



**Preparing Your Daffodils
(And Photos of Daffodils!) For Show**
1st Annual Carolina Daffodil Society Show

Topics to Present

Lewis Bozard, Chair, and Elaine Cobb, Co-Chair

- Horticultural Division
- Time Schedule and Rules
- How to Select and Transport
- How to Prepare Entries
- Photo Examples of Entries at VDS Shows
- Live Demonstration
- Photography Division
- Photo Examples of Entries at VDS Shows
- Rules and Procedures
- Questions and Discussion

HORTICULTURAL DIVISION
Lewis Bozard

SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2026
CARMEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHARLOTTE, NC

This is a one-day event
The show is non-juried, for educational purposes

8:00 Set-up Begins

8:30-11:00 Entry Preparation and Submission—Cathcart Hall

11:00-12:00 Mock Judging—Ligon Hall

12:00-5:00 Show Open to Public—Ligon Hall

5:00-5:15 Exhibitors Retrieve Entries (if desired)

5:00-6:00 Breakdown and Clean-up

Hopes for the Show

- We learn
- Public learns
- Public awareness and new members
- We all pitch in, go with the flow, enjoy the show, and have fun!

HORTICULTURAL RULES

1. Entries may be made from 8:30-11:00 a.m. Saturday. All exhibitors must be off the floor by 11:00 a.m.
2. Entry cards for exhibits will be available at the show. Only the top half of the entry card needs to be filled in.
3. All Entries must remain in place until the show closes at 5:00 pm. Entries may be picked up between 5:00-5:15.
4. All classes are open to anyone who grows daffodils except where specified otherwise.
5. Exhibitors may make up to three entries in each class, except exhibitors may make only one entry in each collection class.
6. All entries must have the variety of each bloom labelled by name or stated as "Unidentified." Inclusion of color codes (available online on DaffSeek) is strongly encouraged but not required.
7. All blooms in the Horticultural Division must have been grown in the open by the exhibitor.
8. Wedging material and containers for cut flower exhibits will be provided. Except for daffodils grown and shown in their containers, no daffodil foliage is permitted. Exhibitors may bring their own greens for wedging.
9. This is a non-juried show for the purpose of educating CDS members and the public about the basic elements of showing daffodils. Therefore, no juried awards will be presented. Judges may identify "mock" awards for educational purposes.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES FOR HORTICULTURE

SECTION A - SINGLE STEM

- Class 1 — Trumpet Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 2 — Large-Cupped Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 3 — Small-Cupped Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 4 — Double Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 5 — Triandrus Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 6 — Cyclamineus Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 7 — Jonquilla or Apodanthus Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 8 — Tazetta Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 9 — Poeticus Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 10 — Bulbocodium Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 11 — Split-Corona Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 12 — Other Daffodil Cultivars
- Class 13 — Daffodils Distinguished Solely by Botanical Name
- Class 14 — Unidentified Daffodils (exhibitor does not know the correct name)

SECTION B - THREE STEMS OF THE SAME CULTIVAR OR SPECIES

Class 15 — All entries

SECTION C - COLLECTIONS

Class 16 — CDS Founders Collection. Two to four stems of the same or different cultivars, from any cultivar(s) of this year's designated collection: 'Avalanche', 'Barrett Browning', 'Manly', 'St. Keeverne'

Class 17 — Any other collection of up to five stems.

SECTION D - CONTAINER-GROWN DAFFODILS

Blooms are to be grown in and exhibited in a container or pot. Container-grown daffodils may be grown in protected areas.

Class 18 — All entries

SECTION Y - SINGLE STEM OF A YOUTH'S DAFFODIL

Exhibitors are 18 years of age or younger. Youth exhibitors are not restricted to this section; they may elect to enter other sections for which they qualify.

Class 19 — All entries

Before the Show

- Keep garden daffodils watered for good hydration
- Anticipate which daffodils may be in bloom
- If freezing temperatures threaten, pick early and chill
- If entries bloom too early, pick and chill them

When to Harvest?

