



The Daffodil Rave

Volume 12 Issue 2
Editor: Beth Holbrooke

Greater St Louis Daffodil Society
www.stldaffodilclub.org

Summer 2012

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“....A day comes, or perhaps a warmer night, when the wind, now breathing gently from the Southwest, puts new life into all growing things. A marvelous change is wrought in a few hours. A little warm rain has fallen, and plants, invisible before, and doubtless still underground, spring into glad life.”

Gertrude Jekell “The Year in the Garden”

The President's Message

Welcome to our Summer Edition of the Daffodil Rave. Gardening this year has been a challenge to say the least. Although our spring show was cancelled, we were able to participate in the “Dig Daffodils Day” at the Shaw Nature Reserve. The dig was well attended, and many new cultivars found, due to being there at very late season. Many found new treasures to add to their private collections, and hopefully bring them to the show next year and enter SNR daffodils in the “Shaw Nature Reserve Challenge Cup”.

Recently we lost a great ambassador of our beloved daffodil, Denis Dailey, from the great Daffodil Club of Minnesota. Denis always believed it was NOT all about the flowers, it was about the people. Denis influenced so many, in positive ways. We will miss him.

Our summer meeting, July 15, 2012, will definitely be one NOT to miss. Lynn and I have arranged for the 2011 National Silver Medal Winner, Keith Kridler to present the program. Keith will be speaking on daffodil fertility, hot water treatment, earth friendly cultivars & the research program starting this fall with Texas A & M. We look forward to his visit and the program. Keith was one of the speakers at the Chicago Convention in 2008, and after hearing him, we knew then that ST. Louis should hear him also.

I am writing this today with very mixed emotions. Lynn Slackman has served us with unprecedeted enthusiasm, organizational skills and ever pleasant, positive attitude, a hard act to follow. I really appreciated Lynn paving the way, albeit a very high bar. Lynn, I truly appreciate the mentor you have been, thank you. Lynn will be handing over the President's responsibility to me. I will do my best, to keep Greater St. Louis Daffodil Society moving forward into the future, and what a future it will be. Our club has accepted co-hosting the 2016 WORLD Daffodil Convention & Tour!

*Cindy Haeffner
President, Greater St Louis Daffodil Society*

Keith Kridler, July 15, 2012 Speaker

When the whole Kridler family moved from Ohio to Texas in June of 1964, Keith was just nine years old. His brother Barrie had graduated high school, was REALLY into plants, so they moved a whole truck load of "rescued" Ohio plants and bulbs to Northeast Texas! The family farm in Texas was turned into a mini "botanical gardens" over the next 20 years. By 1984 there were over a million daffodil bulbs naturalized across "Kridler Gardens" acres that HAD to be moved by 1985 when the coal strip mining operations were to take over the surrounding farm lands!



Keith will discuss the problems of climate extremes, as we all need to think long term about maximum and minimum amounts of rainfall & temperature and how these effect our soils and how this ultimately effects quality and timing of daffodil bloom times!



He will also make suggestions on laying out daffodil beds, getting soils tested, amending the soils for optimum growth to produce healthy bulbs for the backyard daffodil grower. What to put in the soil and what NOT to put into or onto the soil! How to get higher production of show quality blooms at the RIGHT time for the shows! Using existing windbreaks but still getting the necessary hours of sunshine to produce blooms!

Keith will then discuss how to pick out areas to quickly plant large numbers of bulbs for those with larger acreage in order to "naturalize" them on the property. How to work with help that knows nothing about planting or digging bulbs and how to

quickly get bulbs into the ground in such a way as to be able to quickly get them BACK OUT of the ground with less back ache!

One of the most important topics will be disease prevention, sanitation of digging tools, and how to build a "Red Neck" hot water daffodil bulb treatment tank on the cheap. How test gardens of "Earth Kind" roses and perennial plantings might evolve and include "Earth Kind" daffodil test gardens.

