



Yellow Fever Gazette

a publication of the Maryland Daffodil Society, Inc.

www.marylanddaffodil.org • marylanddaffodil@gmail.com
American Daffodil Society: www.daffodilusa.org

Volume 12, Issue 2

December, 2017

In This Issue

- 1 - President's Message
- 2 - Forcing Bulbs for Indoor Bloom
- Spring Show Dates
- 3 - Forcing Bulbs, cont.
- Minutes of the 2017 Fall Meeting
- 4 - Dues Remittance and Volunteer Form

Maryland Daffodil Society, Inc.
• founded 1923 •
2015 - 2017 Board

President - Hilles Whedbee
hwhedbee@shawan.org
410-771-1341

Vice-President - Muffin McAfee
lbm8132@aol.com
410-472-9373

Secretary; Yellow Fever Gazette Editor - Susan Palmer
susmpalmer@aol.com
410-821-0755

Treasurer - Bobbie Hudson
blphudson@gmail.com
410-472-0807

Members-at-Large -
Joan Bender, Barbara Gould,
Linda Masland, Nicki Schwab
and Mary Ann Thompson

Immediate Past President
Meredith McDonagh
meredy@comcast.net
410-583-5509

Membership & Youth Education Chairman - Julie Minch
julesmin@gmail.com
410-828-0703

•
2018 MDS Show
Chairman: Meredith McDonagh
meredy@comcast.net

President's Message

This Newsletter is a bit later than the usual Fall mailing to our membership. That is due to a motion presented and passed at the Maryland Daffodil Society Annual Fall Meeting this past October whereby it was moved that all future MDS Newsletters will be sent electronically to our membership. This motion was presented to the membership for several reasons: 1. Environment - electronic mailings diminish the impact to the environment - no carbon footprint, less waste. 2. Cost - printing/ mailing of the Newsletter costs MDS approximately \$600/year. It was also decided that Membership Renewals will continue to be sent by standard post.

I purposefully waited until the meeting to see how the Membership would respond to the suggestion, and the motion passed unanimously. So, behold your first electronic MDS Newsletter!! The Fall Meeting was well attended with over 22 people present and our Bulb Sale brought in over \$400 in sales. Many thanks to those that contributed so many amazing varieties including Kathy Welsh, Ann Donnell Smith, Don Caton, Hilles Whedbee, and Mitch Carney. We had a wonderful time catching up with the members and guests in attendance and introduced many to the array of services available on the ADS Website, www.daffodilusa.org, including daffodil information, events, daffseek, lectures, and so on.

The MDS Spring Daffodil Show will again be held at the Shops at

Kenilworth in Towson, MD on Monday, April 16 - Wednesday, April 18, 2018. The theme for the Design and Photography Sections is **The Poetry of Daffodils**. The Schedule is being worked on as I write and will be included in our February Newsletter. Set up for exhibitors will begin at 3pm on Monday afternoon, Judging will start at 10:45am on Tuesday, open to the public at 2pm, and the Show will be dismantled on Wednesday afternoon at 3pm.

I encourage everyone to renew their membership, and help out with the April show. The last page of this newsletter is our Membership and Volunteer form, which can be printed out, filled in with your preference and availability to lend a hand with the show, and mailed back with your dues or sponsorship check. Volunteers also can contact show chairman Meredith McDonagh directly (meredy@comcast.net). Finally, please consider gifting a membership to a gardening friend - a wonderful way to introduce the joy of daffodils to others and to broaden our visibility. Have a pleasant winter as we wait patiently for the spring bloom!! - Hilles Whedbee

ADS National Convention and Show



The Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society will celebrate its 60th anniversary by hosting the ADS National Convention!

Join us in the Greater Nashville, TN area April 5 - 8, 2018 for this special event!

