – Glenna Graves- Homestead 2W-W
WDS Ticknor (Best Standard Divisions 5-9) – Rod Armstrong- Sugar Rose 6W-GWP(from White Ribbon Vase)
WDS Bloomer (parent & child) – Bonnie Mirmak- Jambo 2Y-R, Shining Light 2Y-R
Rimmed Cup Award(5 Different Rimmed Cup Cultivar) – Karen Cogar
Weiss Award (5 Different White Cultivars, at least 2 Divisions) – Ginger Wallach
Wheeler Award (5 Different Cultivars bred Australia and/or New Zealand) – Kathy Andersen
King Award (5 Different Cultivars Predominantly Red or Orange in Cup) – Bob & Lina Huesmann
Crenshaw Award (Collection of 10 whites) – Kathy Welsh/
Battle Award (Yellow Cup Collection of 5) – Lina Burton
English (Daffodil Society) Medal – Kathy Welsh
Novice Award – Phillip Rappa
Butterworth Five Decades Award – Bob & Lina Huesmann
Divisions 5-9 Award – Bob & Lina Huesmann
Lawler Award (Collection Pink Cups)- Mitch & Kate Carney



Design Division "Simply Daffodils" 13 exhibitors 20 entries

Class 1 Simple but Elegant (WDS members only)

Blue – Bonnie Mirmak – WDS Gates Award

Class 2 Sunrise

Blue – Dolores Felch

Class 3 Spring Awakening

Blue – Millie Rever – WDS Cahill Award

Class 4 Stunning

Blue – Jane Goodman

Class 5 Easter Morning

Blue – Robert Darling

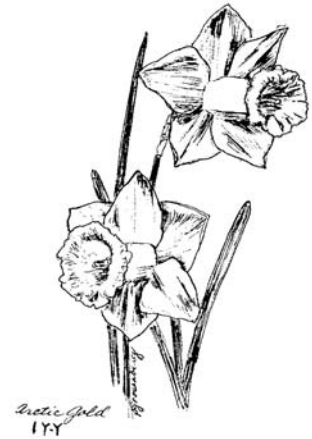


Photo Division 5 exhibitors 17 entries

Class 1 – Daffodils in nature or in the landscape

Blue – Vicky Eicher

Class 2 Portraits of Daffodils

Blue – Tom Taylor – WDS Best of Show Photo (bulbocodium from garden of Anne Donnell Smith)

Class 3 – Daffodils and People

Blue – Patti Pfeiffer

WDS Pie Eater's Show

By Chriss Rainey, Show Chair

On Saturday, May 2, the WDS held its second show of the season in Reston, Virginia. Sixteen exhibitors were there to stage 563 blooms at Saint John Neumann Catholic Church in the parish hall, where the next day the flowers were enjoyed by all who attended the very popular Knights of Columbus pancake breakfast. Exhibitors came from far and wide and included Jill Nielson from New Jersey, and Patty Bragdon from Richmond. Their flowers added to the exceptional beauty of the show.

Exhibitors enjoyed a relaxed morning staging flowers as classical music played in the background. Lunch was served around 12:30 and after everyone had a chance to eat, judging began at about 1:00. Brownies served for dessert were left on the head table for passersby who helped judge and clerk as they were bringing flowers up for final judging. Small staging tiers were added to the show properties this year to highlight large collections, which included a medal winning Quinn entry staged by Robert Darling, a Throckmorton won by Mitch Carney, a Havens Collection won by Jill Nielson, and a Bozievich collection won by Bob Huesmann.

There was also a very handsome entry for the Maroon ribbon won by Mitch and Kate Carney. Kathy Welsh walked away with the Rose Ribbon with a flower selected from a collection which featured five of her very nice seedlings. The Mini Rose was won by Mitch and Kate Carney with a petit poet seedling. Kate Carney ran away with the miniature classes taking the Lavender, the Aqua, and the Watrous ribbons. Lina Huesmann won a special class of miniatures for a local award. And she also won the Miniature White Ribbon with three stems of Little Sentry. The Gold Ribbon went to a bloom of Triple Crown exhibited by Jill Nielson who also won the White Ribbon with three stems of Lyrebird.

