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June, 1973

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Newsletter of the Midwest Region of the American Daffodil Society

Regional Vice President: Mrs. Paul Gripshover, 2917 North Star Road, Columbus, Ohio 43221

Regional Directors:
1974 - Mrs. Leon Killegrew, 415 S. Wabash St., Hobart, Ind. 46342
1975 - Mrs. Eugene Kleiher, 3820 Old Indian Hill Road, Cincinnati, O.
1976 - Miss Virginia Wolff, 342 W. Owen St., Scottsburg, Ind. 47170

Well, how do you like that row of question marks at the top of the page? I'd like to see it replaced with a catchy title for our newsletter. We have our "Daffodil Journal," so how about "Regional Roundup" or "Midwest Mania." You don't like those? All right, send me your suggestions and we'll all vote on them and the person who submits the winning name will get a FREE bulb of their choice! (Here's the catch--$1.00 price limit!)

To date I have received reports from three ADS shows held in the Region. The first show, which was the Regional Show, was held in Dayton, Ohio, on April 21, sponsored by the Southwest Ohio Daffodil Society. The Gold Ribbon was awarded to Ave, exhibited by Mrs. James Liggett of Columbus. Mrs. Liggett also won the White Ribbon with Ave, the Miniature White Ribbon with Little Beauty, and the Silver Ribbon with 15 blue ribbons. A faultless bloom of Minnow with 5 florets won the Miniature Gold Ribbon for Mrs. William Baird of Columbus. Wells Knierim of Cleveland won the Purple, Red-White-Blue, and Bronze Ribbons. He included in his collections some lovely blooms of "down under" bulbs, notably Kindergarten, Dresden, and Bella Vista, all 3b's. Mrs. William Pardue of Columbus was awarded the Lavender Ribbon, and Mrs. George Hoppin III, of Cincinnati, won the Green Ribbon. There were 515 daffodil entries and 14 arrangements. The Helen K. Link Artistic Design Trophy was awarded to Mrs. William Pardue.

The Adena Daffodil Society Show was held at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Chillicothe, Ohio, on April 26. Mrs. Kenneth Dunn was awarded the Gold Ribbon for a beautiful bloom of N. poeticus, var. recurvus. Segovia won the Miniature Gold Ribbon for Mrs. James Liggett. Mrs. Howard Junk won the White Ribbon with Knave of Diamonds, the Miniature White Ribbon with Stafford, and the Silver Ribbon with 14 blue ribbons. There were 188 daffodil entries in this show and 49 arrangements, many of which were done by the Hospitalized Veterans.

The Central Ohio Daffodil Society Show was held April 28-29 in Columbus, Ohio. The Gold Ribbon was awarded to Wells Knierim for a glistening bloom of Angel. Mr. Knierim also won the Purple Ribbon with a triandrus collection which included Little Lass, not seen locally before. Miss Barbara Gripshover won the Miniature Gold Ribbon with April Tears which had been entered in the Junior Division of the show. The Junior Award was won by Miss Sallie Bourne with a sparkling bloom of Dactyl. Mrs. James Liggett again won the White Ribbon with Ave (I wish I could grow it like she does!) and the Silver Ribbon with 20 blue ribbons. The Miniature White Ribbon for Baby Star, the Lavender Ribbon, and the Carey Quinn Silver Medal were awarded to Mrs. Paul Gripshover. There were 413 daffodil entries and 11 arrangements in this show.

A report from the Western Reserve Show held in Cleveland has not yet been received.

SYMPOSIUM

The results of the 1972 Symposium are to be found in the June issue of the Journal. Unfortunately, the percentage of returns from the Midwest Region is not very high. Let's see if we can't bring that percentage up this year. If you haven't already done so, please send your symposium choices to Mrs. John B. Capen, "Springdale," Rte. 3, Boonton, New Jersey 07005, soon. To get a truly representative symposium we need to hear from all of you, whether you grow 10 varieties or 500! For your convenience, a ballot is reprinted at the end of this newsletter.

FALL REGIONAL MEETING

Several of the other Regions hold successful Regional Meetings, so I thought it might be fun to have one here. Please reserve Saturday, October 13, for a Midwest Regional Meeting, to be held here in Columbus from 10:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. Tentative plans are to have several panel discussions in the morning, luncheon, and a speaker, perhaps another panel in the afternoon. If there's a special topic you'd like to have included -- Miniatures, Judging, Hybridizing, Diseases & their Control, etc. --please let me know soon. I'm rather looking forward to a Fall Meeting as I think it will be a good time for us all to get better acquainted. That was my one disappointment at Williamsburg--there wasn't enough time to meet the other people. Do mark the date on your calendar now. Details will be coming later. (It would help in planning if you'd drop me a card if you're planning to come.)