FORCING BULBS FOR INDOOR BLOOM

It is possible to have a whole season of flowering daffodils indoors before spring. Tulips, hyacinths, dwarf daffodils, and the little (minor) bulbs such as snowdrops, scillas, muscari, chionodoxa, and crocus force equally well. Both the major and minor bulbs are handled in much the same way, although the forcing period may vary slightly. Some cultivars (early cultivars and those that do not grow too tall) are better suited for forcing than others. Catalogs usually identify forcing varieties. Plastic pots have the advantage of not drying out as rapidly as clay pots. They are easier to clean and lighter in weight as well as less expensive. However, many prefer clay bulb pans or pots. Bulbs grow equally well in either. 6 to 8" pots are recommended for daffodils. The pots should be scrubbed clean before use, and clay pots soaked for several hours to fill pores. A good potting mixture consists of one part good garden soil, one part sand, and one part peat moss. Fertilizer should not be added to the mixture. A suitable potting mixture may be bought from a florist if only a few bulbs are to be potted. Planting can take place any time from mid-September to December, depending on the desired date of flowering, and the type of storage used. As a general rule, for late flowering, plant late; and for early flowering, plant early. Remember, the minimum length of the total cold treatment should be 13 weeks; 15 weeks are preferred. Place broken crockery over drainage holes and cover with a little sphagnum moss, pebbles, or other coarse material before adding potting soil. Half fill the pot with soil, place the bulbs, then fill the pot with soil. Settle the soil well around the bulbs by jarring the pot sharply and lightly pressing soil with fingers. Do not pack hard. Do not press the bulbs into the soil. The soil under the bulbs should be loose so that good rooting can take place quickly. Bulbs should be set with their tips well above the soil line which should be an inch below the rim of the pot. Label each pot with the name of the cultivar, date of planting, and date to be placed in the house. After planting, water the pots thoroughly and place them in a refrigerator at 35 – 45°F. The medium should be kept moist through the rooting and cooling period. After five to six weeks, the roots should emerge out of the bottom of the containers. The shoots will subsequently emerge from the bulbs. After a minimum of 13 weeks of cold, the first bulbs may be placed in the house.

Longer cold storage will result in taller flowers, while storage time shorter than 13 weeks will result in smaller plants and sometimes aborted flowers. In the house, place the plants in an area with a temperature of approximately 60°. For best results, place them in direct sunlight. The plants will require about 3 – 4 weeks to flower. Once the flowers begin to open, take the plants out of direct sunlight. The flowers will last longer. Since the bulb contains most of the plant food it needs, it is not necessary to fertilize.

[continued on next page]



Selected 2018 Show Dates

Sat Mar 24 - Sun 25: Gloucester Daffodil Show, Gloucester County Parks-Recreation-Tourism, Botetourt Elementary School, 6361 Main St., Gloucester, VA 23061. Peggy Bowditch, peggyb72@gmail.com, 804-693-4811

Thu Apr 5 - Sun 8: *ADS National Show*, Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society, Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, 700 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin, TN 37067, 615- 261-6100. Contacts: Show Chair: Mike Kuduk, 859-737- 0149, kuduk@earthlink.net; Convention Co-Chairs: Becky Fox Matthews, 615-838-1359, becky@lostfrogs.com; Susan Basham, 615-516-4299, newpennyantiques@aol.com

Fri Apr 6 - Sat 7: Somerset County Daffodil Show, Princess Anne, MD. Location to be determined. Contact: Mary Ann Peterman, 410-623-8473, dallyone@aol.com

Mon Apr 9 - Tues 10: District II, Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland. Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, 400 Benfield Rd, Severna Park, MD. Contact: Liz Williams, mliz.williams825@gmail.com, 410-987-7571

Tues Apr 10: Upperville Garden Club, Buchanan Hall, 8649 John S. Mosby Hwy, Upperville, VA. Contact: Phillipa Lewis, 703-472-8668(c), phillipal@me.com

Sat Apr 14 - Sun 15: Washington Daffodil Society, The Alexandria Valley Scottish Rite Temple, 1430 W. Braddock Road, Alexandria, VA 22302. Contacts: Mary Ann Barton, 703-273-8641, daffyun100@gmail.com, Glenna Graves, 540-434-8587, glennamgraves@comcast.net, Eugenia Applegate, 703-533-7676, genie.applegate@gmail.

