

AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY  
Midwest Region

Newsletter -- June, 1969

Dear A. D. S. Members:

This may turn out to be more of a "newsy letter" than a formal "Newsletter". So many things happened in April, that we may run out of space.

A big "thank you" to the retiring officers and chairmen:

Mrs. Killigrew has served the region in the office of Vice-President for the past three years. Membership has increased and many of the activities reported in this newsletter were planned during her term of office.

Mrs. Goethe Link has done such a marvelous job as editor of the "Newsletter". She has set a standard that will be hard to equal.

Mrs. Lee Armiger, outgoing Regional Director, has served capably for the past three years.

A warm welcome to our new Regional Director, Mrs. Reginald Blue, of Chillicothe, Ohio. Mary Elizabeth was elected by the members at the A.D.S. Annual Meeting in Nashville to a three-year term. She has long been a personal friend of your new Vice-President (elected by the Board of Directors for a one-year term) and I am very pleased that she is now to serve the Society in an official capacity, as she has unofficially in the past. For many years she has promoted the interests of the American Daffodil Society by organizing group bulb orders, talking to garden clubs, writing articles for the newspapers and "Newsletter", and promoting daffodil meetings and shows. She is an A.D.S. Accredited Judge and travels many miles each season to assist in judging shows. As far as I know, she is the first member in Ohio to grow New Zealand varieties of daffodils; good companions for the European and American introductions she adds to her garden each year. She has been an active participant in regional meetings and shows.

Recently, she tried her hand at organizing a local society in Columbus, Ohio, with great success. The Central Ohio Daffodil Society, of which she is founder and president, sponsored a "Daffodil Day" on April 11. All thirteen members were present and in the afternoon, the meeting was open to the public. Thanks to Mrs. Richard H. Bell for the following report:

"Although spring was late all through Ohio, there was a good representation of Divisions and all early types of daffodils. Some of the most perfect specimens were Wedding Bell, Frolic, Spring Song, Beryl, Mt. Hood, and a fine collection of cyclamineus species.

"Mrs. Reginald Blue, President and founder of the Society, not only brought a magnificent collection of blooms from six different Divisions, but also a collection of daffodils from a garden planted in the early 1900's. She commented on both these collections during the program, and also advised members and guests on their own flowers.

"Mr. Wells Knierim of Cleveland was guest speaker and advisor. He took groups around the tables on a demonstration of how to groom blooms for exhibition. This was invaluable to many of the members who won awards at both the Regional and Nor'west Shows. Mr. Knierim also brought his own containers for daffodil specimens and demonstrated the ease of transportation and assembly.

"A commercial exhibit from Gerald Waltz of Salem, Virginia, attracted much attention and showed the wisdom of buying bulbs from a daffodil farm."  
-- Cynthia Bell.

The Nor'west Flower Show Schedule was mailed to me with a report from Mrs. Paul J. Gripshover of Columbus:

"The 19th Annual Nor'west Flower Show was held on May 3 - 4 at the Upper Arlington High School. The theme for this year's show was "May Merriment". This is a large spring flower show, and since daffodil classes do not comprise more than half the horticulture section, we cannot apply for A.D.S. awards. (It is my hope that a rules change will be discussed at the Fall Board Meeting, so that the rules will be changed to allow A.D.S. awards provided a certain minimum number of daffodil classes are included in the schedule, regardless of their ratio to the rest of the horticulture classes.) Nevertheless, perhaps our daffodil-loving friends will be interested in hearing 'who won what'.

"Even though the show was a week later than usual, there were 206 entries in the daffodil classes, with a total of 334 flowers on display. The schedule included 41 classes for daffodils -- 26 single stem, 6 for three stems, 4 for collections of 5, a class for a collection of 12, 2 classes for miniatures, and 2 classes for novices only. The only classes without entries were those for novices only. (Either we're not getting through to novices, or they are willing to take their chances in the other classes.)