SPLIT CORONAS

Do you grow the split coronas of Division 11? No? You don't like them, and anyway they're all alike? Well, you're entitled to your opinion (I can't say they're my favorites) but they definitely are not all alike. The Gerritsen catalog lists 3 distinct types within Division 11. Some are called "collar" daffodils--a split corona daffodil with a corona covering more than two-thirds of the perianth; "split-corona" daffodils--the corona is more small-cup proportion; and "papillon" daffodils--inwhich the corona is referred to as "wings," generally striped or bi-colored. Try some--you still might not like them, but at least you'll know their differences.

To help you grow the different types of Division 11, and while we're at it, also get a few miniatures, I will order the following collection from Gerritsen in Holland for those interested for $3.00.

3 - Baby Moon - late, late, similar to jonquilla
3 - Bagatelle - early miniature trumpet
3 - Lilliput - early miniature bi-color trumpet
1 - Baccarat - "collar"; pale yellow perianth, darker yellow collar
1 - Joli-Coeur - "split-corona"; white perianth, orange cup
1 - Lemon Beauty - "papillon"; white perianth, yellow & white wings

The bulbs themselves come to $2.44. The additional 56¢ should cover postage from Holland. If it's too much you'll get a refund. Hopefully the bulbs would be available by the Fall Meeting. Those who couldn't come to the meeting would get bulbs by mail and would be expected to re-imburse me for the necessary postage. Those interested send your $3.00 by <u>July 2</u>, as I must order before I leave on vacation.

ADS CONVENTION

The ADS Convention will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on April 18-19-20, 1974, at the Holiday Inn North. Mrs. Neil Macneale is chairman, and we'll hear more from her in our next newsletter.

WELCOME

Welcome to the following new members. We hope you enjoy your association with the ADS and we hope to see you at the Fall meeting.

Mrs. Wilfred O. Mossbarger, 526 Church St., Chillicothe, Ohio 44601
Mrs. J. J. Francis, 14581 Rider Road, Burton, Ohio 44021
Mrs. Harold E. Cooper, Rt. 1, Box 199, Brookfield, Ohio 44403
Mr. Ray Scholz, 2499 Remsen Road, Medina, Ohio 44256
Mrs. David H. Dickason, 2301 Moores Pike, Bloomington, Indiana 47401
Miss Lura Emig, 1878 Demorest Road, Columbus, Ohio 43228

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

--Cynthia Bell

"Never before in the history of the Columbus Weather Bureau has there been recorded so long a period of very warm weather in March. Not only is one daily record after another falling, but each new day adds to the length of this record-breaking heat wave."

Stories like this appeared constantly in Columbus newspapers during the first half of March. Remember those 80 degree days and warm nights--seldom below 60? After a week they were beginning to feel normal and it was hard to believe all the bursting buds might be in danger.

Small Talk, Grant Mitsch's jaunty trumpet miniature, ushered in my daffodils on March 9. It was so tiny and alone but also so bright and confident, that I kept running out to see it all day. But other CODS members had even earlier blooms. Mary Lou Gripshover welcomed Asturiensis on March 4, and soon after her gardenful of colorful miniatures was fairly blinding excited visitors. Ruth Pardue reported March 2 for Unsurpassable, Content, and Diamond Jubilee. "This, however," she added, "was a disaster. I had bushels of bulbs from digging these 3 cultivars so I decided to experiment with extending the bloom season and planted some of these next to the fireplace where my first bloom always takes place. I had buds showing color and ready to open early in February due to that warm spell and they were frozen solid the night of February 15 when the temperature dipped down to the teens. When they did open in March they looked as though hot water had been poured over them and their foliage was so damaged I fear for their survival. I felt cruel and learned that you CAN extend the season too far!"

No one else, however, had a warning as gloomy as this. Of course, we were all cautious. Buds were uncovered only as they seemed ready to pop into bloom and often the mulch was left right there to be handy for quick re-covering. But as a riot of gold appeared on Monday morning, the twelfth of March, it was difficult for me to hold back any longer. February Gold and Peeping Tom, Charity May, Satellite, and Fortune all appeared at once. All were the best I had ever seen them, sturdy, blinding color, perfect form and substance, fantastic increases. These have, traditionally, been my first daffodils - sometime in early April and once, in 1968, as early as March 27. They would often look a bit weak and chilly, as well they might on a normally cool April morning. For me, it usually takes a week or two before this kind of excellence is consistent.

Another day or two and the bicolors, whites, and the golden trumpets were blooming. My favorite, Trousseau, had exquisite form and the number of buds amazed me. Frolic was huge, lasting, and hauntingly beautiful; Wahkeena's six perfect blooms burst forth simultaneously, with Gold Crown and Descanso appearing the next day. All were strong

and lovely even after Chapeau arrived, but this stunning progeny of Wahkeena and Festivity seemed to outclass them all for sheer vigor.