Tues Apr 17 - Wed 18: *Middle Atlantic Regional Show*, Maryland Daffodil Society, The Shops at Kenilworth, 800 Kenilworth Dr., Towson, MD 21204. Contact: Meredith McDonagh, 410-583-5509, meredy@comcast.net

Sat Apr 21 - Sun 22: Tuscarora Daffodil Group and Chambersburg Garden Club, First Lutheran Church, 43 W Washington St., Chambersburg, PA 17201. Contact: Richard Ezell, 717-334- 2304, brownezell@earthlink.net or Mitch Carney 301-432- 4728, mca1062357@aol.com

Sat Apr 28: Western Pennsylvania Daffodil Growers South, Joe Hamm's Barn, 99 Maple Rd., Buffalo Village, Washington, PA 15301. Contact: Joe Hamm, 724-345-3762, joehamm1@juno.com

FORCING BULBS FOR INDOOR BLOOM [continued from previous page]

Bulbs which have been forced indoors are usually of little value for outdoor planting. Daffodils, however, can be placed outdoors as soon as spring arrives. Many of them will flower in one to two years. If you do not have a spare refrigerator, or do not wish to put pots of bulbs in your refrigerator, there are several other methods you may use. Remember, root growth does not occur when the temperature is below freezing. AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC. • **Method 1.** Plunge soaked pots into soil or peat moss in coldframe and keep damp. Never leave pots uncovered in areas of severe cold as they will freeze from the bottom and break. • **Method 2.** Dig trench in ground 12 – 15 " deep. Level off bottom of trench. Place well-soaked pots in trench and cover to ground level with soil, compost, peat, or a combination of such material. A 2" layer of sand on top of the pots will make removal easier, and a layer of leaves, straw, or other mulch over the top to a depth of several inches will keep the ground from freezing if pots have to be lifted in freezing weather. Mark location of trench with tall stake in case of snow. An alternate method is to place a crate or box filled with six inches of peat on the bottom of the trench. Place pots of bulbs on peat and fill with dry, crisp leaves. (Pit should be dug to below freezing level.) • **Method 3.** Use shallow window well which is accessible from the basement. Place storm sash or other protection outside over window well when frost arrives. Water every 2 or 3 weeks. In especially cold weather, leave cellar window ajar to prevent freezing of pots and to permit continuation of root growth. • **Method 4.** Store in a cool spot in cellar, garage, porch, or greenhouse. Water as needed. Dampened pots wrapped in polyethylene should need no watering. When sprouts are about 4 inches high and flower buds well out of neck of bulbs, bring into warmer place. Increase heat gradually from 50° to a maximum of 60°F. Reduce watering just before buds open; and when flowers are in full bloom, apply very little water. Catch a January thaw to bring pots inside under Methods 1–3. Bring into a cool room and treat as above.

- from the ADS website

Minutes of the 2017 Fall Meeting of the MDS

The 2017 Fall Meeting of the Maryland Daffodil Society was held on Saturday, October 28 at the Center for Maryland Agriculture and Farm Park, 1114 Shawan Rd., Cockeysville MD 21030. The meeting was called to order by President Hilles Whedbee at 10:55 AM with 20 persons in attendance. Ms. Whedbee welcomed attendees and introduced the Board. MDS 2018 Show Chair Meredith McDonagh, ADS Regional Vice President Julie Minch (absent), and ADS Regional Director Pat Parker were recognized.