"The 'Best of Show' and the Mary Elizabeth Blue Trophy was won by Mrs. Richard Bell with a flawless bloom of Tudor Minstrel. Mrs. William C. Baird won a well-deserved blue and the Irma Laura Kyper Trophy for her collection of 12 which included Lord Chancellor, White Prospect, Aircastle, Merlin, White Marvel, Verona, Passionale, Air Marshall, Mrs. E. H. Krelage, Leonaine, Chat, and Revelry.

"The American collection class was won by Mrs. Paul Gripshover, who exhibited Clackamas, Festivity, Leonaine, Abalone, and White Spire, all Mitsch originations. Mrs. Gripshover also won the Jane Birchfield Award for her intermediate collection which included Little Witch, Dawn, Lemon Heart, Skylon, and Samba.

"Other blue ribbon winners were Mrs. Vincent Wiley with Clonmore; Festivity, Paricutin; and a collection of Festivity, Chinese White, Aircastle, Green Island, and Carnoon. Mrs. James Liggett won five blues with Rima, Court Martial, Chinese White, Roger, and Cantabile. Mrs. Gripshover also won with Dawn, Dove Wings, April Tears, 3 stems of Jumblie, and a white collection which included Ave, Mt. Hood, Bryher, Vigil, and Broughshane. Mrs. William Pardue won with Binkie, Limerick, and 3 stems of Spanish Gold. Mrs. Baird also won with Tresamble and 3 stems of Limerick. Other blues went to Mrs. Christine Kochs for Mt. Hood; Mrs. Bell, Empress of Ireland; Mrs. Margaret Cavanaugh, Mrs. Backhouse; Mrs. Mario Cuniberti Golden Ducat; Mrs. D. L. Stufflebean, Cheerfulness; Mrs. Richard Lane, Vireo and Silver Chimes; Mrs. Marie Steger, poeticus recurvus; Mrs. Burton Went, 3 stems of White Butterfly; and Mrs. Cecile Spitz, 3 stems of Mary Copeland.

"The educational exhibit included the A.D.S. kit, tips on growing and showing, and an explanation of the classification of daffodils as well as catalogs from various growers.

"Judges were Mrs. Reginald Blue, Mrs. C. W. Schmalstig, and student judge, Mrs. Fred Schuster."

-- Mary Lou Gripshover,  
Chairman, Specimen Section.

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Mrs. Verne Trueblood (Indiana) and Mrs. Neil Macneale (Ohio) will continue in office as Regional Directors.

Mrs. Trueblood belongs to the Indiana Daffodil Society, is an A.D.S. Accredited Judge and a grower of fine quality daffodils. She has been your faithful representative to the Conventions in Portland (1968) and Nashville (1969). She has attended Spring (2) and Fall Board Meetings. We can always depend on her to support regional activities.

Mrs. Macneale has probably brought in more new members than any individual in the Midwest Region (?). She never misses an opportunity to promote the Society and up-grade the quality of bulbs grown in the region through pooling of bulb orders, organizing local meetings and shows, and writing articles for newspapers and garden club publications (also the "Newsletter" and "Journal"). She also is an A.D.S. Accredited Judge and like the rest of us, gives freely of her time and energy to travel where she is needed to judge daffodil shows.

On May 18, she invited a group of A.D.S. members to her home for the purpose of organizing the Southwestern Ohio Daffodil Society. Letters have gone out so I will give only the high-lights here: The purpose of the Society is "to co-ordinate individual and group efforts in promoting the growing and showing of daffodils, with emphasis on the up-grading of plantings in the area". You need not be a member of A.D.S. to join, so feel free to invite neighbors and friends to join with you. (Your Regional Vice President cordially invites new members to join A.D.S. as well.) The boundaries are not limited; only an interest in growing daffodils is required. Dues are: Regular -- \$2.00; Contributing -- \$5.00; Sponsoring -- \$10.00. Dues may be sent to Mrs. Eugene Kleiner, 8820 Old Indian Hill Road, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45243. Dues will be used to pay expenses of an annual daffodil show, mailing expenses, etc. Some of the benefits and events planned for the society are a bulb exchange, sharing of information on the culture of daffodils in the southwest area, daffodil gardens open and the possibility of another series of judging schools in the near future. For information you may phone the following A.D.S. members (whose names and addresses will be found in the "Journal" for September, 1968): Mrs. Philip Adams -- 321-8734; Mrs. Alfred Hanenkrat -- 275-9919; Mrs. Stuart Jacobs -- 791-1824; Mrs. Kleiner -- 561-8702; Mrs. Macneale -- 522-7025; or Mrs. C. W. Schmalstig -- 293-2240.