Caramel Oatmeal Brownies Served at the Pie Eater's Show

Crumb Crust: 1/3 C butter, 1/2 C packed brown sugar, 1/3 C flour, 1/4 t soda, 1/4 t salt, 1 C quick cooking oats

Topping: 1/4 C butter, 1 (1 ounce) square semi sweet or milk chocolate, 3/4 C sugar, 2/3 C flour, 1/4 t salt, 1/4 t soda, 1 egg, 2 T milk, 1 T vanilla

Baking directions:

Oven 350 degrees Use an 8 inch square pan, or double the recipe and use an 11 x 13. To prepare the crumb crust, melt butter in medium saucepan. Remove from heat, adding remaining ingredients and blend until mixture forms coarse crumbs. Press in ungreased 8" square pan. To prepare the topping, melt butter and chocolate in the same saucepan. Remove from heat. Add remaining ingredients and blend well. Pour slowly over crumb crust. Bake at 350 for 30 to 35 minutes. Cool. Cut into bars

Comments on the 2009 Bulb Order

By Bob Huesmann

When the electronic version of the 2009 bulb order was dispatched, Kathy Welsh made the following comments. "...Once again there is something for everyone. I'll offer a few of my own comments. I can only comment on things I have grown. So good you need to have them planted in more than one location: Nob Hill, Arrowhead, New Penny, Spindletop, Crackington, Banker, Tao, Trena. Own them and love them: Starter Collection: Truculent, Clouded Yellow, Down Under Collection, Noteworthy, Ticonderoga, Carole Lombard, Dayton Lake, Trumpet Warrior, Bosmeor, Goldhanger, Dr. Jazz, Casterbridge, Stoke Charity, Badbury Rings, Green Pearl, World Class, Rising Star, Bilbo, Young Blood. (Also) many great selections in the intermediates and minis".

Before offering my own comments, here are a few reminders and general background.

1. Please get your order in on time. Orders are filled in the order they come in, so the early orders get the biggest bulbs and, in the case of limited quantities, avoid getting substitutes or refunds. Remember that cultivars on this year's order will not be available from WDS for at least 3 more years.

2. Please check your math. It is a pain to refund small amounts or to ask for a little-bitty check in case your payment is a little short.

3. Keep in mind that the bulb order is WDS's major source of funds. As Kathy noted, we try very hard to offer the best cultivars available at fair or bargain prices, so do try to provide as much "stimulus" as you can to WDS finances!

4. From a recent analysis of the gold ribbon winners over the past ten years, I found that 230 different named cultivars won gold ribbons in ADS shows. Of these, only 8 won more than 5 times (two of these--**Banker** and **Clouded Yellow** are in this year's bulb order), and 70% won gold only one time. My tentative conclusions are, a) that there are a limited number of cultivars that provide a significantly increased chance of winning gold ; and b) there are many cultivars that have gold ribbon potential if well grown, well presented, and if the weather is just right.

Now, here are a few more comments and background to add to Kathy's very well-considered evaluation. These notes are generally in the order the cultivars appear on the bulb order. A beautiful vase of 3 stems of **Nob Hill** won the white ribbon at the MDS show this year, and the cultivar has also been best-in-show. Seldom available, it might make sense to order two and/or get your order in early to avoid disappointment. The lineup of "Special Bulbs" this year is exceptionally strong, in my opinion. **Savoir Faire** is my favorite mid season pink-rimmed Div 2. For me, it has been a gold ribbon contender and won its class this year at MDS. We have been trying for several years to obtain **Arrowhead** for the bulb order. It is consistent, easy to grow, opens O-R here, and has twice won gold. **Jake** is rather large, very intensely colored (useful for late shows) and has been a frequent winner in Britain/Ireland. **Carole Lombard** is another exceptional opportunity. Among the rimmed cultivars, its best-in-show record is surpassed only by Killearnan. I believe **Crackington** belongs in every collection, even very small ones. **Banker** is the top gold ribbon winner over the past ten years, with unbeatable form. **Clouded Yellow**, too, is one of the top winners overall. Members who grow both should have a better than average chance at winning gold. **Crevenagh** is newer but has already won gold. It is very smooth--no ribs in the petals--and won its class for me this year. Tao is also at or near the top of its class and has been on my personal want list for years. Quantities are limited on **Tao**, so order it early.

