

# 2018 National Convention and Show of the American Daffodil Society



We are pleased to invite you to visit the Greater Nashville TN area to attend the National Convention and Show of the American Daffodil Society from April 5 – 8, 2018. The Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society will celebrate their 60th anniversary by hosting this event. View a beautiful daffodil show including horticultural exhibits, photography and floral designs. Participate in educational sessions and enjoy spectacular outings to local attractions, historic houses and gardens. Visit a Presidential home and its historic gardens, Cheekwood Estate and Gardens, and Carnton Plantation and gardens. All these are a part of the convention activities and we do encourage each of you to attend the entire convention to see what fun a national daffodil convention can be. It will likely be some time before there is another one so close. Every national daffodil convention is a special opportunity to see world-class flowers, to get to know gardening enthusiasts from all over the US and even the world, and to learn more than you ever imagined about daffodils!

The Convention and Show will be located at the newly renovated Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, 700 Cool Springs Blvd., Franklin TN 37067 just 20 minutes south of Nashville. More information and registration will be available on the ADS website at [www.daffodilusa.org](http://www.daffodilusa.org).

The special hotel room rate of \$129 is available until Sunday, March 5, 2018 or until the group block is sold-out, whichever comes first. For reservations call 1-615-261-6100 and mention the group code DAFDAFA or to make reservations online:

1. Visit the website at [marriott.com/BNACS](http://marriott.com/BNACS).
2. Enter your requested arrival and departure dates.
3. Under special rates enter the following group code: DAFDAFA.

## HERE IS WHAT'S FREE TO THE PUBLIC

Even if you don't choose to register for the convention, there is a lot you can participate in. On Thursday afternoon show staging begins for the daffodil horticulture exhibits. Anyone can enter daffodils in the show with no prior notice. Daffodil staging begins at 3:00 on Thursday afternoon and, believe it or not, doesn't end until 9:00 am Friday morning! Yes, some daffodil enthusiasts will be staging all night long and, even if you're not bringing flowers to enter, dropping in to see the flowers being staged is part of the fun. Just don't interrupt someone who is staging a large collection unless they seem extra friendly and willing for a distraction. Photography and floral design entries will also be accepted on Thursday afternoon beginning at 3:00. Floral designs require pre-registration, photography does not, but check in before the date to be sure you are meeting the requirements for how to enter your photographs. To sign up for floral designs contact Bonnie Campbell at [shade007@bellsouth.net](mailto:shade007@bellsouth.net) or Pam Braun at [braun3@earthlink.net](mailto:braun3@earthlink.net). For information on photography entries contact Anne Owen at [annio1203@comcast.net](mailto:annio1203@comcast.net). A daffodil boutique will also be open to the public during the Convention.

Two informative sessions on Thursday afternoon are free to the public, recommended for garden club members, newbies, the public, and anyone who wants to learn some basics about daffodils. Brent Heath of Brent & Becky's Bulbs, Gloucester, VA, will present Daffodils for Beginners, Part 1, "Undaunted Daffodils" which will include an introduction to daffodil color codes and the 13 divisions of daffodils. Next Michael Berrigan from Oakdale, MN, President of the American Daffodil Society, will present Daffodils for Beginners, Part 2, on choosing and preparing daffodils to enter in a show. Bring daffodils you wish to enter in the show, even unidentified ones, because these two daffodil experts might know the names of your flowers. After the seminars, volunteers will be available to give you a tour of the show staging room and to assist you in entering your first national daffodil show.

After judging, the show will be open to the public from 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm on Friday and from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm on Saturday.



A view of part of the 2017 ADS Show in Sacramento, CA

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

There are volunteer opportunities before and during the convention: assisting with registration, the daffodil boutique, show set-up, bus captains, staffing the show. Contact Suzanne Shambaugh at [noogats@comcast.net](mailto:noogats@comcast.net) if you are interested in volunteering.

## **FOR CONVENTION ATTENDEES**

If you do register for the convention, there is a "Meet and Greet" Reception for new convention attendees scheduled at 6:00 pm on Thursday.

On Friday during show judging, those attending the convention and not involved in judging may sign up for an optional bus tour to The Parthenon and The Hermitage. The Parthenon is located in Centennial Park, Nashville's premier urban park. The re-creation of the 42-foot Athena statue by Alan LeQuire inside the Parthenon is the focus of the Parthenon just as it was in ancient Greece and is a sight to see! The building and the Athena statue are both full-scale replicas of the Athenian originals.

