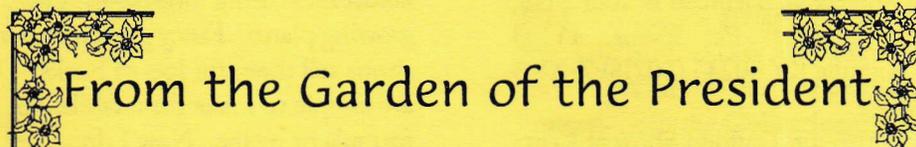


The Indiana Ledger

A Triannual Publication of the Indiana Daffodil Society

Joe Hamm, President

Suzy Wert, Editor



From the Garden of the President

Greetings "Daffodillians",

It is on a sad note that I start this letter. On January 4th Phyllis Vonnegut was taken from us in death. Our condolences to Walter who had celebrated with Phyllis, their 50 Wedding Anniversary in 1998 and to Phyllis's three daughters. IDS will be making a memorial contribution to ADS and books to the Library in her name. Thank you Phyllis (and Walter) for all the time and effort you have given on behalf of IDS and ADS!

This fall and winter have proved to be quite a test for this daffodil season. I had *Romanus* in bloom December 15th thru about the 21st (it was frozen after that time). My photographs did not develop, so except for the few who saw them in the flesh, I have no proof. Most of the foliage that is up at this writing, is Division 7, a few Division 8 and *Early Sensation* which is a 1 Y-Y. The flower buds seem to have enough common sense at this time to stay put.

We will be having a good showing at the National Convention in Pittsburgh April 22-24. I believe the count at this time is about 11 Indiana members. This should be fun for all attending. Be sure to read the article on page 8.

The March meeting will consist of fresh daffodils from the Havens in Oregon, a review of getting ready for the 1999 April 15th IDS show, and a short business meeting with some suggested optional activity programs. A review of preparing flowers will be helpful to those who might want to attend the Louisville, the Leota Barn, and the Pittsburgh shows! See accompanying article on page 6.

April always brings renewed energy! The previous season's work proofs the bulbs we have planted. It is the time we plan not only for shows but for changes in location of those special daffodils. We have the chance to evaluate those we will dig for sharing and/or the Club sales. Most of all and foremost is the enjoyment of all the effort we expended on planting those dry, brown, round things called bulbs! See article on page 8 to determine if your bulbs need to be dug.

We do not have formal meeting programs for the August and October meetings. Please contact Joe Hamm or one of the other Officers with any suggestions as to the type of meeting you would enjoy. You may know of a speaker, or of a special project that would be an interesting meeting subject, or may be you want to make a presentation on your special talent!

See you at the March 23rd. Meeting.....bring you best thoughts!

1999 Daffodil Calendar

March 23, Tuesday 1:00 P.M. Nora Library
Spring Preview with Blooms from Oregon;
Preparing for Daffodil Show (related article page 6)

April 3-4, 1999 Kentucky Daffodil Show, Louisville.
Kentucky Daffodil Society at Bashford Manor Mall,
Bardstown Road. Contact: Pat Evans, 11103
Rothburg Court, Louisville KY 40243 (502)897-2209

April 10-12, 1999 Scottsburg, Daffodil Show at Leota
Barn. (See article page 3) Contact: Helen Trueblood,
3035 Bloomington Trail Rd., Scottsburg, IN 47170,
(812)752-2998

April 14, Wednesday - Set-up Indianapolis Show 1:00
p.m. at Meridian Street United Methodist Church

April 15 and 16, Thursday and Friday
IDS 42nd Annual Show
Meridian St. United Methodist Church
5500 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis

April 22-24 ADS NATIONAL SHOW (Pittsburgh)
In reality the dates are the 20-25th if you take
advantage of the full convention. It is a leisurely 7
hour drive.

April 30, May 1 and May 2 Friday, Saturday and
Sunday *Orchard in Bloom* Holliday Park

June 27, Sunday 12:00 Noon
Pitch-in-Picnic--Details to be announced

July 25 (Sunday) IDS DAFFODIL BULB SALE
Glendale Shopping Mall-62nd and Keystone Ave.

August 7, Saturday, 1:00 P.M. Nora Library
Program: Daffodils of the UK by Tom Stettner.
Bulb and Plant Exchange

August 22 (Sunday) IDS DAFFODIL BULB SALE
Glendale Shopping Mall-62nd and Keystone Ave.