"Daffodils"

The people who talk about flowers may be roughly divided into two classes. Those who ask and those who are expected to answer the question, "What is the difference between a narcissus and a daffodil?"

By E.A. Bowles
"My Garden in Spring"

DAFFNET POEM

As Cindy mentioned, Denis Daley, a Minnesota member of the ADS died in May. I came across this poem he wrote for "Daffnet" in 2010. He sums up the year for serious daffodil lovers, but it also gives me a sense of his humor and how hard he worked with the flower he loved. I will miss him.

"Reading other's tales of the elusive pursuit of ribbons (Darrin & David Adams) and spending too much time in repetitive tasks related to bulb digging, cleaning and storage, propelled some words to emerge from my feeble mind, you might find interesting. With apologies to Wordsworth (and Ogden Nash) I offer the following ditty. The verse can be sung to a tune of "The Yellow Rose of Texas" (like most Emily Dickenson poetry). The chorus can be moaned anyway you like ...

"No Blues Blues" by Denis Daley

Each year the daffy catalogues are sent
and lure me to invest
in what the merchandiser claim
to be their very best.
The reason for this impulse purchase
Really isn't clear
although the price that I have paid
is often thought quite dear

I plant the bulb and pray for it
through winters stormy blast
And when its snowy mantle
finally disappears at last
and leaves and buds emerge
from the cold earth victorious
a bloom appears that is no question
absolutely glorious

I snip it, primp it stage it
and put it in the show
for all the folks to see and oooh and aaah
and really envy me.
When some time later I return and find,
without a clue
the damned old lousy flower
never ever got a blue.

Chorus:

I've got the no blue blues
I've got the no blue blues
the damned old lousy flower
never even got a blue.

No hope of being honored
awarded "Best in Show"
But no sense spilling but a tear
What do those judges know?
I'll lick my wounded pride
and then do it again - next year.

Chorus (repeat) "



Greater St Louis Daffodil Society Meeting Minutes

By Ann Henson

Sunday, 1:00 PM, February 26, 2012
Garden Room of the Ridgeway Center at MOBOT

The regular meeting was called to order by President Lynn Slackman who welcomed members and guests. President Slackman stated that copies of the minutes of the last meeting were on the tables and requested that everyone take a few minutes to review them. After allowing time for this, she asked if there were any additions or corrections. There being none, Pam Hardy moved they be approved as recorded. Motion seconded by Jim Morris, the minutes were approved.

President Slackman then called for the Treasurer's Report which was detailed by Treasurer Peter McAdams. (Copy of Treasurer's Report is attached to the newsletter.) Peter thanked all of those who participated in the Bloomin' Bucks program offered by Brent and Becky. The total received by the club was \$435.00, thanks in large part to bulbs purchased by Jason Delaney. Jim Morris moved that the Treasurer's Report be filed subject to audit, seconded by Pam Hardy, motion passed.

Program Chair Cindy Haeffner introduced Sonja Lallemand, a Master Gardener accredited by the University of Illinois, who has been working at the Missouri State University on earning her Master's Degree. She spoke of her research program and reported on the various test results on the theory of using alfalfa pellets as growth stimulants on daffodils and other plants.

Following a break for snacks, the business meeting resumed with President Slackman calling for old business to be updated.

The Daffodil Rave Editor, Beth Holbrooke listed several topics that she would like to have for the next issue: Reports on the Daffodil Show, the Daffodil Dig, articles on your favorite daffodil and why, Photography contest, Design show report, Calendar of Events for the new year, as well as future scheduled programs, as well as the Minutes and Treasurer's Report. She welcomed any additional articles on daffodils to be submitted by the members.

President Slackman announced that she had received the national ribbons for the show which were on display on the front table. Along with the special category for Historic Daffodils, which are not eligible for other ADS ribbons because of the special judging scores that conflict with other daffodils, there are four ribbons available in the new "Classics" division. These are daffodils that were introduced from 1940 to 1969. These will be scored by judges in the same manner as the newer daffodils and can also win other ADS ribbons.

