

The Indiana Ledger

A Triannual Publication of the Indiana Daffodil Society

Joe Hamm, President

Suzy Wert, Editor



From the Garden of the President



Greetings "Daffodilians",

We are caught up with the planning, digging, cleaning, bagging and shipping bulbs to friends and family. We can take a breathing spell. Ha! That is what we thought. The bulb orders start arriving including those unexpected bulbs that come as gifts. Someone has a great sale we just cannot resist. Boy do we get in trouble! Have to make more labels. Need to find a place for these. More book work with entries. Will I get these in before the ground freezes? I do not care to ever see another daffodil. But we know how beautiful next spring will be. The year will be 2000. For me it is the end of the era. 2001 will be the start of the new century.

1999 had its good and bad points. The downside was the loss of Phyllis Vonnegut, Judy Vaught and now, Helen MacPherson. They will always be in our thoughts and hearts for all their help and inspiration. The upside was a great daffodil show, informative meetings, good companionship and fellowship. Our June picnic, hosted by Doris and Charles Winton, was a delightful setting — daylilies in full bloom and the manicured landscape. We really were not company, just family visiting... Doris, you really did not need to go to all that fuss. The educational part of the day proved to be successful. I demonstrated 'twin scaling' or 'bulb slicing'. It was new to me and the instructions given from England, New Zealand and here in the USA resulted in having little bulblets some 8 to 10 weeks later. My bulbs were presented to members attending the 'bulb bagging' party. Now to plant these

small ones and see what happens in three to four years.

June and July held two sessions of bulb digs at Helen Links and two bagging parties. Those who have made for a successful sale by their efforts in digging, bagging or providing bulbs: Doug and Jeanne Clarke, Ramona Frosch, Mary Higgs, Emma Hobbs, Helen Link, Helen MacPherson, Linda and Roger Miller Marcella Modisett, Dolores Moore, Pat Moulin, Ed and Nancy Reier, Jean Stallcop, Lori Walsh, Joyce Wozniak, Pat Stegman and lest I ever forget Barb and David Sindere, Suzy Wert, Tom Walls and Sara Kinne for the digging one day we started at 7:15 when the temperature was 90 degrees.

I think Helen Trueblood deserves special credit for traveling to bag bulbs and then traveling to sell bulbs. Talk about dedication!

The extra effort in digging and bagging gave us a big boost in bulb sales and a less hectic time at the day of sales. Sales reported about \$2,200.00 after all expenses and additional funds from new memberships. Our thanks to Helen Link for the donation of her bulbs and to those who labored in the fields, in the garage and at Glendale Mall. This helps to guarantee a strong base for Society Projects.

In accord with the "objectives" of the Indiana Daffodil Society, we have successfully produced and

supported a Daffodil Show; benefitted Orchard School, Wheeler Elementary School, St. Luke's Methodist Day School, and Elise Carter Park at no expense to the Society treasury. We have worked with our sister groups the Indiana Daffodil Growers South and the Kentucky Daffodil Society. I sincerely hope you all be able to give of yourselves in supporting the ADS 2001 Convention in Louisville.

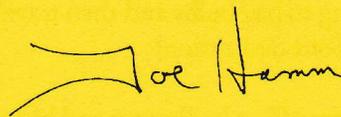
Some members took advantage with the extracurricular activities of the Butler Prairie Garden tour and Joyce Wozniak's English Trough Making. Expanding our knowledge and gave us an opportunity to interact with people of outside of IDS.

This year will be closing with the October 1st meeting. We will have election of new officers and they will be planning for activities for our 2000 year calendar. You should make your desires known — there are no dumb ideas for events. The board cannot read minds and is more than willing to oblige.

If there are organizations you wish to see receive the benefits of daffodils it is necessary to speak up in November and December. We already are receiving requests for next year and this requires advance planning. In the last few years, requests in June were too late to be considered.

I have enjoyed my tenure as President and will continue to assist the new President and Officers in hopes that we will be successful in the approach to the 21st Century.

Sincerely,



1999 Daffodil Calendar

Friday, October 1st, 11:00, Surprise Luncheon for Joe Hamm in Appreciation of his 4 years of leadership. Snooty Fox in Nora (*see map*) Meeting and Exchange 1:00 Nora Library "Election of Officers"
See article page 3, "October 1st Meeting"

October TBA - IDS Fall Planning Board Meeting. Call Suzy Wert (259-0060) if you are interested in attending.