October 1, Friday 1:00 P.M. Nora Library
Club Bulb Distribution and Bulb / Plant Exchange

Make a Trough this Spring

~Chriss Rainey, Reston, VA

A trough is an open container of wood or stone which typically may contain food or water for animals, but yuppies put plants in them creating miniature landscapes using bonsai or dwarf species of slow growing plants. Fancy garden centers and upscale gift shops sell them for lots of bucks. I have known they are simple to make for a while, but I never knew the formula or recipe. Now I do.

Any amount can be made as long as the proportions are the same. The other day we used the following:

1 gallon sifted peat moss
1 gallon Portland cement (not sacrete)
1 gallon perlite
2 cups oyster shell ground fine

Mix all these dry ingredients well.

Add "about" 1 3/4 gallons of water. Stir until about the consistency of oatmeal cookie dough, adding water as necessary to make it spreadable.

Line the container you are using as a form with a drycleaner plastic bag and plop in the cement mixture. Form the trough to the shape of the container making sure it is about 1" thick all around. Use a stick or dowel and make one or more drain holes in the bottom. Press the edges firmly to insure they are not full of air pockets. When finished forming the cement, completely fill the container with play sand and allow to dry for a couple of days until set. Dump out sand. Peel off plastic, and sand outside with a wire brush to smooth. Wait for a couple of weeks before planting.

I used a very large plastic bowl the other day, but what I really want to do is a rectangle in a large plastic storage bin. These things also look wonderful with dark round stones in the bottom and filled with water for an oriental effect. Or with little hostas, ferns and moss or other little alpines for a cottage effect.





An invitation The Queen of Leota

The Queen of Leota has a silver crown and lives in a yellow castle high in the air above the site of the Leota Daffodil Show. Barely an hour and a half drive away, Queen Helen Trueblood reigns supreme over the Leota Daffodil Show in a *barn* of all places!

You'll meet beginning enthusiasts there as well as a galaxy of American Daffodil Society stars vying for both set-up space and ribbons. For the best seats in the house, or most space at the tables as it were, you can arrive as early as 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 10.

Everybody is in a good mood at the Leota Show — it's almost more of a party than a Daffodil Show. It's also the only show I've ever been to where the public is knocking at the door to come in before the judging is finished -- and Helen puts up the entire thing by herself! Feel free to bring a pitch-in dish along with your flowers and have lunch with Royalty. ~Suzy Wert



Collections VS Single Stem Entries

~Suzy Wert

While it's true that a single flower can ruin your chances for a collection ribbon, collections are easy to enter and very exciting to win!

Pink coronas are always the first flowers to sell out at the sale and always the first to be picked at the exchanges tables, but I've noticed there are very few collections in the Collection of 5 Pinks at our show.

To be eligible, flowers have to have some pink in the corona — that's the only qualification. *Some pink.* This means a 2W-WWP (rimmed pink) is eligible, so is a jonquil, 7W-WWP. Any pink in the color code (and on the flower) is eligible. You could use WWP, GWP, GPP, YYP, WPW, or just plain P (Pink) the cup. You can also include flowers from any division, not just long cups in Division 2.

The wording for the Indiana Daffodil Show was changed to make it more clear for the exhibitor, but I thought I'd make a point of drawing members' attention to it in the newsletter.

For a Collection of 5 Pinks, *any* pink in the cup is acceptable, so go for it!

Plant in Punnets

~ By Tony James and Ian Tyler, England

Americans have planted small bulbs and seeds soil in berry baskets and then in the ground. My translation of *berry basket* (American) is *punnet* (English) ~Tony

The word Punnet is described in The Oxford English Reference Dictionary as:-

PUNNET n. British. (*pùn - nit*) a small light basket or container for fruit or vegetables. [19th cent; perhaps diminutive of dialect pun which meant pound]

Just one more thing we Brits gave the world!! ~ Ian

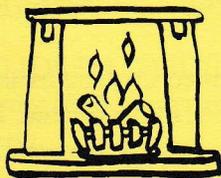
Bringing out the Bright Colors

~John Hunter, Nelson, NZ

I can remember some years ago the late Jim O'More visiting my daffodil garden and commenting on the rich colour of my stock of *Matador* compared to what he was growing. On sending some of my *Matador* bulbs to him, after two years of flowering, he told me they had reverted in colour exactly the same as his existing stock, which had both a paler perianth and crown.

The bright colour of my own stock, I am now sure, was due to quite a heavy top dressing of Sulphate of Potash. If your yellow perianth flowers have been pale in colour in past years, my advice would be, next season when they start to appear through the ground, give them a good dressing of Sulphate of Potash. This should work the oracle! If it does not, beware, your stock may have virus. If so, dig, burn and replace them.

