



Yellow Fever Gazette

a publication of the Maryland Daffodil Society, Inc.

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American Daffodil Society: <https://daffodilusa.org>

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Maryland Daffodil Society, Inc.
• founded 1923 •
2020 - 2022 Board

President – Muffin McAfee
lbm8132@aol.com

Vice-President – Pat Parker
patpparker@aol.com

Secretary; Yellow Fever Gazette Editor – Susan Palmer
susmpalmer@ol.com

Treasurer – Jackie Handley
jhandley09@aol.com

Immediate Past President –
Hilles Whedbee
hwshedbee@gmail.com

Membership – Julie Minch
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Members-at-Large:

Leslie Aronson
Joan Bender
Debbie Cameron
Sherry Jordan
Nicki Schwab
Mary Ann Thompson
Sally Waller

2022 Show Chairman
Meredith McDonagh
meredy@comcast.net

Outgoing President's Letter

I compose this letter realizing it will be the last I do so as President of the Maryland Daffodil Society. Having served three terms, I am both deeply pleased to be handing over the reins, but also a little at loose ends ... what will I do now? No worries there – I will reside on the MDS Board as Outgoing President for the next two years, so it will be ok.

2020 was an unusual year (no one needs me to say that), and we had to cancel our Daffodil Show due to the pandemic. As luck would have it, we all had amazing daffodils last Spring. Many vases of daffs graced our houses, and I took masses of flowers to the hospital to put in patient's rooms. It was unusual to have so many on hand, not being kept for the bench or the Club Collection or an artistic entry, but wow, what beautiful blooms! And how wonderful to just enjoy them.

Though we were not able to hold the fall Annual Meeting in person, the new slate of officers and board members for 2020-2022 was approved by the membership, and I'm thrilled about this fabulous group. The October 31 socially-distanced bulb sale in my driveway was great, with bulbs kindly donated by Bob Heusmann, Bruce Ann Gillet, Julie Minch, me, and the Indiana Daffodil Society. All the bulbs were sold and brought in \$279 for the MDS treasury – so, it was worth the effort!

Many plant societies have “gone to sleep”, that is, ceased to exist, affected by an aging membership, an inability to find new members, and the lack of ability to move with the fast pace of modern horticulture, it is a concern

to all of us involved with these groups. I feel happy that we are still relevant – our Board welcomed four new members, all keen daffodil people, all pleased to be a part of our administration. I want to say a huge thank you to the Board and Membership of MDS for their years of unflagging support and generosity. It has been a privilege to serve with and for you. I am so excited about our new President, Muffin McAfee, a longtime Show supporter, record keeper, and tremendous person. The next two years promise to be amazing under her leadership.

“For oft, when on my couch I lie in vacant or in a pensive mood, they flash upon that inward eye which is the bliss of solitude; And then my heart with pleasure fills, And dances with the daffodils.”

- William Wordsworth
Signing off,
Hilles

President's Message

*“Daffodils are yellow trumpets of Spring” -
Richard L. Ratliff*

Dear MDS Members,

I'm honored to follow Hilles as your new MDS President. On behalf of the Board and the entire MDS membership, I want to thank Hilles for her years of leadership and service. Her passion and vision for the organization have kept us vibrant and relevant! A big thanks to our incoming officers and to all of you, our members, for giving your time, talent and financial support to the MDS.

As we head into the second year of the pandemic, it is with everyone's health and safety foremost on our minds, that the MDS Board has voted to cancel the 2021 Maryland Daffodil Show.

The Good News is we have set the dates for next year's show! The 2022

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ADS News – by Outgoing ADS Regional VP Nicki Schwab



Convention:

The American Daffodil Society will host the 2021 ADS Virtual National Convention, "Reach for the Stars", February 25 to May 1,

2021. This is an excellent opportunity to attend informative programs, a photography show, bulb auction, ADS Judges Refresher, and much more. Early Registration and Event Schedule at www.daffodilusa.org

Nominations for the Mid-Atlantic Region:

The following individuals have been nominated and will stand for election at the ADS membership meeting during the 2021 Virtual Convention:

2021 Regional Vice-President, Deana Kozak (MD, serving 1 of a 3-year term)

2024 Regional Director, Julie Minch (MD, serving 1 of a 3-year term)

2021 Nominating Committee Chairman, Mitch Carney (MD, serving 1 of a 2-year term)

President's Message, *continued from page 1*

Maryland Daffodil Show will be held at the Vollmer Center at Cylburn, Wednesday April 20 and Thursday April 21, 2022 (with setup on Tuesday April 19).