fa

2000 Meeting Dates

Regular Meetings - March 21, Aug 12, Oct 7
Pizza Party with the Juniors - April 17, 6:00
Picnic - June 25

fa

2000 Show Dates

ADS NATIONAL SHOW

March 29-April 2 Portland, Oregon

fa

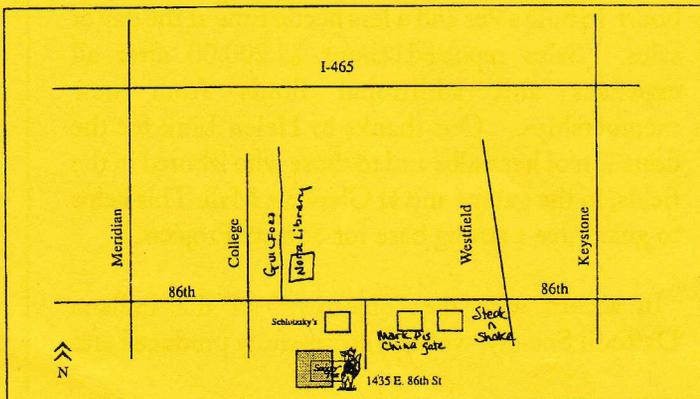
Indiana

April 17 - Set-up Indianapolis Show
April 18-19 - IDS Show (55th & Meridian)

April 15-16 Midwest Regional Show at Wegerzyn in Dayton

April 15 and 16 - CODS in Columbus

April 29-30 Cincinnati late show in the Peacock Pavilion at the Cincinnati Zoo.





IDS Miscellany

~ by Joe Hamm

Dues Due

Your 2000 dues are due at the October meeting. Please put them in an envelope to interim Treasurer, Joe Hamm, and mark them with your name and the words "2000 IDS dues" That way she can take them home and make the receipts out at her leisure. If you have changes in your yearbook information, slip the note inside the envelope. If you can't attend, mail your dues directly to:

Joe Hamm
4815 Fauna Lane
Indianapolis, IN 46234

Hospitality

Barbara Sindere has volunteered to co-ordinate the Hospitality Committee again this year. Thank you Barbara for starting this at the August Meeting. Please contact Barbara and see if you can fill a date in March, August or October, 2000.



October 1st Meeting

~by Joe Hamm

Refreshments for the October 1st meeting will be furnished by: Tom Walls, Becky Sindere Harris, Yolanda Goltz and Helen Trueblood.

The October 1st meeting is to be an election of officers.

The slate:

President: Suzy Wert - 259-0060
Vice President: Joe Hamm - 293-3381
Recording Secretary: Tom Walls - 812-988-4379
Corresponding Sec'y: Joyce Wozniak - 846-2836
Treasurer: Helen MacPherson - 545-1730

Be sure to bring your 2000 dues, bulbs and plants for the exchange table, and a big satchel to haul your loot home!

There will also be:

- Drawings of Thank You Bulbs for Special People
 - A look at the thank you *book* Wheeler Elementary School sent us for the bulbs we donated to them last year.
 - Distribution of Club Challenge Bulb -- *Ice Wings*, 5W-W, to be distributed at the October 1st meeting. This is a very good flower that is usually in bloom at the time of our show. It also is a good doer in the garden, especially for a white *triandrus*.
 - The bulb and plant exchange.
- And most of all:*
- The chance to interact with each other!

Note: You must pick up your bulb of *Ice Wings*, or make arrangements for someone to pick up the bulb for you, or have already sent the money to the treasurer for mailing. I have already received the list of members who have paid for mailing from the treasurer, as well as list of members who are declining the bulb and members who have made arrangements for receiving their bulbs. October 1 is the shut off date to contact Joe Hamm. Extra bulbs will be sold at the October 1 meeting.

Fun Historical Daffodil Facts

Taken from the website of Clay Higgins, Washington Daffodil Society.

Daffodil is the English name for the Latin or botanical name, *Narcissus*. The botanical name, *Narcissus*, is derived from the Greek word *narkê to benumb*.

Narcissus is originally from the Iberian peninsula of Portugal and Spain, Northern Africa and the Middle East. It was used in trade and in homes long before the introduction of spring flowers to renaissance era Holland.

The ancient Greeks used the narcissus as a symbol of death, because they thought daffodils gave off an evil emanation, producing dullness, madness and death.

The center of the daffodil cup is said to contain the tears of *Narcissus*, who in Greek legend, fell in love with his own image reflected in a pool of clear water, and pined his life away.

Daffodils were first written about by the Greek writer Theophrastus around 300BC in his 'Enquiry into Plants'.

Mohammed (c.570-632AD) wrote, "He that has two cakes of bread, let him sell one of them for some flowers of the *Narcissus*, for bread is food for the body, but *Narcissus* is food of the soul."

In 1629, Parkinson called gardeners ignorant who called some daffodils 'narcissus', as "we" all know that the Latin 'Narcissus', is 'Daffodil' in English. Parkinson divided daffodils into *Narcissus*, and named them 'true daffodils', and *Narcissus pseudonarcissus* which he called 'bastard daffodils'. *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*, the bastard daffodil, was so called because the petals were longer than the cup. At that time, the true daffodils were thought to be 'flat faced', or short cupped such as the *N. poeticus* which was popular at the time.