Show schedules were distributed for the 2012 "Daffodils OnLine" and discussed. Jim Morris stated that not enough people had signed up for the Design Show and if no more were planning to enter, the Design section would likely be canceled. Due to the mild winter there was a possible problem with the bloom being too soon for the show date.

Debra Pratt reported on the Photography division of the show. For the most part, it will be the same as last year. She encouraged everyone to participate. The motion to present cash prizes for "Best Photo" and "Judges' Choice" was tabled at the last meeting. The original motion was brought up by President Slackman for membership consideration. Following a discussion, the motion was defeated.

It was reported that the new table covers are ready for use at this year's show. Exhibitors will need buckets for water in preparing their entries. The club will supply greenery and supplies. Charlie Pickett stated that he would bring extra daffodils to be used for the designs or however they were needed.

Transportation and lodging for the show judges was discussed, and Peter and Jan McAdams volunteered to provide lodging at their home. Beth Holbrooke moved that the club provide gift certificates or gas. Seconded by Jim Morris, motion passed. We will need to purchase \$200.00 in gift certificates for the horticulture division in \$25.00 increments.

Status of potted daffodils for sale at the show was reported on by Cindy Haeffner who has 80 pots ready. She stated that she felt sure they would be blooming by show time.

The final item of old business was the report of the Nominating Committee consisting of: Beth Holbrooke, Vaughn Meister and Pam Hardy. Beth read the list of nominations as follows: For President - Cindy Haeffner; for Secretary - Vaughn Meister; for 1st Director - Pam Hardy; for 2nd Director - Dave Niswonger (2 years); (Beth Holbrooke is the remaining Director who has one more year to serve) This will leave the office of Vice President vacant, and the new president will appoint her Vice President upon taking office. Peter McAdams moved that the report of the Nominating Committee be accepted, seconded by Sonja Lallamand. Ann Henson moved that the new officers be elected by acclamation, seconded by Peter McAdams, motion passed.

New Business:

The Shaw Nature Reserve Dig will be held on March 31, 2012. We are to meet promptly at 9:00 AM. Please remember to wear your club T-shirts.

A report was given by Cindy Haeffner on the Owensville Daffodil Planting which will be held on January 27th. Thanks to Cindy for spear-heading this project.

The 2016 World Daffodil Convention Committee for the show which will be held in St Louis: President Slackman announced that we need a committee to work on the tasks during 2012 and develop future timeline. A theme was suggested as follows: "Show Me Daffodils". It was the general consensus that this would be perfect for a show held in the Show-me state of Missouri. Beth Holbrooke moved that we adopt that theme and work on a logo that will incorporate the St Louis Arch. Pam Hardy seconded and motion passed.

Several announcements were made for other events in the area, and the drawing for the \$25.00 door prize was won by Peter McAdams. Other donated door prizes were won by lucky members present.

Prior to the start of the business meeting, special guest Bill Brackett, who is a talented metal sculptor, presented some of his floral pieces and told of his creative process in his designs. Of special interest were his five and six feet tall daffodils.

The Attendance book was signed by 20 members.
The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann Henson, Secretary

Recycled Mesh Bags Needed!!!!!!

Please turn in the extra mesh bags lying about in your garage or closets!!!! They may be mesh bags from last year's exchange, or recycled onion bags, we don't care! We will wash and sanitize them, and re-use them for the Bulb Exchange and SNR Dig!!!! So bring them to the many upcoming GSLDS functions, and turn them in!!!!
Thanks, Cindy Haeffner



My Favorite Daffodil-AVENGER

By Cindy Haeffner

My introduction to daffodils other than yellow, was directly influenced by our dear friend, Clifford Benson. He lived only 4 miles from our house. He was a friend of my Aunt Sylvia, a friendship forged thru the iris. Although Cliff mainly hybridized iris, he liked the finer hybrids of daffodils also. I remember seeing his clump of Avenger for the first time, WOW!!!! It was not too long before this clump experienced a shovel.

