

AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.

Middle Atlantic Region

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 1979

Regional Vice President: Mrs. R. LaRue Armstrong, Rt. 5, Box 26, Covington, Va. 24426

Regional Directors:

- (1979) Mrs. Henning Rountree, Jr., 276 Harris Creek Rd., Hampton, Va. 23669
- (1980) Quentin Erlandson, 9 Burnbrae Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21204
- (1981) Miss Bonnie M. Hohn, 718 Alleghany Ave., Staunton, Va. 24401

Director-at-Large:

- (1980) William G. Pannill, P.O. Box 5151, Martinsville, Va. 24112

First Vice President of ADS: Mrs. John Bozievich, 6810 Hillmead Rd., Bethesda, Md. 20034

Committee Chairmen of ADS:

- Library: Mrs. H. B. Bloomer, Jr., 11111 Gunston Rd., Lorton, Va. 22079
- Public Relations: Mrs. W. J. Perry, 1500 Dogwood Rd., Staunton, Va. 24401
- Schools: Mrs. Merton S. Yerger, Box 97, Princess Anne, Md. 21853
- Symposium: Mrs. P. R. Moore, Jr., 96 Sandy Bay Drive, Poquoson, Va. 23662

Dear ADS Friends,

Tonight the snow lies deep on the ground. When will our daffodils come? I'd not like to bet on it. My records of eighteen years show that *N. asturiensis* bloomed February 13, 1974, but not until March 20 last year. Moonstruck, a fairly early standard, bloomed March 10 in '74 but not until April 9 in '71. Snowdrops have varied in blooming dates from January 16 to February 27. Yesterday their foliage was barely through the ground.

You in eastern Virginia have a much earlier (and enviable) season but here in the mountains I have learned to put impatience aside in favor of a later season as the late ones are usually the best. For sure, Spring comes closer every day. And wouldn't it be boring if we knew exactly on which day every daffodil was going to open?

NEW MEMBERS

The heartiest of welcome to the following new members. We hope your association with other daffodil growers in the ADS will be a constructive and pleasant experience.

- Mrs. Wallace W. Atwood, Jr., Rt. 1, Box 218B, White Stone, Va. 22578
- Mr. and Mrs. John R. Chapman, 908 Army Rd., Baltimore, Md. 21204
- Pat Layton, 301 Powell Ave., Salisbury, Md. 21801

JUDGING SCHOOL

I am pleased to announce that Course I of the ADS Judging School will be held on Monday, April 9, at the Holiday Inn -- Crossroads, 2002 Staples Mill Road, Richmond, Virginia 23230. (From Interstate 64 take Staples Mill - Broad St. Exit.)

Mrs. Lester F. Belter will serve as chairman with Mrs. Berkeley Williams as co-chairman.

Time: 9 A.M. Fee for course is \$10.00. Deadline for registration is March 26. A Course Outline will be sent to all registrants. Dutch treat lunch is available in the motel. Please mail the blank on the next page with your check to Mrs. Belter.

Anyone may audit the course but only ADS members may take the exam. Accredited judges may also audit this as a refresher course although, at the present time, a refresher is not required. If you do so, Mrs. Merton S. Yerger, Chairman

of Schools, will so note on your judges' file card. Last spring every accredited judge in Texas audited Course I in Dallas.

Many thanks to all who wrote to request this school.

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Name.....

Address.....

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Judging Course I (\$10.00)----- For credit with exam----- Other-----

Are you a member of the American Daffodil Society?

Mail with your check to Mrs. Lester F. Belter, Rt. 2, Box 217 A, Mechanicsville, Virginia 23111 Telephone: (804) 746-2010

MRS. LIONEL RICHARDSON

You will be very saddened to learn that Mrs. Lionel Richardson died December 11 in Waterford, Ireland. As most of you know, Mrs. Richardson, after her husband's death, continued his daffodil business, introducing new cultivars from the results of his hybridizing as well as making new crosses of her own, a number of which she was able to introduce before she reluctantly retired several years ago. Few people have done as much for the progress of the daffodil as have the Richardsons having given to the world so many dazzling red cups, spectacular doubles, smooth-as-silk yellow trumpets, deep pink cups; indeed, flowers from almost every class.

Mrs. Richardson was a woman of many and great abilities, and of delightful and gracious personality. Not only did she operate the daffodil business, she also very capably ran a dairy, breeding and exhibiting cattle just as she did her daffodils. And, no matter how busy she might be, her home, Prospect House, was always a hospitable haven for visitors from far and near. A remarkable person, she will be sorely missed in the daffodil world.

CATALOGS 1979

Except for the lucky people living close to the moderating waters of the Chesapeake Bay, daffodils are still a month or more away; yet the daffodil catalogs and price lists will soon be available. Now might be a good time to write for some of these listed below which you are not receiving and in which you might be interested.

The Daffodil Mart, P.O. Box, North, Va. 23128
Brent Heath has a new color catalog with lots of pictures and also a price list. He lists a number of old favorites as well as many new cultivars. Miniatures are a specialty.