All of the collections are excellent values. A few selected comments: **Kaydee** is a dependable component in mid-season collections, especially the Havens, when other Div 6 flowers are spent. Angel Eyes has won gold (unusual for a poet) and white ribbons. **Clavichord** is versatile as a Div 11 reverse and an intermediate. Integer is a very neat, show-worthy W-P split. The corona segments lie float, a useful contrast to Trigonometry. The "Starter" collection (a good gift for yourself or somebody else) is pretty high-powered: virtually all are must-haves and half of them are multiple gold-ribbon winners. One of these, **Lemon Silk**, is the 7th leading white ribbon winner in the past ten years.

The open list this year contains a larger number of cultivars (names capitalized) that have been grown and are recommended by committee members. I will comment on a limited number of these and then note a few "sleepers" that should be of interest. **Sperrin Gold** has been a steady winner in Britain/Ireland and has remained competitive longer than other, more recent, introductions. It is later than most Div 1 Y-Y's. **Sargeant's Caye** has a very strong show record in the U.S., including gold. **Stann Creek** is another Pearson cultivar, a bit later than Sargeant's Caye and exceptionally well-priced. **Trumpet Warrior** is another gold ribbon winner, also well-priced. **Silent Valley** is a must-have, a foundation flower in any collection and a consistent gold ribbon contender. I have grown **Cassopolis** for 3 years now. It is a very well-posed medium sized flower with a neat cup of intense color that is more red than orange. There was a striking vase of 3 stems of **Young Blood** at MDS this year. It is a stronger grower than many other 2 W-O/R's and has been a best-in-show candidate. Assertion has an extensive show record in the British Isles and is very reasonably priced. **Melrose Delight** (I grow it) is medium-sized, well-posed and consistent. I'm going to order **Harp Music** because of its parentage (Ethereal Beauty + Savoir Faire). The price is right, too.

The whole 3 Y-O/R group is very strong. **Badbury Rings** is a must-have in the rimmed class. It is a gold ribbon winner and the price is very reasonable.

The Div 4 offerings, too, are a strong group. **Double Play** is relatively new, but has been attracting attention at shows. **Rose Garden** is an excellent 4 W-R, now at a quite affordable price. **Serena Lodge** is easily grown, consistent and usually free of green on the back..

Like Kaydee, **Bilbo** is a reasonably-priced 6 W-P useful in a mid-season collection. **Trena** is a multiple gold (and white) ribbon winner, a must-have at a good price. I'm going to buy **Peppercorn** (n. cyclamineus + Trumpet Warrior), even though it's a bit pricey. It is a frequent winner in the British Isles, has a long, classic trumpet and a neat, even reflex.

I also plan to try **Katherine Jenkins**, one of the 7 Y-R's with which Ron Scamp has been so successful. **Pink Polynomial** is earlier than Trigonometry, has a darker pink corona and has very good substance for a split.

I don't grow intermediates as a rule, but I do grow and show **My Sweetheart** and **Vera Robbins** as standards. I have identified a few cultivars in the list which I regard as "sleepers"--flowers which are not as widely known or grown as I think they deserve to be, or are worth a try. **Charlie Connor** is one of a new generation of 1 Y-O's which is said to have more color in the corona than Uncle Duncan, the current standard in this class. **Samsara**, a Postles hybrid, was about \$70 when it was introduced in 1996. I remember being impressed with the vibrancy of its colors and the velvety perianth. I'm glad to see it available now at such a reasonable price. I have grown **Cinnamon Ring** for several years. It is consistently good, always attracts attention (the rim really is cinnamon colored) and has several times been a best-in-show candidate. The price/quality ratio is very good, too. **Silverthorne** is a frequent winner in the British Isles and has won gold here, too. I'm going to try it. **Frank** is a Harrison hybrid rated very highly by its grower, named and introduced after his death. I think it might be one of the better poets available now. Finally, **Marsden** is a Bender poet registered recently by WDS member Richard Ezell. I have grown it for a few years now, and I think it is really top notch. It is consistent, very smooth, attractively reflexed and altogether a charming flower. This WDS listing is the first time it has been generally available, and at a very reasonable price for a new introduction of bulb-of-the-year quality. Order early!