In 1983, our daughter Jeannine was born. On the eve of her birth, Joy and I entertained Cliff and Wilbur Benson. As was the routine the 4 of us had established, dinner, visit and the 10 o'clock news, and they would depart for home. Joy's parents did not usually visit too late, but they noticed the Benson's vehicle, and stopped in. By now, my labor was well underway, and I asked Joy to have all the people LEAVE, because we needed to head to Big John's. I remember Cliff asking me how I was going to make it to work the next day??? Being both bachelors, they were not wise to women ways. Now, why am I telling you all these nonsensical details, will be revealed later.

In 1986, our son Matthew was born. The day he was born, Joy was in St. Louis, and called me to see how I was doing, I told him I was feeling great, hmmmm, after he got off the phone, "She hasn't said that in weeks". After my shift ended at the hospital, I picked up Jeannine from the babysitters, and headed home with lots of energy. Hung up wash, set out frozen bread to rise, and called Cliff and asked if we could do some hybridizing, he said sure. Jeannine and I dashed down to the Benson's. Wilbur, Cliff's brother stayed at the house to occupy Jeannine. Cliff and I proceeded to make our selections, and when I stood up, suddenly my shoes were filled. I told Cliff, we have to go to the house, and I have to go home. They both seemed concerned, and how was I going to drive????? Well, arriving at the hospital, we learned the hospital was having a disaster drill, and not long before co-workers and friends discovered I was in the labor room, oh what fun they had popping in to say hi, finally I told Joy, no more visitors!!! Matt was born several hours later, everyone fine. Now, Joy having had major back surgery, I told him to go to Cliff's and pick a bunch of daffodils, and have his niece arrange them. Money was not plentiful, so this would save a bit. Joy choose an old wicker basket, Cliff gave him a large quantity of daffodils. When Joy brought them in, it was filled with Avenger, it was breathtaking!!!! All the staff, and fellow workers of mine were simply amazed; they had never seen any daffodils beside yellow. Avenger is, and remains my favorite, and this year I harvested 93 seeds with a cross of Avenger X Conestoga!!!! I still have some of the original stock from Cliff, and cherish it immensely!!!! For me, it was life events which occurred, and drew me to Avenger, but its beauty continues to amaze me and remember fondly the events surrounded by the friends, family and the daffodil, Avenger.

Now, years later, Joy and I still joke that if you wanted labor to start, just be around the Benson's!!!!



Photo of 'Avenger'

OTHER FAVORITE DAFFODILS

By Beth Holbrooke

Cindy wins the prize for actually writing about her favorite flower. (I'll find a prize...) One answer was left on my voice mail and the rest were phone question and answer sessions (not quite like pulling teeth, but close!). The voting is now closed.

Jason's answer – “That’s an odd question to ask someone standing in a field of over 3,000 different ones right now. It’s simple, although a 2 part answer. My favorite specific daffodil to take with me for the rest of my life would be *narcissus jonquilla*, the early blooming Carl Amazon type, or sweeties as they are called in the south. They are so heavenly perfumed and beautiful. They are not standard and whonking big but their fragrance makes up for their daintyness. My next favorite generically is any daffodil that I have had but overlooked, but this year it POPS out at me. It could be from the weather conditions for the year or something else, but it has a large clump, beautiful form and has been there all along – you know the one. It changes from year to year.’

Jane Delaney's answer – ‘Nighthawk’ which is white petalled with an orange trumpet.

Jan McAdams – any green eyed daffodil – like ‘Emerald Stone’

Peter McAdams – The one he got from Brent and Becky’s that they don’t offer anymore. Just divided the 5 he bought in 2008 and now has 25 split in three places. ‘Arguros’ from 1950 which can be entered in the Classic category now. It is a 3W-GOR and looks like a poet.

John Beck – John Reed’s new pink-pink, but he’s forgotten the name of it.

Ernie Henson – ‘Crackington’ (4Y-Y) because it has big full petals that look perfectly stacked and it’s a great increaser with big bulbs.