Although we are not holding a traditional show this year, the Board is excited to share alternative plans for Community Outreach and Education that promise to keep us energized and connected. These projects will provide publicity and attract potential new members. Please read more about these wonderful opportunities in Meredith McDonagh's report. Let us know your ideas and how you would like to help. We look forward to your participation and enthusiasm!

With thanks and appreciation,
Muffin McAfee
MDS President

addresses the public in a discussion of daffodils with a Q & A included. Possibly a Power Point presentation as well. Each facilitated by BCRP with MDS.

- **Short tutorial videos.** Topics could include daffodil culture and those related to exhibiting daffodils. Working with BCRP, these films would be housed on the MDS website and shared on a the BCRP website.

Staying Connected and Giving Back:

- **Thank you to first responders/essential workers.** MDS is considering presenting a take home gift of a small bottle of daffodils offered by MDS members. We envision a display table with signage expressing gratitude. The more you supply, the bigger the impact! Please check the website for details: date, time, drop off location.
- **Virtual Daffodils on the MDS Website.** All are encouraged to participate in this Show and Tell with a submission of **one** photograph per member of a daffodil close-up or a landscape view of daffodils in the garden (even with pets!). Please add your name and a caption or identification, and submit your one photo by email to marylanddaffodil@gmail.com.

Please consider volunteering your skills in these areas:
Garden Tours - Tour guides, Educational Table set up/take down, delivery, staffing table
Zoom or Power Point – Presenters, attendees for Q&A help

Video tutorials – Presenters, script writers
Daffodils for Gratitude - donations of cleaned daffodils, small bottles for staging

Questions? Ideas? "Yes, I'd love to help!" Contact Meredith, meredy@comcast.net, 410.404.4164

Giving Back and Staying Connected, Daffodil Style! ... Alternatives for 2021

– by Meredith McDonagh, Show Chairman

The MDS Board's decision to cancel the 2021 daffodil show was made with a heavy heart, which was quite palpable, a very somber meeting. But then the mood started to lift, and lift, as board members considered what MDS might DO to honor this dear flower...

Ideas for community outreach and for staying connected started to "blossom." The following are possibilities for making a difference and having fun, some while working with one of our show sponsors, Baltimore City Recreation and Parks (BCRP)! MDS will need your participation and support, and it will be imperative to check MDS and BCRP websites for updates: see www.marylanddaffodil.org, <https://bcrp.baltimorecity.gov/virtual-rec>

Giving Back: BCRP and MDS partnering on a 'Daffodil Week'

- **Tours of blooming daffodils and educational table at Cylburn Arboretum.** Likely one Saturday in April featuring three to four tours, TBD and following Covid-19 guidelines. These tours would include one or two knowledgeable members of MDS to accompany a Cylburn staff member and would culminate in a visit to an Educational Display Table that MDS provides and staffs to educate the public. Table could/will include a display of daffodil divisions, catalogs, pamphlets, etc.
- **Zoom meeting/webinar on the BCRP website (and/or BCRP Facebook page).** A knowledgeable member of MDS

The Silver Medal of the American Daffodil Society is awarded to an individual deemed by the Honors Committee as being worthy of recognition of outstanding service to the ADS. The 2020 winner is **Mitch Carney**, of Boonsboro, MD. Mitch has been National Show Chairman at multiple Conventions, has taught a number of Judging Schools and Refreshers, and serves on several ADS Committees. Space limitations prevent a fuller description of Mitch's accomplishments – learn more about him at daffodilusa.org, under 'ADS Silver Medal Recipients'.

The ADS John & Gertrude Wister Award

is given in recognition of daffodils that are floriferous, long bloomers with vigorous foliage and tall sturdy stems, resistant to rot and readily available. Emphasis is on garden performance, though the winner may also be of show quality. The 2021 winner is 'Marieke' (1 Y-GYY), a 1986 Konijnenburg & Mark hybrid, with a big, upward facing flower with a long, dark yellow trumpet and a vivid yellow perianth. Blooms are graceful, long lasting and lightly scented.



The ADS William G. Pannill Award

is given to an American hybridizer to recognize a named standard daffodil that has demonstrated winning show qualities for a minimum of 5 years following registration. The 2020 winner is 'Pogo' (3 W-GYO, registered in 1989, bred by Mrs. Goethe (Helen) Link



[14/3BY/1YY Seedling x First Kiss. Beautiful mid-to-late season bloom with a white perianth and a small bowl-shaped corona with a green center fading to yellow. Striking intermediate for both the garden and show.