Mrs. Macneale's invitation to the A.D.S. Board of Directors to meet in Cincinnati this fall has been accepted and all interested A.D.S. members are welcome to attend the social activities connected with it. Board members have to take time out to eat and relax. This is a good time to meet the officers and chairmen of the national organization. It is also a good time to "sit in" on the sessions to hear how your society functions. The meetings, dinner and evening program are to be held at the Stouffer Inn on October 25.

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As far as I know, there were only two A.D.S.-sponsored shows in the Midwest Region in 1969. (Three are already in the planning stage for 1970.)

Mrs. Fred Schuster of Vandalia sent me a detailed report of the show co-sponsored by the A.D.S. and Region #3 of the Ohio Association of Garden Clubs at Imperial House North on April 22. It was classified as a "Small Show" since it was the first by this organization. It turned out to be a pretty big show with several hundred visitors, some 400 daffodils, and excellent coverage by the local T.V. news.

Arriving quite early, I found Mrs. Stuart Jacobs and her sister, Mrs. Henry Hobson, had already arrived from Cincinnati. We were soon joined by Mrs. Jack Anewalt, Mrs. John M. Butler, and Mrs. Emerson Warner of the Dayton area. The six of us formed two panels that judged 282 entries in single-stem, vases of three and collection classes. There was a good representation of miniatures, and these attracted much attention. Among the outstanding standard size varieties were Carnoon, Bushtit, Festivity, Foxhunter, Cantatrice, Aircastle, Nazareth, Preamble, Bastion, Lunar Sea, and Honeybird. Some of the miniatures were *N. juncifolius*, *N. triandrus albus*, Xit, Sundial, Arctic Morn, Mite and Pixie.

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The Regional Show was held under the sponsorship of the Western Reserve Daffodil Society which has 'no meetings, no officers, and no dues'. It does have good workers, efficiency and flower-show know-how which enables them to put on a beautiful, big show each year at the Cleveland Garden Center. Again I will give you what information I can without "scooping" the A.D.S. Awards Committee's report. (Watch for the names of winning varieties - and growers of same - in later issues of the "Daffodil Journal" These are quotes from Wells Knierim's report:

"Due to the efforts of all the exhibitors, judges and clerks ... the fourth annual show of the Western Reserve Daffodil Society ... was an outstanding success. Twenty exhibitors made 339 entries, including 103 vases of three stems, 20 collections of 5 stems, 6 collections of twelve varieties each, and a beautiful Quinn entry, sent by air express by Mrs. Howard Bloomer, Jr. of Lorton, Va. ... which included many of the recent Mitsch and Richardson introductions. There was a total of 739 daffodils in the show with about 275 different varieties of standard size and 25 varieties of miniatures.

"We were most fortunate to have five new exhibitors from Central Ohio Daffodil Society, who, in addition to winning a total of over 40 ribbons in the daffodil classes, made Japanese (Ikebana) arrangements which did so much to make our show attractive. Mrs. Penn Skillern of Cleveland made beautiful decorative arrangements for the entrance hall, plant room, the library and for our buffet lunch in the small auditorium.

"We were honored to have Mrs. W. L. Bankston, Jr. from Memphis, Tenn.; Mrs. Harry Wilkie from Bellbrook, Ohio; Mrs. Reginald Blue from Chillicothe, Ohio; Mrs. Alfred Hanenkrat from Dayton, Ohio; Mrs. Fred Schuster from Vandalia, Ohio; Mrs. Emerson Warner from Brookville, Ohio; and Mrs. Richard Stuntz from Rutherfordton, N. C. as our judges; and Mrs. Raymond Evans, Miss Jane Faust, and Miss Abbie Parsons as our clerks. We appreciate their contribution in making the show a success. And all of us enjoyed the coffee-break and exhibitors' lunch arranged by Mrs. John Uprichard and my wife, Mary."  
-- Wells Knierim, Show Chairman.