Ann Henson – Dave Niswonger’s ‘Early to Rise’ because it makes her feel happy early. One year it bloomed and stood in 6 inches of snow and still looked good and made her happy.

Ellen Henson – “I like Mary Copeland the best because I have it and my parents don’t!”

Beth Holbrooke – “Since Jason chose ‘*n. jonquilla*’ I am choosing ‘Empress’ (1W-Y) from the 1800’s. I spent one summer driving to Paducah in scorching heat for several weekends to save boxes and boxes of bulbs from becoming the bottom of a pond two months later when the land was sold. I sent them to Camden, AK and to Joe Hamm in PA (where he took 1200 bulbs and ended up so far with over 4,000) The digging was hot and hard work, but to look at the clumps in my yard now I think it was well worth the effort.



Trumpets are New

Contributed by Carolyn Roof, Paducah, KY



Did you ever wonder what the trumpet or corona in a daffodil really is? A team of University of Oxford scientists claim to have defined exactly what the trumpet of a daffodil is.

Flowers usually have four parts: sepals, petals, stamens and carpels, but daffodils have a fifth part, known as the trumpet or corona.

Scientists have questioned since the 19th c. whether the trumpet is related to the stamens or the petals, and in the 1930s botanist Agnes Arber decided it was part of the latter. After dissecting hundreds of bulbs Professor Robert Scotland and his Oxford team have suggested that the trumpet is a new organ. "It's the way novelties evolve in nature," he said. "They don't use existing structures."

How did this discovery come about? Scotland was examining a Hoop-Petticoat when a student asked him what the trumpet was. "I looked at it and realized I had never thought about it before," Professor Scotland said.

What he found was that a daffodil has not corona in its early stages. "The four organs sit on a special little platform area and it's that platform called the hypanthium where the corona is initiated called. "All the floral ground plan is specified in floral development and then very late in the platform area there is a reawakening of some tissue that turns out to be the corona."

The daffodil is one of the most recognizable flowers in the UK and will be widely worn on St David's Day as the national flower of Wales.

Professor Scotland said: "The fascination for me has been because there are only four organs to most flowers, and because there's so many different types of flowers and that basic system is highly conserved. It's part of understanding the natural world. Whether it's a new species, new genera or just what the trumpet of a daffodil is."

Treasurer's Report

By Peter McAdams

2012 GSLDS PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT COMPARISON 1/1/12 THRU 6/30/12

	2011	2012
CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE JAN 1, 2012		\$7,408.66
INCOME		
POTTED BULB SALES - TO PUBLIC	\$513.00	\$25.00
DONATIONS RECEIVED	\$4.00	
DUES RECEIVED		
2011 Members Dues Received	\$92.00	
2012 Members Dues Received	\$5.00	\$42.00
2015 Members Dues Received	\$7.00	
TOTAL DUES RECEIVED	\$104.00	\$42.00
OTHER INCOME		
BLOOMIN BUCKS - BRENT & BECKYS		\$435.00
MISC INCOME	\$6.00	
PLANT LABEL SALES	\$210.00	\$35.00
T SHIRT SALES - CLUB EMBLEM	\$90.00	\$20.00
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TOTAL OTHER INCOME	\$306.00	\$490.00
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TOTAL INCOME	\$927.00	\$557.00
EXPENSES		
BOOTH FEES - HERMAN MO	\$67.50	\$65.00
CHARITABLE DONATIONS - KOMEN ST LOUIS	\$250.00	
DAFFODIL SHOW EXPENSES:		
JUDGE EXPENSE	\$250.00	
SHOW SUPPLIES	\$592.44	\$112.61
GREENTREE FESTIVAL EXPENSES	\$60.00	\$60.00
MEETING EXPENSES	\$9.09	
MISC SOCIETY EXPENSES	\$135.00	
PLANT LABEL COSTS	\$196.00	\$32.00
POSTAGE and DELIVERY	\$108.00	
PROGRAM SPEAKER EXPENSE	\$100.00	\$25.00
TEE SHIRTS - CLUB EMBLEM	\$75.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,843.83	\$294.61
OVERALL TOTAL	-\$916.83	\$262.39
ENDING BANK BALANCE DEC 31, 2011	\$7,408.66	
ENDING BANK BALANCE JUNE 30, 2012		\$7,503.05

Treasurer's Notes:

*Bloomin Bucks from Brent and Becky's is the rebate from 2011 sales, mostly from Jason Delaney.

