



Narcissus Notes

Gloucester Daffodil Club Newsletter Vol. 7, No. 2—May 2025

Next Meeting

The GDC will meet Thursday, May 8th, 4 p.m. at the Chesapeake Lounge at Brent & Becky's Bulbs.

Message from Mary Helen—

Good afternoon, Gloucester Daffodil Club members,

This spring has been a particularly beautiful one with flowers of all colors and types, trees in bloom with wonderful fragrances, and just the right amount of rain to make it all lovely. I hope that you, too, have enjoyed the season and not been affected by the significant amount of yellow pollen!

In this newsletter, you will see accounts of all the activities that members of the club have been doing. What was first? Our cookbook was published and received. "Daffodils and Delicacies," a beautiful book with delicious recipes and beautiful artwork; next, Katherine Mazzocco organized this year's Daffodil ID workshop to help those entering at the Daffodil show. Genie Applegate, Julie Stone, Debbie Rollins, Ceci Brown, and others provided help at tables for attendees. Brent Heath gave his time and talents to each one to help identify all daffodils. We are fortunate to have him.

Spring events included the Gloucester Daffodil Show, chaired by our own Carla Stanley and supported by many club members serving as clerks, hostesses, and tabulators; in addition, Susan Camp coordinated the Club-sponsored tent at the Daffodil Festival to recruit new members and sell our cookbooks. Finally, Penney Carucci organized a spirited group of club members to blitz local businesses to sell our cookbooks during and after the festival. Is there more, you ask? You bet! We now have a membership brochure that can be used to recruit new members. This will be available at our next meeting on May 8. Also available will be the cookbooks with bookmarks. Furthermore, we will be announcing the 2025 Gloucester Daffodil Collection. This is the third in the annual collection series. These bulbs are selected as ones good for competition individually and as a collection entry. Oh, and one last thing for the spring meeting, we will have an excellent speaker, Mr. Rollin Woolley. Information on this is later in this issue.

Welcome New GDC Members!

Jessica Horine Brenda Stokes
Catherine Long

May Guest Speaker –Rollin Wooley

For our May 8th meeting, we venture into another area, that of daffodil horticulture, or landscaping for effective display. Our guest speaker is Mr. Rollin Woolley, retired horticulturist and landscape supervisor for Colonial Williamsburg. He has been a Master Gardner instructor and was a Williamsburg Garden Symposium speaker for many years. He is a former Extension Agent with VA Tech and my friend from many years ago. Rollin has exceptional experience both in public and private horticulture. He will address “Daffodils in the Landscape - making an impact.” This will continue our efforts to broaden the knowledge and skills of our members in the love and growing of daffodils. Please plan to attend and gather your questions for this gracious and talented expert.

Spring 2025 Activity Reports

From Peggy: Cookbook Report

Our club’s cookbook “Daffodils and Delicacies” arrived on March 19th. Several members of GDC get mail orders out within two days. Distribution of ordered books began on March 27th.

The invoice for the books delivered to Gloucester is \$9,108.84. One half or \$4,554.43 was due by the 18th of April. We paid this amount immediately. The balance of \$4,554.42 is due on May 18, 2025. Our total receipts from sales of the book total are expected to be more than the balance due. Treasurer Linda Lemasters will have that report for us at our meeting next week. The cookbook sales team met this week to develop a comprehensive marketing plan. Our sales have benefitted from the activity

of some amazing members who are calling on vendors to sell our books. We are offering a 20% (\$5) to vendors who agree to buy a minimum of 5 books. Others are taking our books on consignment. They sell the books for us and turn over the sales money to their GDC contact person. I will ask members to contact at least one potential vendor to offer our cookbook to their clients. We will continue to acknowledge businesses that help us with this project. We are anxious to have our members offer suggestions for selling our very attractive cookbook.

We include a bookmark that makes reordering easy in every book. This is producing repeat sales. The American Daffodil Society ran our ad in the March JOURNAL for free in support of what they consider an excellent project. We sold books at the national ADS convention in Reno and at the Tuscarora Show in Chambersburg, PA. We will be selling at the Ware Church Farmers’ Market on May 10th. We need the help of every member to finish strong. Have you bought your Mother’s Day gift?

From Katherine: April 3rd Daffodil ID and Daffodil Show

Preparation Workshop

Our third annual show preparation workshop was held before the Gloucester Daffodil Show with great success, thanks, to great publicity efforts from Anne Earman and the expertise of GDC members who provided their assistance. The workshop is an opportunity for participants to get one-on-one help with entering a daffodil show. This year, in partnership with a videographer hired for the county, we

created a basic daffodil video covering the 13 divisions, color coding, Daffseek, and other important points. Genie Applegate was the speaker in the film and spoke from the heart! Brent Heath helped with daffodil identification, referring to over 30 years of Brent and Becky catalogs as reference material. Brent is always fully booked for his advice. The best outcome was that many of the workshop participants entered their daffodils in the Gloucester show. Brent helped some of our youth exhibitors and was happy to see their enthusiasm. Youth participation has increased substantially at the Gloucester Daffodil Show, and it is a goal of GDC to foster the interest of young people. Please consider offering your expert knowledge and skill next year-- it's very rewarding!