Then suddenly there were too many varieties to keep close count anymore. Trees were also leafing out and shrubs were setting their bloom. Peonies were tall and budding, day lily and even lily tips were well up. It became increasingly impossible to remember that it was not yet the middle of March. Everyone knew that cold weather was bound to return, but it was easy to believe that deep freezes were over. We just hoped the magnolias, ready to burst, would escape damage. Everyone was talking about the amazing vigor all their plants were showing. We thought about the mild, wet winter, the constant autumn rain, the absence of any deeply frozen ground. "This must be the secret of English and Oregon vegetation," we mused, and convinced ourselves that it was here to stay for this spring at least.

The morning of March 16 was like the others - warm and promising. Right after breakfast I counted a grand total of over forty-five varieties in bloom with another dozen which would surely open before evening. Among the loveliest was another miniature, Rupicola. I popped a glass jar over it, as my grandson was arriving with his mother the next day. Small Talk had been breakfast for a bunny and I had to show Christopher a miniature. He had been born just as the daffodils started to bloom in 1972 and I am hoping he will someday be a hybridizer.

By afternoon the ominous reports began, but Saturday morning appeared simply colder and still raining. By noon, however, Charity May and Peeping Tom were lying in icy snow and all recent blooms had been picked. I left colored buds where they were, but reluctantly. The five following days had nightly lows of 28 degrees, a variety of precipitation, and vicious winds; and Christopher played inside. Rupicola was snug and warm in the little glass house looking somewhat like Sleeping Beauty. But nothing else looked very pretty.

But when the weekend brought normal weather we all again saw demonstrated the remarkable recuperative strength of daffodils. More than and other flower they can weather these cold dips and recover. Charity May and Peeping Tom got up and started blooming all over again - never have I had these two around so long. The few buds of Trousseau I hadn't picked were the loveliest of all as they matured in the garden through their color changes. And as the pinks began opening, their color really did seem miraculous. Such intensity, clarity, and finely defined shadings were new to all of us. And they stayed pink, solid pink, with sturdy stems and perfect form.

And so the season proceeded once again and we gradually gave up our anxiety. By the end of March, we were way into mid-season bloom. But before we could worry too much about flowers for all the shows still weeks away, April went into cooler-than-usual weather and new bloom simply poked along. The flowers I left behind at Convention time looked just about the same when I returned. So does Spring right itself, setting the calendar at just about the spot it should be for May's arrival. As usual, the 3c's didn't really begin until the final week of the month and some drifted into early May. No serious damage was apparent in either stems or leaves and the cool April days brought forth excellent doubles with none of the usual blasting.

So again the daffodil season was over and again we had suffered much turmoil, learned many lessons, reaped amazing rewards. As I thought about the extra long season, a shaky wave of faint heartedness came over me and I wondered whether those first two weeks of glory

were worth the concern they caused. I remembered a note from Mary Elizabeth Blue and re-read it. It had arrived just as the madness was tasting like May wine.

"What do you suppose happened?" she wrote on March 15. "Beside my bed as I recuperate are Peeping Tom, Bartley, March Sunshine, February Gold, Sumptuous, Brunswick, Ice Follies, and Bambi. Asturiensis bloomed March 7 and Hokey brought it to the hospital to the delight and happiness of all the patients in the intensive care unit. One of the aides took it into every room and it brought smiles. It was a perfect bloom, tiny ruffled trumpet, smooth unblemished perianth segments."

So I had my answer. What more glory for a daffodil than an earlier-than-ever-before trip to the hospital? I only hope everyone had some unencumbered moments to savour the glorious beauty or our "once in a lifetime" 1973 Spring.

JUDGING SCHOOLS

Judging School III was held in Columbus and as a result we have several more accredited judges in our Region. If those of you who are students will let me know what courses you need, we'll try to arrange for the right course for you. Make-up courses in theory could possibly be held at the Fall Meeting. Obviously, the identification and judging would have to be held in Spring.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Oct. 13, 1973 - Fall Regional Meeting, Columbus, Ohio
April 18-20, 1974 - Convention & Show, Cincinnati, Ohio
April 27-28, 1974 - CODS Show, Columbus, Ohio

Hope you all have a good summer. Mary Lou Bridgehouse

ADS 1973 SYMPOSIUM BALLOT

Select up to 25 varieties of daffodils you have grown in your own garden for a minimum of 3 years. Consider both the quality of the bloom and the behavior of the plant but disregard price, reputation, and classification. However, do consider the early, late, and the various forms and types in making your list. Please list ALPHABETICALLY.

1._____	7._____	13._____	19._____
2._____	8._____	14._____	20._____
3._____	9._____	15._____	21._____
4._____	10._____	16._____	22._____
5._____	11._____	17._____	23._____
6._____	12._____	18._____	24._____

If you could grow only one_____ 25._____

No. varieties in your garden_____

Name_____ State_____