The old English name for daffodil was 'Affodyle'. The name Affodyle was believed to originate with the Old English 'Affo dyle', meaning "that which cometh early". The "D" in daffodil is believed to be derived from dropping the word "bastard", leaving only the D in polite company, therefore, when spoken it was 'D Affodyle, which became daffodil.

Elizabethan era names for daffodils were Daffodilly, Daffodowndill and Primrose Peereless.

Narcissus were added to ancient gardens since the earliest days of civilization. *Narcissus* is included in the earliest written works of the Greeks and Arabs.

Did you know that the medieval Arabs used juice of the wild daffodil, *N. pseudonarcissus* as a cure for baldness?

A single daffodil is considered a symbol of bad luck in Wales and Devon (Britain). Always bring a pot (or bouquet) of daffodils.

Welsh soldiers wore a single leek in their caps during a battle with the British. This was to later include a daffodil with the investiture of King George V as the Prince of Wales in Caernarvon in 1911, since George wore a daffodil in his hat.

John Bartram, whose home was on the Schuylkill River near Philadelphia maintained a daffodil collection on his 6 acre farm in the 1730s. This is the earliest recollection of American grown daffodils.

Thomas Jefferson's walk was lined with daffodils.

The American Daffodil Society was organized in 1955.

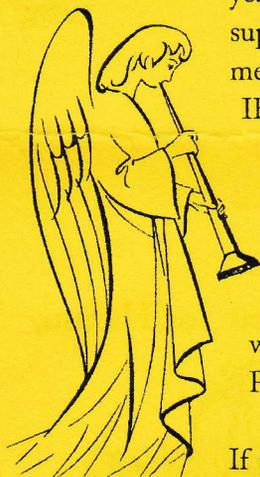
*Source of most facts: Pamela Todd, *Flora's Gems, The Little Book of Daffodils*, Little Brown and Company.

MEMORIES OF HELEN MACPHERSON

January 23, 1920 - September 14, 1999

It is with tears in my eyes that I write this memoir of Helen MacPherson for this issue of *The Ledger*. On September 5, Helen had a massive stroke at home and was sent via ambulance to Community Hospital where the prognosis was grim. There was enough time, however, for her son, Scott and his wife, Leslie, to fly in from Colorado and be with her (her other son, Gary, lives here in Indianapolis). She had visiting hours from September 6 until she died on September 14, for her friends to come and say goodbye.

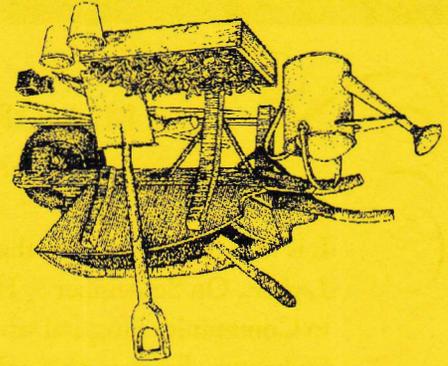
Mrs. Helen MacPherson was born in a log cabin on a homestead site in Jackson Hole, Wyoming in 1920. Her father developed some of the first irrigated crop land in the Teton Valley and sold feed to neighboring ranchers. Her family left Wyoming during the Great Depression and returned to their farming roots in Iowa. Upon graduation from High School in Des Moines, she settled in San Francisco, California. During the War years, she returned to Iowa embarking on a career with IBM. She supervised one of the first key entry data centers for IBM and later met her husband C.D. MacPherson after being transferred to IBM's Indianapolis facility.



Helen joined the IDS in 1991 and was to be elected to her second term as IDS Treasurer at this October's meeting. She has always been interested in gardening and flowers and was also a horticulture exhibitor and flower arranger — frequently winning ribbons for her arrangements. She had also been a past President of her garden club, Mil-de-fleurs.

If there was work to be done for the IDS, whether filling vases during Show set-up or bagging bulbs for the sale, Helen was always in the thick of things. She handled the money table for all our sales and often gave us a running total of our sale proceeds as the sale was progressing. If it was a good sale, her dimples would show and her eyes would sparkle as she tallied the figures.

Her husband died in 1985, after which she became active in many volunteer efforts and community organizations including the IDS. She was a staunch supporter of many charities and civic organizations and an advocate of children, actively participating in promoting legislation to protect them. Her values were shaped by the Golden Rule, and she truly believed that when she did something for anyone, she was doing it for Jesus. She has long spoke with joy about returning to the Lord. She did not fear death and would not want her friends to mourn her passing but rather to celebrate the victory of her life in Christ and the happy times they shared together. When you look at a flower remember that now she has gone to the gardens of heaven, and be happy for her, not sad. *~Compiled by Suzy Wert*



Gardening

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

Ssssssh.....secret!
Appreciation Luncheon for outgoing President, Joe Hamm,
preceding the October 1st meeting.



Appreciation Luncheon
For Joe Hamm
Friday, October 1 at 11:00 a.m.
Snooty Fox Restaurant
1435 E. 86th Street
Indianapolis
317-257-6033
Cost is \$10.00 per attendee.