Potash is one of the minerals that is essential to healthy plant growth. It improves all the colours, including the pinks, and gives daffodils stamina and resistance to disease, for there is no doubt to have healthy leaf growth ensures good bulb formation, hence better quality flowers follow. It should not be forgotten that wood ash is also an important source of Potash. If obtainable hedge and shrub trimmings can also be burned and a light dressing of the ash applied to the daffodils will be very beneficial. On no account should ash from any treated timber be used.

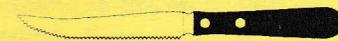


My own daffodils receive Potash from three different dressings as they have wood ash when it is available, and Sulphate of Potash applied as well as Nitrophoska Blue with trace elements. The Nitrophoska Blue is a German fertiliser which has a high Sulphate of Potash content, as well as containing Nitrogen and Phosphorus. This is a well balanced fertiliser and should be available in the States.

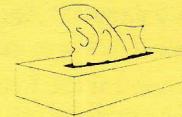
Human Aphids?

~Philip McAllister, Kearneysville, WV

An effective and economical chemical for inactivating viruses and preventing their transmission on cutting tools is a chlorine solution made with bleach. The following formulation is appropriate: add 1 teaspoon of full-strength household bleach to 1 pint of water (check to ensure that the stock bleach has 5.25% sodium hypochlorite, generic bleach often has a lower percentage of sodium hypochlorite). Sterilize the cutting instruments by immersing them in the dilute bleach solution for several minutes. The instruments can be rinsed in water if desired



The major problem with chlorine, iodine, etc., is the detrimental effects of organic load. Wipe cutting tools before soaking because organic material affects chlorine...binds it and compromises its effectiveness.



I would opt for having a tissue to wipe residual organic matter from my cutting instruments, then placing them in the 1 tsp.: 1 pint water solution (500+ ppm sodium hypochlorite) to soak while I chopped away with another set of instruments.



Having something as simple as 3-4 sets of single edged razor blades to alternate in sequence should do the trick.

Remember bleach solution does not destroy virus within the tissues of the bulb it's for cutting tools only. This solution will inactivate more resilient viruses.

taken from Preventing Socially Transmitted Diseases, Are You A Human Aphid? Philip McAllister, The Daffodil Journal, Volume 30, Number 4, June 1994.

A Celebrity in Our Midst!

What a nice surprise to open the 1999 Brian Duncan Daffodils catalog and see a brand new 3Y-R called *Trueblood!* Bring a check to the March meeting if you'd like to order this on a club order — we pay freight from Northern Ireland!

Here's what it says:

TRUEBLOOD, 3-4 (B. S. Duncan). (*Ulster Bank x Achduart*) x (*Sun Fire x Achduart*). x *Sun Fire x Achduart*. [1651]. With real 'Blue Blood' pedigree it is not surprising that this flower has intense colour in both perianth and crown. Favouring '*Burning Bush*' in style and quality this was one of the most photographed flowers during the World Tour visit and we think its consistency ensures a good future on the show bench and is **worthy of the lovely lady from Indiana to whom it is dedicated.** Small stock. \$42.50

Bulb Rot - It's in the Soil

~Dr. Ted Snazelle, Clinton, Mississippi

Basically, bulbs which rot in storage do so because they were already infected with the basal rot fungus at the time they were lifted, but were not yet symptomatic. Fungicidal dips right after digging and washing can minimize these bulb losses.

There should be plenty of air flow around lifted and dipped bulbs. My bulbs hang in mesh bags from the rafters of my garden shed here in Central Mississippi after lifting, washing and dipping in fungicide (Mertect).

In a nutshell

~Tony James, England

For those of you who are interested in such things, a recent analysis of the results from the top 5 shows in England, produces the result that for 1998 the most popular cultivar for exhibition was Mitsch's:

COOL CRYSTAL, 3W-GWW

Having the Right Stuff... Getting Quality Show Blooms

Did a bloom that you were certain was a sure winner go home without a ribbon? Certainly this has happened to every exhibitor. Typically the bloom may have lacked substance. Flowers possessing this quality have the right stuff. Lack of substance may be attributed in part to poor culture as a result of the lack of water during the spring growing season. Though a daffodil's beauty may capture your eye, in the competitive arena, not all daffodils are equal and flower selection is important. Some flowers simply have more substance than others. Here are some offerings from Mitsch Novelty Daffodils for 1999 that are not commonly seen in our area and you don't often find them on the exchange table. The modest cost associated with these varieties encourages beginners to acquire directly from the source.