See pictures of most daffodils on the internet at: www.daffseek.org

Daffodil Resources

by Lucy Rhame

Are you thinking about planting daffodils and possibly showing them in the future but you would like to get further information before embarking on this fun and rewarding hobby? Doing a bit of research before choosing your daffodil is a worthwhile project to ensure that you choose the right cultivar for your desires and growing conditions. With a bit of knowledge, you can make sure that those bulbs will give you pleasure for many years to come. But where does one go for the inside scoop on daffies?

Good information on daffodils is available in books, on line, in suppliers catalogues, or through numerous daffodil societies and in periodical publications. Of course the most obvious source is the Sheepers or Brent and Becky's catalogue, among others, which arrive each spring. Flip through the pages, read the descriptions of the bulbs and blooms, their divisions, their colors, their blooming season and height. This is information that may help you decide which daffodil you want to plant. And keep the catalogues for all their wonderful photos as future reference to identify your blooms.

There are numerous daffodil societies throughout the United States that are more than eager and willing to help you. The national society is the American Daffodil Society which supports shows throughout the country and provides numerous sources of educational information. Four times a year they publish a journal with interesting and informative daffodil articles and society information including show schedules. In addition the ADS supports their website at www.daffodilusa.org which gives lots of information on daffodil periodicals, classification, breeders, and growing daffodils. Of even greater value, in my opinion, is the website www.daffseek.org which has catalogued over 18,000 daffodil cultivars with a description of the bloom, division, hybridizer, hybridizing history and photos of the daffodil. This is an incredible resource and labor of love that every daffodil grower should visit.

In addition, the Washington Daffodil Society has established an informative website with archived editions of their newsletter geared to all levels of growers that is published three times a year at www.washingtondaffodilsociety.org. However this is not the only regional society offering information, shows, bulb exchanges and yearly meetings. Go to the ADS website to get more information about the Gloucester Daffodil Society, The Virginia Daffodil Society and the Maryland Daffodil Society.

Numerous books on daffodils have also been published. Brent and Becky Heath published 'Daffodils for American Gardens' in 2001 which contains a wealth of information and full of fabulous photos for deciding what you want to buy and identifying them later. James Wells wrote 'Modern Miniature Daffodils' which is a very helpful reference for the little guys.

Welcome New Members

Joan Bender Catonsville, MD
Karen Herrell Arlington, VA
Harold Koopowitz & Steve Hampson Santa Ana, CA
Cynthia Outen Gloucester, VA
John Castor & Melissa Reading Livermore, CA

I Bhatia McLean, VA
Cathy Jamison Arlington, VA
Susanne Misner Silver Spring, MD
Anne Owen Franklin, TN
Francis Fauquier Garden Club

2009 Pannill Award Winner

The William G. Pannill Award is given annually to a named standard daffodil, of American origin, which has demonstrated winning show qualities for a minimum of 5 years following registration. The cultivar must have been awarded at least one ADS Gold or White Ribbon within the last 5 years and must be regarded as generally "growable and showable" in a majority of the ADS regions. The 2009 winner was 'Magic Lantern' 1Y-O bred by Richard and Elise Havens.



The Flowers are Gone. Now What?

By Kathy Welsh

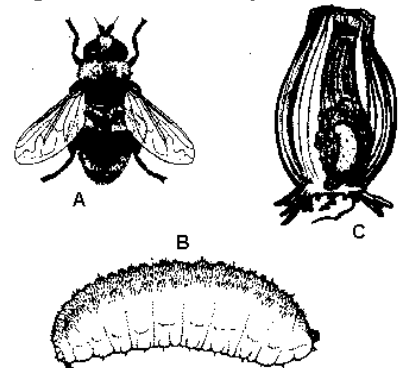
May is the month when I kick back and evaluate my collection. Did I have a successful season? Why or why not? I look over the many wish lists I've compiled during the season and begin filling out my WDS order along with those to individual growers. The bulb order is due by May 25th. Other growers appreciate early orders as well so I generally plan to have all my orders in by June 1.