Membership: What a year it has been. Spring 2020 went by without our daffodil show. We missed out on many events in 2020 but wasn't it great to enjoy our blooms at home? It was so nice to sit in the garden and enjoy the daffodils and other spring flowers. Like last year, the daffodil shows this year are canceled also. Every year the MDS relies on members to keep our society moving forward. Please consider supporting this hard-working group by paying your dues. The dues form below makes sending in your dues easy; just detach and return. In the last fiscal year (October 1st thru September 30th) we had 63 individual members and 20 garden clubs join the MDS. The MDS cannot survive without members like you that support the society. Be a Maryland Daffodil Society member today! Thank you! - Julie Minch, Membership Chairman

----- detach and return -----

Maryland Daffodil Society, Inc. Dues Remittance and Volunteer Information 2020 - 2021

Individual, Couple or Organization's Name _____
 Contact person, if applicable _____
 Mailing address _____

Telephone _____ Email address _____

This is a change of address or contact information.

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. I/we want to make an additional contribution to support MDS:

- Sponsor \$ 50.00 Angel \$200.00
- Patron \$100.00 Other \$ _____

Total Enclosed: _____ \$ _____

Please Volunteer! Please share your skills and interests to help with alternatives to the MDS Show for 2021 (see p. 2 of this newsletter): Tour guide at Cylburn; set-up or staffing of educational table at Cylburn; technical expertise, help as a presenter or scriptwriter for webinars, PowerPoints, or videos; supplying blooms or bottles for first responders; other. I can help with _____

Please make checks payable to MDS, Inc. and mail to: Jackie Handley, 1055 W. Joppa Rd., #612, Towson, MD 21204

In Memoriam

Marie Coulter, a supporter of the Maryland Daffodil Society for many years, passed away April 18, 2020 at the age of 93. She was an American Daffodil Society judge as well as Past President of Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc. Marie chaired several ADS Judging Schools. A keen competitor, she enjoyed mentoring others and took great pleasure in their successes in growing and showing daffodils. She continued as an advisor to the District II Daffodil Show until shortly before her death. She was a truly great lady! Her wonderful smile and kind comments will be greatly missed by all.

– Joan Bender

Bobbie Hudson, friend, active member and former Treasurer of MDS, passed away January 2. She co-chaired the MDS show Records Committee with me for thirteen years. Bobbie won numerous blue ribbons and MDS Awards. She was a talented grower and known for her lovely daffodils. She was a beloved member of the MDS and Halten Garden Club who always brought enthusiasm and positive attitude to every job she took on.

I will always remember Bobbie arriving early to the show with her big bucket of beautiful blooms to stage. After entering her own daffodils, she would turn to me with a smile and say “Let’s get counting!” She was a treasured friend and a joy to work with. A celebration of her life is planned for later in the year.

– Muffin McAfee

Pauline Vollmer, an accomplished horticulturalist whose Baltimore County garden became a much-visited and photographed example of the Oehme/VanSweden ‘New American Garden’, died January 12 at the age of 104. Her garden was first planted in the 1960’s and contained both natives and rare plants underused at the time.

Garden club members remember Pauline as a lover of people and pets, who generously shared her breadth of knowledge and talent freely. Pauline taught many novices how to arrange flowers, and sponsored the MDS Mrs. Leo J. Vollmer Award presented at each MDS show to the design demonstrating the most effective use of daffodils.

Pauline’s generous gift to Cylburn Arboretum was the impetus for its Vollmer Center, dedicated in 2010 and a model of green technology and in the use of sustainable materials. She will be remembered as a woman of many talents and achievements, in and out of the gardening world.

– Susan Palmer

Minutes of the 2020 Election of Officers Maryland Daffodil Society, Inc.

Due to concerns about the COVID-19 virus, the in-person Fall Meeting of 2020 for the purpose of member education and the election of officers of the Maryland Daffodil Society was cancelled. Instead, names of nominees for officers as follows for the 2020 - 2022 term were distributed to individual and garden club members via email on October 26, 2020: Muffin McAfee, President; Pat Parker, Vice-President; Susan Palmer, Secretary; Jackie Handley, Treasurer.

Also emailed to members were the names of those who will serve on the Board for 2020 - 2022: Membership Chairman Julie Minch, Members-at-large Leslie Aronson, Joan Bender, Debbie Cameron, Sherry Jordan, Nicki Schwab, Mary Ann Thompson and Sally Waller, along with Hilles Whedbee as Immediate Past President.

Motion to accept the slate of officers as distributed by email was made by Julie Minch, and seconded by Susan Palmer.

Paper ballots in favor or against the motion were cast by members observing face-covering and social-distancing health protocols, at the outdoor bulb sale at the home of Hilles Whedbee on Saturday, October 31, 2020. Twenty (20) ballots were cast, exceeding quorum required for voting; all ballots were cast in favor, and the motion to accept the slate of nominees for officers for the upcoming term carried.

– Susan Palmer, Secretary