

Cultivators & Master Gardeners

2019-2020 Club Officers:

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RESEARCH & EXTENSION

University of Arkansas System



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Daffodils or is it jonquils?

The beauty of daffodils in the spring is an unmistakable occurrence in the south that we look forward to each year. But occasionally that bright spring flower spurs debate among friends who may have differing opinions on whether the spring show is brought to us by Narcissus, daffodils, or jonquils. So here is the skinny. Narcissus and daffodils are two different names for exactly the same bulb. Narcissus is the Latin name for daffodils while daffodil is the common name for all members of the genus Narcissus. According to the “American Daffodil Society”, daffodil is the term to be used, except in scientific writing.

As with many things, what something is often called is dependent on the region in which you live. In the south, yellow daffodils are often called jonquils, however incorrect that may be. Again, according to the American Daffodil Society, “as a rule, but not always, jonquil species and hybrids are characterized by clusters of yellow flowers versus a singular flower of other daffodils, a strong scent, and rounded or tube shaped leaves.

The hybrids are confined to Division 7 and the term “jonquil” should be applied only to daffodils in Division 7 or species in Division 13 known to belong to the jonquil group. Now I’m confused! Apparently, the Narcissus family is divided into 13 divisions of between 40 and 200 species (species number depends on which botanist that you speak with) which is based on size, shape, and growing height with over 25,000 registered cultivars. Yep, confused. I think I will keep things simple and just refer to them “all” as daffodils. Now that we are all straight on that, here are a couple of things about daffodils to keep in mind: One common mistake that many daffodil growers make is to cut back the foliage of daffodils once blooming is complete. In order to insure blooming for next year, fertilize after blooming and allow the plant to maintain its foliage until it turns yellow and dies back. This period of time is usually 4-6 weeks following bloom.

March-April

Calendar:

- March 8th daylight savings begins.
- March 23rd-24th Spring Break
- April 3rd-4th Jefferson Co. Lawn and Garden Show.
- April 6th MG meeting.
- April 12th Easter.
- April 18th Arkansas Homestead Conference, Rison.

March-April to do list:

1. March, start planting cool season veggies and corn.
2. Divide summer and fall blooming perennials.
3. Service lawn mower.
4. Manage Strawberries.
5. Keep mulch on hand for a possible late frost.
6. Prune and fertilize spring blooming trees and shrubs after bloom.

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Minutes from March:

"Honest people don't hide their deeds." Emily Bronte

Meeting called to order by President Marty Bowlin on March 2, 2020 at 6PM. 16 Members present with 1 visitor. Marty welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that everyone remember to sign in and report volunteer hours. February minutes read and approved. She asked if we got the yard of the month info in to the paper and if we have Facebook voting? Malinda says article will be in Herald this week. Malinda will also check on getting sign back from Christmas winner.

Update on plant sale progress: Deborah mentioned that she, Carolyn, Donna, Malinda, Suzanne & Harvey planted strawberry plants to sell and Carolyn is donating 20 aprons. Cleveland County Springfest will be on courthouse lawn per Roy. Roy is checking to see if we could reserve fairgrounds stage area to store plants before plant sale.

Marty read thank you note from New Edinburg for bulbs we sent and reminded about county clean up on Saturday, March 7. Information was listed in the Herald. Malinda gave report to the group on that. She also brought a thank you letter to county judge thanking him for the monies the county is giving us, and asked everyone to sign so we can give to the judge at quorum court meeting.

Need to set a date to trim rose bushes at fairgrounds.

Treasurer's report for Cultivators. Beginning balance, \$494.61, minus a \$20 check that went thru that had been written in August, leaving a balance of \$474.61.

March Birthdays are Orpha Howard, Suzanne Clark and visitor Jo Keegan

Marty brought up Arkansas Flower & Garden show, she & Mrs Frances & Malinda all attended & said it was good. P Allen Smith was guest speaker. Reminder of PB Flower show, April 3&4. Daffodil festival in Camden March 13-14. State MG conference May 14-16. Decision made to go to Garvan Gardens on March 17. Bethel #1 church says we can use their van. Meet at church leaving 10a.

Donna mentioned working on beds at Woodlawn school. Les said seed & potatoes are there.

Marty requested to remove Beverly Harlow from the checking account and replace with a good standing member. Harvey Padgett volunteered with no opposition.

Les wanted to thank those who worked at community garden beds at Pioneer Village. Also, Les said he has a bag of seeds at his office we can take home with us, and he also wants to build pollinator beds to be added at the Pioneer Village and possibly a beetle bed of native grasses so that beetles can overwinter. Would like to start working on that in April.

Malinda mention fairboard awards banquet Thursday night. Hayden Nix is speaker.

Ryan Sinclair mentioned he will be doing the yard work for courthouse this summer. And he has a trailer that can be used to haul super soil.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 so that we could attend the quorum court meeting could go.