President's Report: Hilles recapped the 2017 MDS Show at Kenilworth, held in a vacant store front due to construction, with 1,400+ blooms from 82 exhibitors, 16 Design entries, and lighter-than-usual Photography entries. Ongoing efforts with the Demonstration Garden at the Agriculture and Farm Park and the bulb sale courtesy of bulb donors Kathy Welsh, Don Caton, Hilles Whedbee, and the Carneys/South Mountain Bulbs were acknowledged. The 2018 ADS Convention will be held in Franklin, TN on April 5-8, 2018.

After discussion about cost-saving and establishing an environmentally-friendly footprint, motion was made and seconded to publish future issues of the MDS newsletter on-line only, with a separate USPS regular mailing to solicit dues. Motion carried unanimously.

Membership Report: In the absence of chairman Julie Minch, Hilles reported that there are 139 individuals and 46 garden club members of MDS.

Treasurer's Report, Bobbie Hudson: As of 9/28/16, checking account balance was \$9,399.20. Ending balance 9/27/17 was \$9,051.13. Also as of 9/27/17, Certificate of deposit balance (maturing 11/18/2018) was \$5,040.72. 2017 expenses reflected in the checking account balance: Federal Income Tax \$20.23 (March); MDS Show Expenses \$3,793.38 (April); Insurance \$325.

Report of MDS 2018 Show Chairman, Meredith McDonagh: The 2018 show will be the ADS Regional Show, and it's scheduled for Tuesday/Wednesday April 17-18, 2018 at the Shops at Kenilworth, with set-up on Monday April 16. Periodic meetings with the Show Committee will begin the week before or immediately following Thanksgiving. Alex Secor is chairman of the Design Division; Freddy Shaw is chairman of Photography. Dismantling will be done by MDS members. Hostessing needs for one-hour shifts of 2 persons were discussed, as was having each exhibitor provide a self-addressed and stamped #10 business envelope to facilitate the return of ribbons and entry cards.

Report of Regional Vice-President of the American Daffodil Society, Julie Minch (absent); read by Pat Parker: The ADS Fall Meeting is scheduled for November 10-12 in Cincinnati, OH. The National spring convention will be held in Nashville, TN April 5-8, 2018; more information on both events is on the ADS website. Our own Nicki Schwab has been nominated for Regional Vice-President. Bridget Bryant for Orange, VA has been nominated for Director of the Mid-Atlantic Region. Motion was made by Jane Lynn to accept these nominations; motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Letters submitted by Nicki Schwab and Joan Bender nominating James Taylor of Ruther Glen, VA for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Leadership and Service Award were read.

Information on the ADS Video "Let's Grow Daffodils" (available on Dafftube.org, the Daffodil Presentation site) was presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 PM, and was followed by the traditional bulb raffle.

- Susan Palmer, Secretary

Maryland Daffodil Society, Inc. Dues Remittance and Volunteer Information Form

Individual, Couple or Organization's Name _____

Contact person, if applicable _____

Mailing address _____

Telephone _____ *Email address _____

This is a change of address or contact information.

MDS would like to move to a 'green' platform and eliminate paper mailings; submitting your email address would be greatly appreciated.

Dues. Renewing Member or New member. *1-year membership dues, October 1 to September 30:*

Individual \$ 20.00

Couple \$ 25.00

Organization or Garden Club \$ 25.00

Support for the MDS Show. I/we would like to make an additional contribution in support of the MDS show:

Show Sponsor \$ 50.00 Show Angel \$200.00

Show Patron \$100.00 Other amount \$_____

Total Enclosed:

\$ _____

Please Volunteer! The Daffodil Show (annually, on the 3rd Tuesday and Wednesday in April) is the major undertaking of MDS! Please indicate your willingness to help with: Set-up on Monday, Dismantling, Publicity, Passing, Properties and Staging, Records, Hostessing while the show is open to the public; Design Division; Special Exhibits Division; other.

Yes, I can help with _____ . Yes, I can help where needed most.

Please make checks payable to MDS, Inc. and mail to: *Bobbie Hudson - 15217 Tanyard Rd., Sparks, MD 21152*