Grant E. Mitsch Novelty Daffodils, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Havens, P.O. Box 218, Hubbard, Oregon 97032
The Mitschs' daughter and son-in-law are carrying on the business in the old tradition. Mostly Mitsch's introductions, the catalog is a treasure of beauty, a "must" for daffodil lovers. Mitsch's daffodils are prize winners in nearly every division.

Charles H. Mueller, River Road, New Hope, Pa. 18938
A good source for all bulbs, Mr. Mueller lists a number of miniatures.

Mary Mattison van Schaik, Cavendish, Vt. 05142
A nice list of spring bulbs. She can order special bulbs from Gerritsen in Holland if you order early.

Ballydorn Bulb Farm, Killinchy, Newtownards, Northern Ireland
Carncairn Daffodils, Broughshane, Ballymena, County Antrim, Northern Ireland
Rathowen Daffodils, "Knewehead" Dergmoney, Omagh, County Tyrone, N. Ireland

These three growers list bulbs from Richardson, Guy Wilson, Dunlop, Bloomer and others as well as their own originations. For a wide selection of the newer daffodils from England and Ireland, these three are the best sources.

Broadleigh Gardens, Barr House, Bishops Hull, Taunton, Somerset TA4 1AE,
England

A colorful little catalog of small bulbs, it lists many miniature daffodils, especially those of Alec Gray's hybridization, which are unobtainable elsewhere. Unfortunately, they are sometimes unable to supply everything listed, and I have had a few misnamed ones from there.

John S. B. Lea, Dunley Hall, Stourport, Worcestershire DY13 0TX England

Mr. Lea's originations are capturing more and more blue ribbons on the show bench. Their silky smooth texture and heavy substance are just about unbeatable.

J. Gerritsen and Sons, Voorschoten, Holland

Jack Gerritsen's collar daffodils (Div.11) have long entranced some daffodil lovers and always catch the visitor's eye although the purist may look askance. Just as the newer doubles have developed in form, color and texture, so the latest collar daffodils are an improvement on the early ones. Everyone should try some. Gerritsen also lists some miniature trumpets.

P. and G. Phillips, P.O. Box 117, Otorohanga, N.Z.

A good list of daffodils of New Zealand origin. His price list is available in early fall, orders must be placed by January 1, shipment is made in March. Most growers hold the bulbs for fall planting although some (mostly those who live where spring is late) plant immediately upon receiving. Getting them acclimated is an interesting challenge.

MINIATURES

In the Miniature Committee Robin Joy Mackinney of Pennsylvania listed a number of miniatures on the official list which she had not seen grown or exhibited nor could she find a source for them. By the time the robin had made its round, a few were eliminated but no one professed to be growing any of the following:

Agnes Harvey	Hors d'Oeuvre	Rockery Beauty
Angie	Live Lady	Rockery Gem
Arctic Morn	Little Prince	Sennocke
Bowles' Bounty	Marychild	Skiffle
dubius	Mini-cycle	Sneezy
Elfhorn	Morwenna	Snug
Greenshank	Opening Bid	Soltar
Hifi	Poppet	

If any of you grow any of these or know where they may be found, please help us in this survey by dropping me a card.

There will be an up-to-date miniature list published in the March Journal. Be sure to clip it and put it with your Daffodils to Grow and Show for judging and exhibiting.

DAFFODIL SHOWS 1979

- March 31-April 1: Chapel Hill, N.C. in the Totten Bldg., N.C. Botanical Garden.
Mrs. W. L. Wiley, information.
- April 7-8: Gloucester, Va. at Intermediate School
- April 7: Princess Anne, Md. at Penisular Bank, Mrs. Merton S. Yerger, information.
- April 11-12: Garden Club of Virginia, Seven Hills School, 2100 Rivermont Ave.,
Lynchburg, Va. Information, Mrs. G. D. Walker, Jr., 220 Kensington
Ave., Lynchburg, 24503
- April 14-15: Tidewater Daffodil Society at Coliseum Holiday Inn, Hampton, Va.
Mrs. Henning Rountree, Jr., Show Chairman
- April 14-15: REGIONAL SHOW Washington Daffodil Society at National Arboretum
Maurice Katoen, Show Chairman (Maryland)
- April 18: Maryland Daffodil Society at Baltimore, Maryland
- April 21: Harford County, Md. at Bel Air Middle School, Mrs. Frederick J. Viele.

In Middle Atlantic we have a REGIONAL show every year, but although many shows would qualify, no group in the past two years has asked permission to hold a STATE show. Think it over, show chairmen, (see pages 33-34 of the Handbook for Exhibiting and Judging Daffodils) and consider if the title would not add a little prestige to your show. And also, chairmen, please see that the ADS reports are sent to me as soon as possible after your show so that the information may be included in the May Newsletter.

Your 1979 dues were payable January 1. If you have not already done so, please send them to Bill Ticknor at once. We don't want to lose a single one of you!

Did you fertilize your daffodil beds last fall? If not, now is an excellent time to do so. I purchased some 5-10-10 today and plan to put it on top of the snow.

May your daffodils this spring exceed you highest expectations!

Yours cordially,
Frances
Frances Armstrong



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