- Wait until bloom is opening or has opened for optimal color quality
- Singles: Gooseneck stage optimal if picking while still in bud - usually open within 8-24 hours

Gooseneck Stage = bending

Ideal bud harvest =
90 degree angle

Photo: Wikipedia



Selecting Entries: To Avoid

- Avoid thinning or creping petals
- Avoid faded or burned colors—pinks and oranges especially susceptible
- Avoid green on back of petals, especially doubles
- Avoid mittened and nicked petals



Selecting Entries: To Do

- Seek symmetrical form horizontally and vertically
- 1 centered upward petal at the top is ideal
- Pull/snap stem upward—don't cut (cleaner)
- Write variety name on lower stem with indelible ink

Show Prep Can Begin at Home

- Read Show Schedule to identify classes and select entries
- Clean blooms with Q-tip, cotton ball, or small brush
- Don't cut blooms or sheaths (brown tissue paper-like covering)
- Complete entry tags
 - For collections, also index card segments

Peggy Bowditch:

My method for transporting my blooms is not sophisticated. I need to do better and look forward to learning from others.

Often, I put blooms in the refrigerator. I have won blues with blooms that have been in the fridge for four weeks or more.

I clean and clock my daffodils soon after they are picked whether they are going in the fridge or straight to the show.

It is important to write the names of the daffs on their stems when you pick them. After clocking, cleaning (I use a makeup brush) and making a clean cut of the stem with a razor blade, I separate the blooms into individual bottles filled with cold fresh distilled water by class, divisions or collections. I use plastic bottles in paper crates. I carry the six packs and some larger jars in a crate that Brent and Becky use for bulbs to the show. Any large box or basket would do. I do my cards ahead of time and organize them to relate to the containers.

Transport Methods- make your own!



CLOCKING

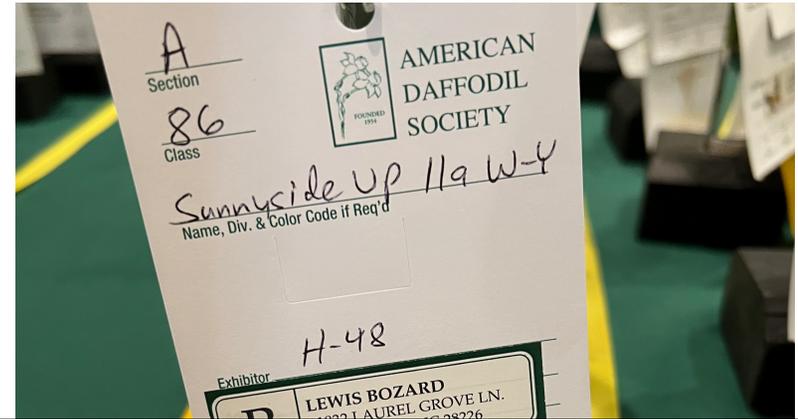
Note that the bloom is slightly askew, with a counterclockwise tilt.

Twist the bloom from behind very gently to rotate it to a balanced position. Do this at the time it is picked while supple.

WARNING: The bloom may break.