The Hermitage is the presidential mansion of Andrew Jackson, the seventh President of the United States from 1829 to 1837. Lunch will be provided in the Cabin by the Spring which overlooks a wooded glen with the Jackson family's original stone Spring House.

The Outgoing Board meeting will be held followed by a social hour with cash bar, the Awards Dinner and the Annual Meeting.

The Daffodil Show will again be open to the public on Saturday. For convention attendees, there is an optional breakfast meeting (topic TBD). After it, convention attendees may choose to attend several educational seminars before lunch. Ted Snazelle from Clinton, MS will share his expertise in "Hybridizing Jonquils and Tazettas in Mississippi." Julie Hardy with Esker Farm Daffodils, N. Ireland, will present "Irish Hybridizers and their Daffodils." Frans Veul from the Netherlands will present "Growing and Breeding Daffodils in Holland."

Saturday after lunch is a tour of Carnton, a historic plantation house built in Franklin TN by Randal McGavock in 1826. In 1864 Carnton was the site of one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War, The Battle of Franklin. The house was used as a field hospital for tending the wounded and dying after the Battle of Franklin. Using archeological research, photographs and letters that indicated its extent and layout, the garden was recreated in 1996-97 to how it looked in 1869. The daffodil, hosta, and peony collections are composed entirely of varieties available in Middle Tennessee prior to 1869.

Convention afternoon and evening events on Saturday include the exciting bulb auction and a social hour. Dinner will feature Keynote Speaker Frans Veul, a bulb breeder and grower from Anna Paulowna in the Netherlands. Frans started his first bulb company when he was 18 years old. Ten years ago when his son entered the company, Frans started breeding daffodils. His family company, Veul Bulbs, practices the socially responsible and sustainable cultivation of bulbs and specializes in exceptional and new varieties. He will address "New Varieties from Holland Breeders and Growers."

On Sunday morning Keith Kridler (TX) will teach a Judges Refresher on Historic daffodils. Keith is a great instructor and a Historic daffodil enthusiast. Following the judges refresher we'll hop on a bus to Cheekwood Estate and Gardens. Cheekwood, the 55-acre estate built by the Maxwell House Coffee fortune in Nashville, is one of the finest examples of an American Country Place Era estate in the United States.

Cheekwood is a designated Display Garden of the American Daffodil Society featuring the Hardison Daffodil Collection and numerous large plantings of daffodils throughout the property. Due to the generosity of Middle Tennessee Daffodil Society member and 2018 ADS Convention Co-Chair Susan Basham, Cheekwood's daffodil installations plan to reach a spectacular 50,000 blooms for the 2018 ADS Convention in Nashville, representing the largest public display of daffodils in the state of Tennessee.

Another of Cheekwood's collections that should be blooming for the 2018 convention is their treasured dogwood collection, which has been granted membership in the North American Plant Collection Consortium (NAPCC), making it the first NAPCC Collection in Tennessee.

After lunch, visitors may choose to tour the gardens, the mansion or the outdoor Sculpture Trail. Before we return to the hotel, we will visit a private garden, but this stop is still in the works. We'll share more details when we have them.

We will return to the hotel for the incoming Board Meeting, the social hour, and dinner with speaker Brent Heath with "Daffodils in American Gardens." Brent and his wife Becky (of Brent and Becky's Bulbs) have a twenty-eight acre farm in Gloucester, VA. Eight acres are dedicated to gardens used to educate visitors on how to utilize flower bulbs with annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs while growing organically.

If you would like to become a 2018 ADS National Convention and Show Sponsor, visit <http://stores.daffodilusastore.org/sponsorship>. Click on the level of Sponsorship that interests you to view its associated benefits. A special thank you to our **Gold** level sponsor: Flower magazine; **Silver** level sponsors: Trey Smith, the RAD Trust, Anonymous and Jive!; **Friends** sponsors Cheekwood Estate and Gardens, Plant Health Services, FTB Advisors, the Mid-South Daffodil Society, the Georgia Daffodil Society and Creekside Garden Center.

To keep updated on information about the 2018 Convention, visit the ADS website at [www.daffodilusa.org](http://www.daffodilusa.org).