<i>Dainty Miss</i> , 7W-GWW	Mid	3.00
<i>Galactic</i> (Helen Link's 2W-YYW)	Late	6.00
<i>Glissando</i> , 2Y-Y	LM	6.00
<i>Lemon Sails</i> , 2Y-Y*	LM	8.00
*cornea is actually a buff- orange-yellow		
<i>Limey Circle</i> , 3W-WWY	Mid	6.00
<i>Tripartite</i> , 11aY-Y	Late	3.00
<i>White Tie</i> , 3W-W	Late	6.00
<i>Wings of Freedom</i> , 6Y-Y	Early	4.00

And for a bit more money:

<i>Classic Delight</i> , 2YYW-GOO	LM	10.00
<i>Oxford</i> , 3W-Y	L	10.00
<i>Nonchalant</i> (Jackson's) 3Y-GYY	LM	10.00

If you've been wanting to try your hand at miniatures, **the real *April Tears*** is only \$2.50; ***Bebop*** is only \$4.00 and there is also a nice little collection of miniatures.

The flower that really caught my eye was a 1999 introduction called *Finite*. It is classed as a 6W-Y, but the corona goes through some color changes, including pinkish-apricot-cream. WOW!

Clavier, 6YYW-WWY is a double-duty midseason flower. It is a reverse bicolor eligible for inclusion in a Maroon Collection and also stands alone as a "more delicate and graceful cyclamineus hybrid than many".

At The March Meeting

Maps will be available for IDS Members Open Tour Gardens during the daffodil season. Look on the table for directions to Helen Link's, Joe Hamm's and Barbara Sinders' gardens. If you would be willing to open your garden for visitors, please bring 25 copies of a map to your home. Include a phone number on it.

1999 Show Schedules will be available -- look for the 15 extra classes and division 10 and division 13 changes. If you want to enter a flower arrangement, contact Dolores Moore.

The new, much awaited 1999 *Daffodils to Show and Grow* will be available for \$5.25. You will definitely need one of these because so many color codes have been changed!

Be sure to pick up a 1999 yearbook if your dues are paid up. (And of course, bring money if you are in arrears.)

We might have some bulbs from New Zealand at very reasonable prices if they get here in time for the meeting. The prices range from \$5.00-8.00 and there are only 5 bulbs total. This will be a good way to experiment with Down Unders without a huge financial outlay of phytosanitary certificate and shipping minimums.

And of course, the air-freighted flowers in from Mitsch plus a gander at their catalog before it arrives in your mailbox!

Hospitality

~Barbara Sinders

A big **Thank You** to the volunteer hostesses for the March meeting. They are:

Pat Siegman	Drinks
Caroline Brunner	Fruit and Cheese
Joyce Wozniak	Cookies
Barbara Sinders	Tea Sandwiches

Hats Off to.....



Barbara Sinders who did hours of under cover work before taking the yearbook to the printer this year. Members move, change phone numbers, and we won't even talk about the area code changes and bad handwriting that comes through! Thanks, Barbara!!!

Suzu Wert who color coded all the show blocks and tubes by size this winter in the hopes that the rocky tubes will be history. She says, show set-up should be a breeze, but take-down may be a bit more complicated than usual."

Special Invitation for IDS Members - New and Old

New members are specifically invited to the March 23 meeting at Nora Library to see first-hand the flowers from Mitsch Novelty Daffodils (Oregon) we air-freight to Indianapolis for the focal part of the meeting.

These flowers are gorgeous, and most are reasonably priced should you desire to acquire some for your own gardens! It's nice to be able to see them "in person" instead of reading the descriptions in a catalog.

The other event is our Annual Show held on April 15-16 at Meridian Street United Methodist Church, 5500 N. Meridian Street. You won't be disappointed!!

Or perhaps you'd like to get in on the behind-the-scenes activities? On Wednesday, April 14, set up for the Show starts at 1:00 in the Church cafeteria and is a laid back way to get a chance to meet some of the members on a one-to-one basis. We're usually finished by 3:30 and hope to see you there!

~The IDS Board

ADS ANNUAL CONVENTION April 22-24 in Pittsburgh

The Board of Directors of ADS voted to make the registration fee only \$100.00 for first-time attendees of this year's National Daffodil Convention hosted in Pittsburgh. The convention will be held in the Marriott City Center, selected for its facilities as well as its walking convenience to favorite shopping and cultural attractions. Your registration fee includes exhibiting in the Daffodil Show, the Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting with New Zealand hybridizer, Spud Brogden on Thursday, Garden Tours on Friday (with lunch) plus Friday evening's Riverboat Cruise and Dinner, and Saturday's garden tour (includes lunch) plus evening banquet with keynote speaker Brian Duncan from Northern Ireland.