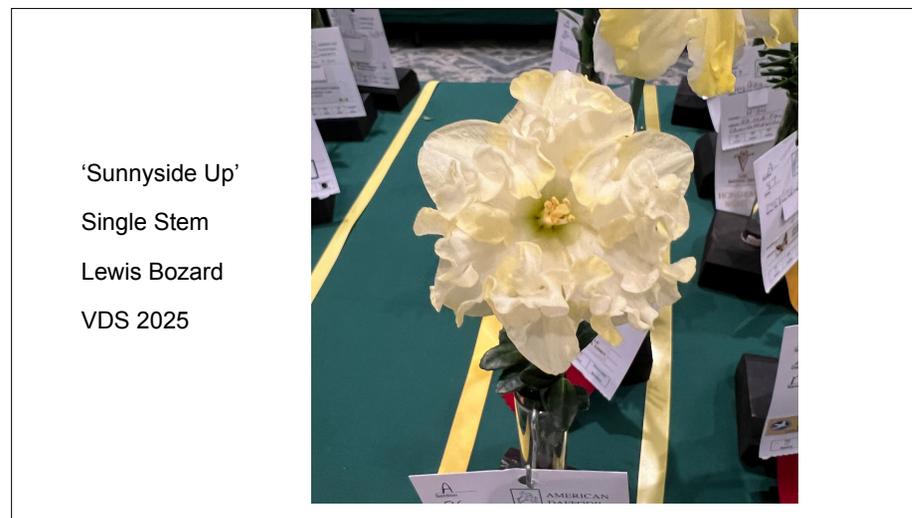
Completing Entry Cards



Examples of Entries
(Most Are Blue Ribbon)



'Virginia Sunrise'
Single Stem
Jennifer Potter
VDS 2025



'Sunnyside Up'
Single Stem
Lewis Bozard
VDS 2025



'Peeping Tom'
Three Stems
Leigh Barth
VDS 2025



Historic Collection
Ceci Brown

2025 VDS
Best in Show
'Lemon Silk'
Nancy Alexander
Fuchs



We're Not Finished Yet but... Thanks to These Contributors

- Peggy Bowditch, Founder of Gloucester Daffodil Club
- Ross Hornsby, ADS Southeast Regional Vice-President
- Dianne Spence, ADS National Show Awards Chair, ADS Judge
- Carla Stanley, 2025 Gloucester Daffodil Show Chair, ADS Judge

Helpful Resources To Consult

- Michael Kuduk's article "Getting Daffodils To Look Their Best for the Show, Part 1", December 2025 *ADS Daffodil Journal*
- Michael Kuduk's 2019 article "Getting Daffodils To Look Their Best for the Show" in DaffLibrary online
- "Show Tips for Beginners" on Washington Daffodil Society website
- Video on DaffTube online: <https://dafftube.org/exhibiting-judging/show-your-daffodils/>
- Mary Lou Gripshover's article "Getting Ready for the Daffodil Show" in DaffLibrary online

PHOTOGRAPHY DIVISION

Elaine Cobb

Bring photos of your favorite daffodils, or favorite photos including daffodils.

RULES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

- 1. All classes are open to anyone who photographs daffodils, except where specified otherwise.
- 2. Entries may be made from 8:30-11:00 a.m. Saturday.
- 3. All Entries must remain in place until the show closes at 5:00 pm. Entries may be picked up between 5:00-5:15.
- 4. CDS will not return photographs that are not picked up. Entries not picked up become the property of CDS and may be used at the discretion of CDS in future displays, websites, and publications.

- 5. All entries must be the work of the exhibitor. Any changes to the original image must be the work of the exhibitor and includes manipulation, cropping, and enhancing for color/clarity. All entries must celebrate the daffodil with images of one or more daffodils as required by the class. All classes are open to color or black and white photographs.
- 6. Photographer's name must appear on the back of the photo. Also indicate the top of the photograph on the back.
- 7. Exhibitors may enter no more than two photographs in each class, and no more than eight photographs total.
- 8. Photo size should be 4x6 inches.
- 9. Photos will be mounted on black foam board for display.
- 10. People's Choice favored entries will be determined by show spectators.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY

Class P1: Daffodils in the Landscape.

Daffodils growing outdoors in gardens, parks, roadsides, or naturalized settings.

Class P2: Daffodil Portraits.

Close-up or medium views of one bloom or multiple blooms of the same cultivar.

Class P3: Daffodils Social.

Daffodils with people, animals, insects, birds, or other beings.

Class P4: Daffodils Composed (Still Life).

Daffodils arranged with inanimate objects to tell a story.

Class P5: Daffodils Imagined (Creative/Abstract).

Unusual perspectives, reflections, shadows, intentional blur, or abstract interpretations.

Class P6: Youth Photography.

Any daffodil subject; exhibitor must be 18 or younger.