Deadheading and Planting Seed. Some people deadhead and some don't. If you've never hybridized, why not collect the seed from a few flowers that have self-pollinated? One of my best seedlings came from a self-pollinated flower. Only keep the seed from a flower that wins regularly. You wouldn't want to save the seed from a flower that isn't any good. Wait until the pod starts to split and then plant the seed an inch or two deep. I usually plant in a pot and place a tag with the name of the seed parent. These pots can be sunk in the ground. When the seeds begin to grow, a fine grass will appear. It can take up to 7 years to get your first flower.



Bulb Fly. If you have bulb fly, then now is the time when you hear them buzzing around the dafs. This insect looks like the combination of a bee and a fly, and lays its eggs on the foliage of daffodils. The larvae climb down the foliage and enter the bulb, generally through the basal plate. The grubs munch on the bulb until next spring when they emerge as a fly. This year I have used a granular grub killer on my beds in an effort to eliminate bulb fly. A Dylox drench has also been effective in the past. If you hear bulb flies in your garden, a butterfly net and/or a can or flying insect killer can be effective.

Fig. 101: Narcissus bulb fly .



A, Adult. B, Larva. C, Damaged bulb

Watering. Stop watering when the foliage starts to turn yellow. Your flowers are starting to enter their period of dormancy and this is when they want to be dry.

Digging and Dividing Your Bulbs. Yuck!! Let's face it, digging is hard work. On average, show daffodils should be dug and divided every three years. Without division, flowers become small due to crowding. Each year I select one or two areas for digging. Depending on the season, June 1-15 is the best time to start. Bulbs like to be left in place for at least 6 weeks after their bloom. When the tips of the foliage turn yellow, its time to start digging. Lifting bulbs is MUCH easier when the foliage is still attached. Try to complete this task by the 4th of July. I dig my bulbs and place them in a tray or pot along with the plastic label (buried with the bulbs) and marker. After 10 – 15 varieties have been dug, I begin bagging to prevent mix-ups. There's nothing worse than stray bulbs on digging day. While bagging, any remaining foliage is removed. I twist the foliage to remove it. Scissors may be used, but make sure they are sterilized regularly to

prevent the spread of disease. If there are too many bulbs for a single mesh bag (about 6-7 per bag), then additional mesh bags are used with a plastic label put in each bag. All bags of a single variety are tied together. Once bagged, bulbs are washed. Kathy uses a firm hose spray. Once washed, bulbs are soaked in a fungicide that prevents fusarium. **Don't forget the Formalin, Clorox, or Hyperox 1:128 solution.** (It is a much safer chemical than formalin but you still have to wear proper gloves and I always use a respirator mask when handling the concentrate. It is very corrosive - especially the concentrate.) The bags are left to dry in the sun for a few hours, then taken to the garage where several fans are set up for quick drying. The key is to get the bulbs dry as quickly as possible. Once dry, the bags are hung on a clothes line in a protected area. Make sure the air circulation is good to prevent rot. If you want to see how it's done, give Kathy a call and she'll put you to work!

Hot Water Treatment

While on the World Daffodil Tour last year I sat next to Jan Pennings. We started a discussion about the best things to do to grow large healthy daffodils. Jan felt the two most important things to achieve this end were 1. hot water treatment, and 2. early planting. Because Jan was so adamant about the benefits of hot water treating bulbs, I am reprinting an article I wrote for the Spring 2007 issue of the newsletter.

As your collection of daffodils becomes larger, and your investment grows, it becomes increasingly important to employ good hygiene when handling your daffodils. HWT is a practice used by all commercial growers and an increasing number of hobbyists. Over the years there have been many discussions on daffnet about chemicals, dipping, and treatments used by individuals from around the world. Peter Ramsay, noted hybridizer and grower stated, "I, too, am a novice as my involvement with daffodils dates back only fifty years plus. For the last 34 of those, all lifted bulbs have had HWT." He goes on to tell a story of his first experience when observing another hybridizer's HWT setup. He placed one bag of his own bulbs in the water to see what happened. "After one hour exactly I pulled them out. Well, they survived - healthiest foliage I'd seen and great flowers. I was a convert."