You do not have to be an ADS member to attend for the \$100.00 registration fee!!!!

Additional optional activities are planned such as a judges' refresher course, hybridizers' breakfast, the Henry Clay Frick mansion, Frick Art Museum, Phipps Conservatory and a tour to Falling Water, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. The optional activities can be selected individually to fit personal schedules and preferences. Fees are reasonable. Regular registration fees vary with date of commitment; the \$100.00 for first-timers is still good.

Please note that transportation and lodging are at additional expense. We'll have registration forms and additional information available at the March meeting.

SHOULD YOU DIVIDE YOUR DAFFODIL BULBS THIS YEAR?

~Kathleen McAllister, Tuscarora Daffodil Society

The absence of flowers or presence of many small flowers in the clump is an indication of crowding. Bulbs that have multiplied to the point of crowding should be lifted and divided.

Allow a minimum of 6-7 weeks to pass after blooms fade before beginning the task. Whenever feasible the bulbs should be lifted from ground which is moderately dry as this will mean that the soil will fall away without the need for a lot of handling. Allowing the foliage be your guide, cautiously dig around then underneath the bulbs with a spade or fork. Lift the whole mass — bulbs and roots. Gently shake off loose soil and separate bulbs. Discard damaged bulbs, and keep various cultivars separate, labeled, and out of direct sunlight. Gently remove foliage, but do not remove roots. Remove soil from bulbs by spraying with water from a garden hose. If bulbs are to be treated for basal rot control, they should be dipped in a fungicidal bath within the hours prescribed by the

treatment. Many growers do not treat bulbs at all especially those used for landscaping purposes. Soil type, climate, and susceptibility of individual varieties all are factors influencing the occurrence of basal rot. Some evidence indicates that treating bulbs helps maintain their integrity during storage.

Bulbs can either be immediately replanted or dried. Shallow open trays in the shade permit bulbs to dry quickly. Once dry, bulbs can be placed in loosely filled mesh bags as they allow air to circulate around bulbs.

Hang bulbs in a dry atmosphere with good air circulation until planting day. Conventional wisdom dictates that *poeticus* cultivars and many miniature daffodils prefer replanting rather than spending their summers in storage. The roots of *poeticus* hybrids grow nearly throughout the year. The smaller size bulbs of miniature daffodils may succumb to dehydration when stored.

When to Pick Flowers for the Show

~by Helen Link, Brooklyn, Indiana

When picking blooms for the daffodil

show it is better to pick the blooms a day ahead of when one intends to use them. They should be hardened which will prolong the life of the blooms.

When picking it is better to cut the stems with a sharp knife or single-edged razor blade and immediately place them in water at least four inches deep. The water should be clean and I prefer the water be lukewarm as I think the stems will absorb it better, however if I am picking fully open blooms to take to the show the next day, then I use cold water. Store them in a cool place in a protected area unless the show is early the next morning and then you may need to force some of the blooms by storing them in a warm area.

You will need to be sure the blooms are clean. There is no excuse for dirty blooms! A soft bristle brush, something like an eyeshadow brush, will usually remove dirt which is not stuck fast. A moistened bristle brush can do wonders to help in removing dirt. Do not press too hard or the tissue may be damaged and turn brown on the show table. .

When cleaning the blooms for the show table there may be some dirt that does not come off easily with

the brush. I use my tongue and lick it off and hope the birds have not visited the bloom. So far I have not been ill and am quite sure I know what I'm licking.

When cleaning the blooms for the show table do not press too hard as the tissue is soft and can be easily bruised. Look the blooms over carefully for cuts and bruises. These things can not be helped by man but sometimes they can be doctored by a judicious snip here and there depending on the imperfection.

Learn to study your blooms before taking them. to the show and to make entering them easier have your tags and entry cards prepared ahead of time. There never seems to be enough time if you have several blooms, so have them ready for the show containers when you arrive at the show.

Study your blooms before preparing them in the show containers. Look at them and decide what faults you can easily see that you can do anything about. If you see something which hits you in the eyes then the judges will see it too; they have eagle's eyes. If you see some outstanding fault, better leave the bloom in the bucket and concentrate your efforts on the show-worthy blooms.