In addition to the above-named enthusiastic "daffodilers", I was happy to see Prof. Larry Mains from Pennsylvania (A.D.S. Slides Chairman), Dr. Penn Skillern of Cleveland, Mrs. Robert Scharlow of Cleveland, and Mrs. Verne Trueblood (Midwest Regional Director) and Miss Virginia Wolff (Midwest Region Symposium Chairman) from Scottsburg, Indiana.

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Miss Wolff has graciously consented to take the job of Symposium Chairman for our region. I served as chairman last year and I want to thank all of you who sent in ballots for 1968. Especially those newer members who helped to keep us from landing on the "bottom of the heap".. We finished NEXT to the BOTTOM. Even though it makes this newsletter probably the longest in history, I shall include a short 1968 report:

"For the first time since A.D.S. was organized, EVERY member received a ballot to fill out and return to the national chairman. Each member was asked to vote for '25 varieties you have grown in your garden for a minimum of three years'.

"Approximately 140 ballots were mailed to Midwest members. Only 16 ballots were received by Mrs. Capen by July 1st, the deadline. But the voters represented a true cross-section of A.D.S. Membership. The number of varieties ranged from a few to 1000. One member had just begun to grow daffodils. (Congratulations to her for sending in an excellent report on those she had grown for the required three years.) One member reported 48 years of growing. Mrs. Capen received several delightful letters with the reports which were turned over to me as regional chairman. Many, many thanks to all of you who returned your ballots. They are a valuable addition to the knowledge as to performance of general purpose daffodils in the Midwest.

"Favorite varieties were Butterscotch, Aircastle, Vigil, Cantatrice, Blarney, Festivity (2 votes), Halo-light, Peerless Gold, Mt. Hood, Limerick, Golden Sensation, Green Island, Leeuwenhorst and Carita. Are any of these YOUR favorite? Would you like to put in a word for YOUR daffodils? Please fill out the 1969 ballot and return to the national chairman. Every ballot is needed. Mrs. Capen and I deeply appreciate your cooperation and enjoy your personal comments also. Do write us!

-- Leonora C. Wilkie, Symposium Chairman  
1968.

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Well, that sews up last year's performance and the sooner it is forgotten, the better.

Now, what about 1969? Are we going to be satisfied to come out last this year??? Certainly not! So get out your copy of the June issue of "The Daffodil Journal", tear out the CENTER sheets and fill out the ballot. If you have a husband-and-wife membership, fill out BOTH of them and return to Mrs. Capen, whose address is on the ballot. If you do not grow the full 25, vote for those you DO grow. We need all your votes! and the DEADLINE is July 1.

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Congratulations to Mrs. Lawrence Boots, Darlington, Indiana 47940, and Mrs. Phil Dickens, 2016 Marilyn Drive, Bloomington, Indiana, 47401. They have finished all requirements for their A.D.S. Judge's Certificates. We hope to list more new judges in the fall issue. Watch for their names in the "Journal" also.

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The 1969 R.H.S. Classification Lists are now available from the Executive Secretary George S. Lee, Jr., 89 Chichester Rd., New Canaan, Conn. 06840. A check for \$2.50 made out to A.D.S. will get you one by mail. Needless to say, all A.D.S. Judges are expected to carry an up-to-date "List".

Deadline for material for the fall issue of the "Newsletter" is November 1. Please send me any news you think may be of interest to Midwest members. Articles on daffodils are always welcome. If you have some unusual experience or observation to share, please write me. Articles, long or short, are solicited. Also ... if you have a suggestion as to improvement or a "gripe" or two about the "Newsletter" or the Society in general, let us know and we will do what we can to improve or correct the problem. By fall we may just be lucky enough to have an editor and put out a formal publication. Meanwhile, please write me ... your new regional vice-president:

Mrs. Harry Wilkie (Leonora C.)  
Box 222, Bellbrook, Ohio. 45305