Linda Lemasters, Julie Stone, and Della Garrett at the Prep Workshop

From Susan: Daffodil Festival April 5-6



Our first venture as participants in the Gloucester Daffodil Festival was a great success, despite the pollen and intermittent wind that threatened to blow everyone away. In our bright yellow tent, courtesy of the Gloucester Extension Master Gardeners,

with our brand-new, bright yellow banner, we stood out among the throng of festival tents and festival visitors. It didn't hurt that we were located right next to the doughnut ladies and their sweet-smelling goodies! As people sampled their wares or waited for their orders, many turned in our direction to find out what we had to offer.

We sold cookbooks, but we also sold visitors our mission to plant daffodils all over the county. I was thrilled to hear so many people remark that they have noticed the increased numbers of daffodils blooming in Gloucester each spring over the last several years.

The drawing for the \$50 gift certificate from Brent and Becky's Bulbs (thank you, Denise Hutchens) was very popular, with 193 entries! The happy winner was Jeannie Miller of Gloucester, who served as physical therapist with Gloucester County Public Schools for many years.

Our star salespersons were **Penney Carucci** and **Sven vanBaars** on Saturday and **Arlene Tucker** and **Julie Stone** on Sunday. I would love to see them all work a shift together. Imagine what they could accomplish!

Many other GDC members worked shifts at the festival and deserve a round of applause for their volunteer spirit, so in addition to our super sellers noted above, **Judy Doyel**, **Nancy Dwoyer**, **Dottie Harris**, **Kristi Buckman**, **Linda Lemasters**, **Alison Johnston**, **Bill Thomas**, **Cheryl Wingfield**, **Kathy Andersen**, **Marilyn Hackett**, **Mary Helen Morgan**, **Peggy Bowditch**, and **Nickie Champion**, please take a bow! Our Friday evening set-up team included **Bill Andersen**, **Chris Conley**, **Varetta**

Hamlin, and Jim Camp, who lifted and toted books and supplies all weekend. The Sunday evening clean-up team included **Jim Camp, Bill Thomas, and Bill Andersen and his granddaughters.**

A special thank-you goes to **Tricia Spivey** with her lovely handmade, sweet-smelling products, and her friend, **Michelle Rash**, who brightened our weekend and helped us with the intricacies of QR codes and even talked up our cookbook to potential customers when we were pretty much worn out!

Our Treasurer, **Linda Lemasters** spent many hours setting up the payment systems and attempting to teach us how to use them. If we were slow learners, it wasn't her fault!

Thanks, **Bill Thomas and Dave van Blaricom**, for offering us a clean bathroom and overnight book storage, plus food and drink after a long day.

With the proceeds from the cookbook sales, we can purchase even more bulbs to plant in the fall. Jim and I are already scouting out new places to plant, and we will need your help for that, too.

Julie, Susan, Mary Helen, Arlene, Michelle, and Tricia having too much fun!



From Anne and Carla: Virginia Daffodil Show March 22-23

Gloucester Daffodil Club members attended the Virginia Daffodil Society Show held at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond over the weekend of March 22 & 23, 2025. Even though daffodils started blooming a little later this year, there was a great turnout which included 1347 Stems with 746 Entries and 59 Exhibitors in the Horticulture division and 96 Photos and 22 Photographers in the Photography division. The Gloucester Daffodil Club received many awards including the following ADS Awards:

Nancy Fuchs:

ADS Gold - Best in Show
ADS White - Best Standard 3-Stem
ADS Best Historic 3-Stem

Carla Stanley:

ADS Purple - Best Standard Collection of Five
Mary Lou Gripshover - Best Division Collection of Five

Ceci Brown:

ADS Best Collection of Five Stems Classic
ADS Best Collection of Five Stems Historic
ADS Best Classic

Susan Auman:

ADS Silver – Most Blue Ribbons in Horticulture (tie)
ADS Red-White-Blue

Anne Earman:

ADS Silver – Most Blue Ribbons in Horticulture (tie)
ADS Best Intermediate 3-Stem



VDS:

Carla
with
ADS
Purple

**From Carla: Gloucester Daffodil Show
April 5-6 “It’s All Sunshine and Daffodils”**

The Gloucester Daffodil Show, held on April 5th and 6th during the Daffodil Festival at Newington Baptist Church, was a resounding success. Sponsored by Gloucester Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, the show attracted an impressive 101 exhibitors who submitted 1,429 entries featuring 2,775 stunning stems. Youth entries were 100+.