Growing Daffodils from Seed

~by Mary Lou Gripshover, Milford, Ohio

Now that daffodil season is almost here, why not make a few crosses and grow your own hybrids? Most daffodil hybrids with only one bloom per stem are fertile, while those with more than one bloom per stem are likely to be triploids, and therefore highly unlikely to set seed.

Pollinating the blooms is simple; you take pollen from one flower and put it onto the pistil of another flower. Daffodils have six stamens which contain the pollen (the anther, at the end), and you want to be sure and use it when it's fresh and dry. Wait a day or two after the bloom opens. The pistil is in the center of the six stamens, sometimes exerted, and sometimes buried

deep within the stamens. Pollinating can be as simple as taking a pair of tweezers, pulling a stamen from the desired pollen parent, and taking it to the seed parent and putting as much pollen on the end of the pistil as you can. Some people prefer to use a small artist's brush. And some people apply a solution of honey and water to the stigma (the tip end of the pistil) before applying pollen. This helps the pollen to "stick" to the stigma, and also provides a bit of food to the pollen as the pollen grains grow. You can cover the bloom with a piece of nylon stocking to prevent pollination by insects, but I don't know of anyone who covers blooms after making crosses. If your cross is successful, the ovary, the little round knob just under the bloom, will begin to swell, and seeds will form. This seedpod can grow to the size of a walnut or pecan. If you're crossing miniatures, maybe it will grow to the size of a peanut.

When you make the cross, you will probably want to record the parentage, either in a notebook or on a string tag you attach to the stem, for future reference. When recording the cross, print the name the pod parent (mother) first then the 'x' (by) followed by the pollen parent (father). And you might want to tie the stem to a bamboo stake or something similar, so that you can find the seedpod six weeks later. Otherwise as the foliage matures, it could be lost. To test if the seed is ripe, shake the seedpod. If you can hear the seeds rattling around, it's probably time to cut the pod. Or if the old blossom, which has dried up and is attached to the end of the seedpod, loosens, that means the pod is getting ready to split. Definitely pick it then, or the seed may be lost on the ground.

Fresh daffodil seed is round, black, and shiny. Opinions differ about planting time. In general, I think planting immediately is best, but then you must keep the seedbed or seedpot watered through the summer months. Daffodil seeds send down a root before sending up top growth. But in any case, the seed should be planted by Labor Day. Here in Ohio,

where winter is severe with lots of freezing and thawing (and heaving) of the ground, I plant in pots which I sink in a coldframe. I use a mixture of potting soil from the garden store, perlite, and a bit of fertilizer. The pots are filled to within about an inch from the top, the seeds dropped, in, then more potting soil added. I top the pots with a fine granite grit; this keeps the soil from washing out of the pot in a hard rain, and helps keep out weeds. If I were planting in open ground, I would have to plant the seed deeper to keep it from heaving out of the ground. The seed germinates the following spring with one leaf, and looks like wild garlic. The second year they look like stronger wild garlic! I keep them in pots the first two years, and then plant them out in rows after that. At two years old, the bulblets are usually pencil-sized and elongated. Some people get bloom in four to five years, but I rarely get blooms before five years; usually it is six years from seed to bloom here.

So why would anyone want to plant seed of something that won't bloom for five or six years? Well, it's kind of fun to watch the life cycle of a plant. And when you see buds coming on your first seedling, that's exciting, too! You might not get a world-beater, but if you get something that likes your climate, has a healthy bulb, and is an attractive flower, what's wrong with that? And who knows, you could get a world-beater! It can happen.

If you decide you'd like to try this, use pollen from your best flowers or go to the local daffodil show; if you're there when

the show is taken down, ask if you can have some of the flowers to use for pollen. Be sure to ask, don't just take the blooms. You might find some different color combinations there than you have in your garden. Most of all, have fun with it. Who knows, five or six years from now, you could have some great looking daffodils!

ADS Member Mary Lou Gripshover authors a monthly daffodil column for Suite 101.com on the internet <http://www.suite101.com/welcome.cfm/daffodils>



Top: Daffodil Seeds
Bottom: One year bulblets
photos by Mary Lou Gripshover
Used with permission

Guide to Effortless Gardening

(watch somebody else do all the work!)