Peter makes some other worthwhile comments:

1. HWT will NOT cure virus, the spade is the only way to get rid of it. (digging) HWT will, though, show you which ones to dig out as it exacerbates the virus symptoms.

2. What I do know is that my show success started at the time I got into hot water!! So I guess I'll continue.

At the ADS convention in Tacoma in 2006, one of the speakers gave a lecture on daffodil pests and diseases. His talk was incredibly informative and one of the things he stressed was the importance of regular HWT to maintain excellent health in daffodils. (Granted his slant was towards commercial growers, but he had me convinced!) HWT WILL kill bulb mite, bulb fly, and nematode. The ADS speaker also suggested that it may kill fusarium (basal rot fungus). For me, these are ample reason to HWT all bulbs I dig each year. Many years ago it was suggested that HWT was NOT meant for the home gardener. Over the years I have tried two methods and feel comfortable that the way I currently treat my bulbs is easy enough for anyone to try.

Materials Needed:

1 LARGE Cooler (The one I use is big enough to fit a body inside) (\$65 at Costco)

1 digital read out thermometer that measures to the tenth of a degree (\$25)

1 bottle of Clorox or Formalin

1 pond pump



The temperatures and times prescribed for HWT vary depending on what you are trying to accomplish. 110 degree for one hour will kill bulb fly. 112 degrees for 3 hours will kill bulb mite and nematodes. For general health, the shorter times and lower temperatures should suffice. The longer times and higher temperatures CAN cause flowers to become disfigured.

Procedure:

Pick the hottest possible summer day to do your treatment. Wait 4-6 weeks after bulbs have been dug. If you do it sooner the bulbs haven't hardened off. If you wait too much longer some bulbs, particularly those from division 7, have started to form their roots and you can cause damage. Place the cooler in the direct sunlight to help keep the temperature elevated. Heat some water to boiling on your stove. Other water can be added from the hose. Fill the cooler at least half full with water a degree or two above the prescribed temperature. Plug in pond pump and make sure water is circulating. Add formalin or Clorox at the prescribed rate. (For Clorox 10% or one gallon Clorox for every 9 gallons of water. I think 1Tbsp of formalin per gallon) These will kill anything floating in the water and will prevent the spread of virus and fusarium in the water. Either preheat the bulbs or check the water after the bulbs are added to make sure the temperature is correct. Cover and leave bulbs for 1-3 hours. You can check the temperature occasionally and add hot water if needed. When bulbs are finished cooking, hang them to dry. Fan can provide faster drying.

Alternate method: Mary Lou Gripshover uses a large pot on top of a heating tray. Make sure water is circulating and don't use formalin inside. Check the temperature regularly.

WASHINGTON DAFFODIL SOCIETY -- Meeting Minutes
Washington Daffodil Society Spring 2009 Board Meeting - March 7, 2009

Lucy Rhame convened the meeting at 10:30 at 508 South Fairfax Street, Alexandria. Those in attendance included Chriss and Spencer Rainey, Tom Taylor, Dorothy Sensibaugh, Ruth Ann McGrail, Mary Anne Barton, Linda Smith, Susan Kroner, Mary Semrad, Mary Koonce, Paul Botting, Charmane Truesdell, Kathy Welsh, Robert Darling, Tricia Goins, Glenna Graves and Holly Boyd Ruffin.

Minutes of the October Meeting The Fall board meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Tricia Goins reported that as of 3/06/09 the club has a balance of \$1457.92 in the checking account. Additionally, the club has 4 2-year CD's at Wachovia Bank totaling \$20,000. The receipts to date from membership dues billed in January 2009 are \$192.00. The expenditures for the first quarter of 2009 were \$4002.81 reflecting the purchase of the LCD projector, bulb order and the April show expenses primarily bringing the total WDS funds to \$25,919.60. A CD that will be coming due on 5/29/09 for \$5458.87 will be deposited into the checking account to ensure adequate liquidity for continuing operations. Kathy, Bob and Tricia audited the accounts in February 2009 with the change in the appointment of the Treasurer.