This year's show was notable for being the largest in the country, and possibly the world, with a remarkable display of daffodils. In addition to the flower exhibits, 164 photographs were entered by 37 talented photographers. There were also 24 artistic arrangements with club member **William Stanley winning Best Novice and Best in Show. A special arrangement in memory of beloved club member Amelita Thomas was submitted by Deborah Brooks. With this arrangement, Deborah won the award in Amelita’s honor, a beautiful set**

of 3 daffodils set in metal by our local Village Blacksmith.

The Gloucester Daffodil Club members were well-represented, with many members winning ribbons for their amazing blooms. **A standout achievement was Peggy Bowditch's American Daffodil Society Gold (Best Bloom) win with her exquisite cultivar, "Flightpath," a Division 6 daffodil with yellow petals and a white trumpet. Peggy's winning continued with another award of the ADS White Ribbon (Best Vase of 3 blooms) with “Flight Path” again. Other club members, including Dianne Spence, who won the ADS Miniature White Ribbon, Anne Earman the ADS Silver Ribbon (Most Blue Ribbons-34), Eugenie Applegate the Gloucester Resident with the most Blues (18) and Tal Ambrose winning the GDC Award.**

I could go on and on. Winners will be featured on the Gloucester Daffodil Show website, go there to see more.

The show's success was made possible by the tireless efforts of many volunteers who worked behind the scenes to make it a memorable event. If you're interested in lending a hand for next year's show, you can reach out to Carla Stanley, the show chair. The Gloucester Daffodil Club always welcomes new volunteers and members. The Gloucester Daffodil Show is a cherished tradition that celebrates the beauty and love of daffodils. Mark your calendars for next year's event, March 28th & 29th, 2026 and get ready to be dazzled by the vibrant colors and stunning displays of our favorite flowers.



Peggy's
ADS White
Ribbon for
Best Vase of
Three
Blooms

Deborah Brooks created this special arrangement in honor of Amelita Thomas.



From Anne: ADS Show and Award April 9-14:

Members of the Gloucester Daffodil Club attended the American Daffodil Society National Convention at the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino in Reno, Nevada on April 9-13. Daffodil growers, showers and enthusiasts from around the world attended and speakers included daffodil experts from the USA and England. Garden tours included Owls Roost, an American Daffodil Society Display Garden, which is the home

of Convention Chair, Susan Duncan and the Reno Botanical Garden. There was also a day trip to Lake Tahoe with a stop at the Donner Pass Museum and dinner at the world-famous Louis' Basque Corner Restaurant.

The National Daffodil Show was held during the Convention, which included Horticulture and Photography divisions. **The Gloucester Daffodil Club brought home many ribbons and special awards were received by Peggy Bowditch (ADS Best Classic 3-Stem Award) and Anne Earman (ADS Northern Ireland Trophy for the best collection of 5 standard daffodils bred in Northern Ireland).**

In attendance from GDC were:

Carla Stanley
Tammie Spivey
Debbie Rollins
Anne Earman
Deborah Brooks
Jay Hutchens
Peggy Bowditch
Nancy Fuchs



Tuscarora attendees from GDC:

Members Nancy Fuchs, Della Garrett, Carla Stanley, Tammie Spivey, Marty Ross, and Peggy Bowditch attended the Tuscarora Show in Chambersburg, PA.



Nancy
in PA

opportunity to assist with the planting this past year or years, I hope you will sign up this year to help. There is a great deal of satisfaction in the actual planting and even more when you see the blooms in early spring. You don't have to work yourself to death; if fact, you don't have to do much at all except to come out and enjoy a cold, crisp day in the late fall amongst your fellow members. There is always something you can do that doesn't necessarily require bending and stooping.



Woodville
School
historic
sign

Upcoming Events!

New slate of officers in September!

From Susan: Search for a new “Narcissus Notes” editor

While I have enjoyed my tenure as editor of our newsletter, I find that it is time to cut back on my activities and let something go. Please contact me at srcnetherwode@gmail.com if you are interested in this position.

From Jim: Gloucester Daffodil Club Planting Notes for Fall 2025

It is Springtime in Gloucester, and the daffodils are just about completely finished. For those of you who didn't have the

I hope you had the opportunity to see the fruits of our labors last year. It was really magnificent this spring. Woodville turned out to be spectacular. We had 13 people out planting that day. The other locations really were special as well, and included Goodman's at the Point, Upsy-Daisy, the second section at Fiddler's Crossing, Gloucester Pediatrics, Crabs Express, Peasley Middle School, Providence Baptist Church cemetery wall addition, Gloucester Mathews Humane Society, and Bread for

Life. I must say every single site turned out just wonderful.

We need planting site recommendations for this coming year: Thus far we only have three firm locations: Page Middle School redo, Fiddler's Crossing the first section by the road, and Rappahannock Community College. Please send me your recommendations for planting locations, and when you do, send me the name of a person to contact and a phone number or email address.

Thanks, and remember, planting daffodils in Gloucester is our mission!

jcliftoncamp@gmail.com

Jim at Woodville



More pics just for fun!

Peggy's Gold!