~by Emma Hobbs, Noblesville

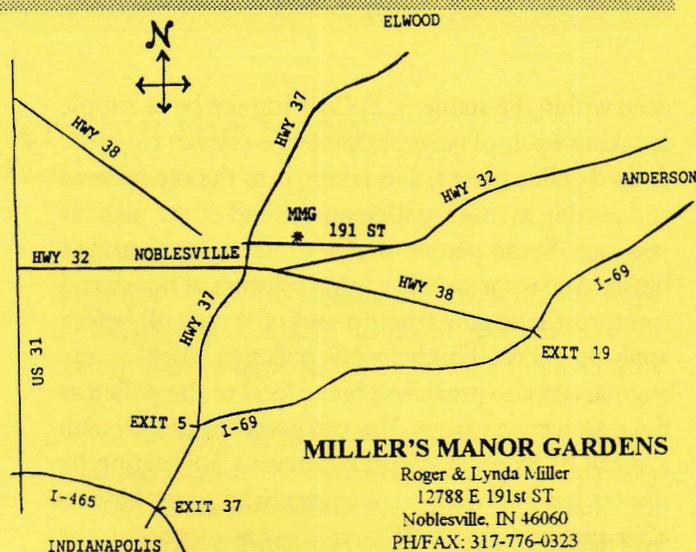
All of us have planted bulbs, seeds, shrubs or whatever in the Fall and spent a good part of the winter enjoying the anticipation of seeing the new springtime growth and beauty they will produce, forgetting the sore muscles and aching joints that planting also produced. I have found another horticultural planting process that requires no effort or aches and pains on my part but that also gives me great joy to watch develop and grow.

Have you ever watched a garden nursery be planned and grown from the very beginning starting with choice of ground, then plotted and planted, not to mention the frustration of satisfying the city, county, and state paperwork to fulfill their "need to know"? A few years ago, I had the pleasure of sitting back and watching the process.

After twenty odd years, the Millers decided that "enough was enough" of wearing out themselves, as well as untold amounts of machinery, battling with the unrelenting clay at their nursery, *Miller's Manor Garden*, in Ossian, IN and that they would move to 'better' country. Their first choice was almost the extreme opposite as far as the soil was considered, down in Daviess County. That area is almost completely sand, beautifully rolling territory in which any heavy rain will play havoc with row planting. Great for shrubs and trees that have roots to hold, but other perennials, and even bulbs, can be easily prone to washout that moves plants out of their marked location.

So, from north to south they checked out the middle land and the final decision for movement of home and business has settled to Hamilton County - northeast side of Noblesville. Hence, my joyful watching the nursery grow since I'm located on the southwest side of Noblesville just a short ten miles distance from them.

Some of the first planting was done a couple or three years before any construction was done on the ten acres purchased. Starting at the west side of the area is a series of beds of rows (and I mean *rows!*) of iris and daylilies that were planted in 1997.



Between these iris and daylily beds and the drive that runs back to the newly-constructed house are seven polyhouses of shrubs and hostas. It somewhat boggles the mind to realize there are so many different sizes, colors and variations of what so many consider "only a foliage" plant. Note also the beautiful variations in the blossoms, bringing color to the shade garden for a longer time than one would expect. The miniatures are the ones that catch *my* eye...wonderful for rock gardens.

Since last spring I've had a hard time keeping up with the speed the plans moved from paper to life, so I'm going to give you a fast-run description of what has aspired to date. Starting at the entrance, on the west side of the driveway, are large freeform beds of conifers and perennials. Since we've left the car in the parking lot, we'll walk along the driveway past the polyhouses where there is an area of potted daffodils behind the house that introduce a large area that has been planted with daffodils and iris.

On the east side of the driveway, just off the parking lot, is the garden shop and attached greenhouse - both almost virtually surrounded by the nursery display of around 450 *unique* perennials that I won't try to describe. North of the shop building permanent greenhouse that is fronted by a beautifully designed and planted rock garden. All of this is backed by a large lawn area in front of their home.

This has been a fast run through the nursery - but I'm well aware of the different ways people like to look over growing things, so rather than ramble on I invite you to visit *Miller's Manor Garden* and see it for yourself.

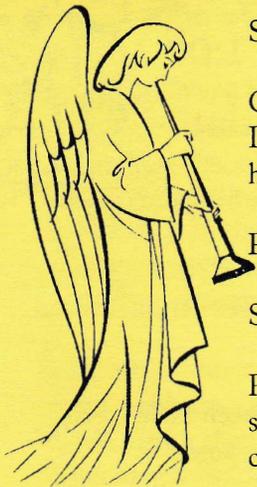
MEMORIES OF PHYLLIS VONNEGUT 1926 - 1999

When I received a call from Joe Hamm to tell me that Phyllis had been taken to the hospital with cardiac arrest, I was shocked. When another call came on Monday, January 4, that she had died, I was asked to write about Phyllis' "Daffodil Period", as an artist might call it. I was deeply saddened, of course, but also welcomed the chance to share some memories of the years between 1976 and 1999 with all of you who knew her.