Bulb Order: Mary Koonce reported that the work on the bulb order is under way but it is not ready for today's luncheon due to late response from suppliers. It is a continuing concern that fewer reliable suppliers can provide bulbs at affordable prices. This year Mary found a new supplier in England however they only take checks in British Sterling. Discussion ensued as to whether to open a British checking account and in light of lack of knowledge on subject by the board and the short timing, it was decided to further explore the supplier and the alternative payment forms for next year. Ruth Ann, Dorothy and Chriss will research establishing a foreign account, if necessary.

Membership: Kathy Welsh reported there are 232 individual members and 24 garden clubs.

Nomination Committee: Kathy Welsh as past president will chair the committee along with Tom Taylor as the Board member. A non-board member will be asked.

Newsletter: Mary Anne Barton reported that 101 members are receiving the WDS newsletter through e-mail and 155 receive the WDS newsletter through the USPS mail. The newsletter is being maintained in hard copy for archival purposes. Mary Anne Barton will purchase a year's supply of the "Forever Stamp."

Daffodil Show: All in order for this year's show. Tom Taylor reported the show dates for 2010 will be April 9, 10 and 11 at Brookside Gardens. A co-chair for next year's show is needed as well as a properties chair.

Boutique: Mary Semrad reported there are a number of items still in inventory ranging from stationary, paper products to exhibitor supplies. It was felt that exhibitor supplies should still be made available at Brookside and the fall and spring meetings as a courtesy to members but that the other inventory should be sold off at the fall board meeting. Susan Kroner volunteered to help liquidate the inventory. Glenna suggested making it known the items would be available at the fall meeting in the newsletter. The board approved a motion for Kathy to order mesh bulb bags.

Pie Eaters Show: Chriss Rainey invited everyone to participate in the Pie Eaters Show to be held in Reston, VA on May 2 and 3 at St. John Neumann Catholic Church on 11900 Lawyers Road. Any questions, please call Chriss at 703-391-2073.

Speakers Bureau: no report

Website: Paul Botting has updated the website, including show information, archiving the newsletters.

LCD Projector: Mary Koonce purchased an LCD projector for \$910. She will pass the projector along to Kathy Welsh and Chriss Rainey following a March program. Mary will use the projector for her program to be given after lunch.

Storage of Properties: Kathy Welsh and Tom Taylor requested \$600 to be used for shelving and new containers for WDS properties. The funds were approved.

Daffodil Request: Mary Koonce requested \$400 for daffodils for city beautification in Ranson, WV of which \$100 was approved. The Board requested a photograph of the two years previously gifted bulbs to Ranson be provided. It was proposed the garden clubs should be eligible to make grant requests for WDS funds in the event of a worthy project.

General Meeting – Union Street Pub, Alexandria, VA

44 people attended the luncheon. A summary of the board meeting was presented by Lucy Rhame. Chriss Rainey encouraged everyone to attend the Pie Eater's show. Following the brief meeting a lunch was enjoyed by all. Mary Koonce gave a very interesting and informative presentation on "Daffodils in Cornwall".

Submitted by Holly Boyd Ruffin, WDS Secretary



Drawing by Rebecca Brown

WDS MEMBERSHIP - Membership Year January 1 - December 31

Please Circle: **NEW** **RENEWAL** **UPDATE ONLY**

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Phone No. (home) _____ (work) _____

email: _____

1 yr individual (\$10.00) _____ 3 yr individual (\$25.00) _____

1 yr household (\$12.00) _____ 3 yr household (\$30.00) _____

1 yr club (\$10.00) _____ 3 yr club (\$25.00) _____



Make check payable to "WDS"

Please mail to: Kathy Welsh, 10803 Windcloud Ct. Oakton, VA 22124

WDS Calendar -- check these websites

Washington Daffodil Society website: www.washingtondaffodilsociety.org

American Daffodil Society website: www.daffodilusa.org

www.daffseek.org

2009

May 25 WDS Bulb Order Due

June 13 WDS Summer Picnic, at the Koonce's, Summit Point, WV

Oct 17 WDS Fall Annual Meeting & Bulb Exchange,
Falls Church Community Center, Falls Church, VA

2010

March TBA WDS Spring Luncheon, TBA

April 9-10 WDS Daffodil Show, Wheaton MD



Daffodilium conspicuum
10Y.Y