*Dues for calendar year 2012 were due Jan 1, 2012. Please pay your dues to the treasurer.

Dues are family \$7 and Single \$5 per year. You may pay dues in advance.

*The annual IRS Federal Form 990 has been filed for 2012.

The Missouri Corporation Annual Registration Report has been filed for 2012.

Calendar of Events 2012

DATE	TIME/PLACE	ACTIVITY
Sunday July 15, 2012	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Garden Room of Ridgeway Center at MOBOT	Keith Kridler, from the Texas Daffodil Society, will talk about "I WISH I had known All of THIS about daffodils 25 years ago" Members please bring snacks.
Sunday September 9, 2012	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Garden Room of Ridgeway Center at MOBOT	<i>Bagging and Tagging of Bulbs for upcoming Exchange and Sale.</i>
September 14 – 16, 2012	Friday, 5:00 - 10:00 PM, Saturday, 8:30 AM - 7:00 PM, Sunday, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM Greentree Festival, Kirkwood, MO	Join us at the Greentree Festival to sell daffodil bulbs and spread yellow daffodil fever to residents of the Greater St Louis area.
October 13 – 14, 2012	Saturday, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Sunday, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM Arts & Craft Festival, Hermann, MO	Join us at the Brush & Palette Club, Arts & Crafts Festival . We will be selling daffodil bulbs to residents of Hermann, MO and surrounding communities.
October 20 – 21, 2012	9:00AM – 5:00PM or until sold out. Orthwein Hall of Ridgeway Center at MOBOT	Annual public bulb sale and our best fund raiser. Setup Friday night October 19th in Orthwein Hall from 5:00PM until done.
Sunday November 4, 2012	NOON – 5:00PM Classroom #125 at CBEC	Annual exchange of "better" donated and purchased bulbs from various sources. Please refer to participation guidelines below. <i>Food and drink provided, side dish & desserts requested.</i>
Sunday November 18, 2012	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Garden Room of Ridgeway Center at MOBOT	Wrap up of the year. Slides and snacks brought by members with Holiday party theme. A chance to visit and exchange ideas for next year.

Participation guidelines for Daffodil Bulb Exchange on Sunday, November 4, 2012;

- * Members attending at least two events or meetings, prior to the bulb exchange, pay usual \$10 entry fee.
- * Members attending less than two events or meetings, prior to the bulb exchange, pay \$25 entry fee.
- * Non-members **MUST** become a member of GSLDS and pay \$25 entry fee.

CBEC Classroom #125 will seat 50 classroom-style and is equipped with a long counter with a sink.

NOTE: Mitsch Discount Club Orders

Every year most of our members have the opportunity to place their daffodil bulb orders from the Mitsch Daffodil catalog. Richard and Elise Havens of Hubbard, Oregon have a long family history of hybridizing, beginning with Elise's father, Grant Mitsch. Their catalog offers a unique opportunity for members of the Greater St. Louis Daffodil Society

In the catalog, after the price, there will be a **D**-which means these cultivars are discounted. If you send in the order by yourself, the **D** will give you a 10% discount, but if you send in the order with the club, the **D** gives you 20%! Another advantage of ordering these discounted bulbs is that GSLDS pays the shipping!

Don't miss out! Catalogs will also be on hand at our July 15th meeting, should any members need assistance in choosing some favorite classics. Payment will also be due July 15th, 2012, payable to GSLDS, submit to Peter McAdams.

For any additional information, please contact Cindy @ chaeffner@haeffnerfamily.net