I had known her since our children were in elementary school, when we served on the APT board together in the sixties, and in 1975 had become National Council of State Garden Club judges, going through several schools, worrying over tests, etc. The following year, Phyllis had joined the Indiana Daffodil Society, when she won an award for an arrangement, and was told (I think by Helen Trueblood) that the award could go only to a member of IDS, so why don't you join us. Dues are only \$5. Phyllis did join, and so did I, a few months later. In 1979, Phyllis was elected to be our president, saying at her installation that she had never been voted into the Society! Thus started a long career of working and enjoying many duties and joys of being very active. During that time., we both were busy planting, growing and showing daffodils, many of which were given to us by "the Helens", Link and Trueblood, during the time we were studying to be daffodil judges. So many people taught us and were so kind to us, and became good friends judges from Indiana and Ohio got us through the schools.

Phyllis' activities multiplied: A few of them were:

Serving as club treasurer, recording secretary, and vice president, and auditor as well as presenting many programs, using slides or, when possible, fresh daffodils.



Storing flower show props with much help from husband Walter from 1980 to 1998

On the American Daffodil Society Regional level, she served as a Vice-President and as Director. In 1991, and for the prior two years, Phyllis chaired the National Convention held in Indianapolis, doing the myriad jobs needed to make the convention memorable.

Phyllis and Walter hosted our first annual picnic in their home and yard.

She served as liaison with the Havens to obtain special bulbs for all of us each year

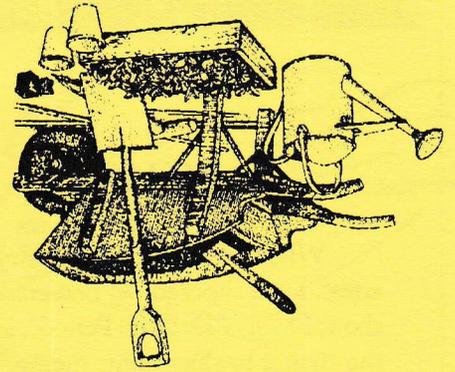
Phyllis has helped Joe Hamm with the Robey School project. She has taught judging schools with the Helens in several states. Often chairman of our shows, or served in other capacities, including many of her fine daffodils to show (she won many national awards at state and national shows).

Lists are good, but this is a long one. So would be a listing of Phyllis' other activities, in her church, garden club, plant societies, bridge groups, bell choir at church, Stamp Club, Wedgwood, among others; in her love of history (especially American), things English, and especially her family, Walter, daughters Betsy, Mary Sue and Ginny; their husbands, and ten grandchildren, with whom the grandparents enjoyed spending much time.

I know that Phyllis' name and some times each of you has spent with her will be with us at our meetings and flower shows and picnics for years to come--she was an unforgettable woman ~Caroline Brunner

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Mrs. B. D. Dove 98
6299 W. County Road 550 S.
Coatesville, IN 46121



Gardening



Suzy Wert
Indiana Daffodil Society
7350 N. Illinois Street
Indianapolis, IN 46260

Next Meeting: March 23, Tuesday. Nora Library 1:00

Maps will be available for IDS Members Open Tour Gardens during the daffodil season. Look on the front table for directions to Helen Link's, Joe Hamm's and Barbara Sinders' gardens.

If you would be willing to open your garden for visitors, please bring 25 copies of a map showing directions to your home. Include your phone number on it.

The new, much awaited 1999 *Daffodils to Show and Grow* will be available for \$5.25. You will definitely need one of these because so many color codes have been changed!

If you want one of the 1999 Brian Duncan bulbs, *Trueblood*, 3Y-R, named after our own Queen Helen, bring \$42.50 and the club will pay the freight from Northern Ireland. What a deal! (see description page 5).

We might have some bulbs from New Zealand at very reasonable prices if they get here in time for the meeting. The prices range from \$5.00-8.00 and there are only 5 bulbs total. This will be a good way to experiment with Down Unders without a huge financial outlay of phytosanitary certificates and shipping minimums.

And of course, the air-freighted flowers in from Grant Mitsch Novelty Daffodils, plus a gander at their 1999 catalog before it arrives in your mailbox!

Nora Library is located on the North side of Indianapolis at 86th & Guilford.
Hope to see you there!