

Narcissus Notes

March 1986

Midwest Region-American Daffodil Society

Regional Vice-President:

Mrs. Walter G. Vonnegut
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Editor:

Mrs. Robert H. Brunner
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Regional Directors:

Mrs. David A. Spitz, 4985 Charlbury Drive, Columbus OH 43220

Mrs. William Pardue, 2519 Henthorne Road, Columbus OH 43221

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ADS President: Mrs. Goethe Link, Box 84, Brooklyn IN 46111

ADS Treasurer: Mr. Wells Knierim, 31090 Providence, Cleveland OH 44124

ADS Committee Chairmen:

Awards - Mrs. Hubert Bourne, 1052 Shadyhill Drive, Columbus OH 43221

Judges-Schools - Mrs. James Liggett, 4126 Winfield Rd., Columbus OH 44124

VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Spring - and the daffodils - are not far away! We had real spring weather here over the weekend, and the daffodils responded by shooting up through the mounds of leaves we still have.

As usual, April will be a very busy month for all of us, starting with the ADS National Convention in Memphis, Tennessee, April 3, 4, and 5. If you have never been to a national convention, I urge you to make the extra effort and go. It will be well worth it. If you can't make it this year, start planning now for the April 23-25, 1987, convention in Columbus, Ohio. If it is half as good as the one there in 1978, it will be superb. In 1978 (my first convention) I overheard people who had attended many others say, "This is the best convention we've ever had". Remember that even though CODS will be the official host group, the convention will be held in the Midwest Region. All members of this region should support this undertaking, both by attending at least a part of it and by helping when asked--or even by volunteering to help!

Soon after Memphis our regional shows will begin. Unfortunately, we have conflicts of more than one show on the same day this year, a situation which could not be avoided. The first show will be in Scottsburg, Indiana, on April 11 and the last, on May 3, in South Bend, Indiana. You will see the entire list of dates and places later in this letter. Do try to attend and enter as many as you can. You will learn much from each show.

Time passes very quickly--I am sure you all know that. My three years as your Regional Vice-President will end next month in Memphis. I have enjoyed the experience very much and thank each one of you for all of the help you have given me. Please continue to support your new Vice-President in every way. I especially wish to thank Caroline Brunner for being the editor of this newsletter. What a help she has been!

Phyllis Vonnegut



1986 DAFFODIL SHOWS

April 11

Scottsburg, Indiana
Indiana Daffodil Growers, South
Finley Firehouse
Hwy. 56 at Leota Road
Mrs. Verne Trueblood
RFDS, Box 187A
Scottsburg, Indiana, 47170

April 26, 27

Columbus, Ohio
Central Ohio Daffodil Society
Upper Arlington Municipal Services Bldg.
3200 Tremont Road
Handy Hatfield
22799 Ringgold Southern Road
Stoutsville, Ohio, 43154

April 19

Chillicothe, Ohio
Adena Daffodil Society
Veteran's Administration Medical
Center, Bldg. No. 9
Mrs. Mary Rutledge
704 Ashley Drive
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601

April 26, 27

Mansfield, Ohio
Kingwood Daffodil Society
Kingwood Center, Exhibit Hall
900 Park Avenue, West
Charles Applegate
Route 2, Box 163
Perrysville, Ohio, 44864

April 19

Cincinnati, Ohio
Southwest Ohio Daffodil Society
Delhi Flower & Garden Center
Cincinnati, Ohio
Pat Kipp
3878 Lincoln Road
Cincinnati, Ohio, 45247

May 3

Akron, Ohio
Northeast Ohio Daffodil Society
Chapel Hill Mall,
2000 Brittain Road
Jack Ward
1743 Lafayette Circle
Stow, Ohio

April 24 -- MIDWEST REGION SHOW

Indianapolis, Indiana
Indiana Daffodil Society
Meridian Street Methodist Church
5500 N. Meridian Street (St. Rd. 31)
Mrs. Robert Brunner
610 College Lane
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46240

May 3

South Bend, Indiana
Northern Indiana Daffodil Growers
University Park Mall
Charles Wheatley
P.O. Box 150
Mingo, Indiana, 46771

Names and addresses listed are those from whom show information and schedules may be obtained.

We hope all of you will bring your best blooms to the Midwest Regional Show on April 24. Some schedules have been given out, and the IDS members attending the National Convention will have some available, or you may write to Mrs. Brunner for one. Artistic designs are needed, too; as we requested at the Regional Meeting last fall, at least one design by a member from each society would greatly add to the show. Preregister with Mrs. Robert Mannfeld, 842 Park Central Drive South, Apt. A, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46260.

JUDGING SCHOOL III - April 28

Judging School III will be held in the Upper Arlington Municipal Services Building, 3200 Fremont Road, Columbus, Ohio, 43221. Chairman of the School is Mrs. James Liggett, 4126 Winfield Road, Columbus, Ohio, 44124. If you are an accredited judge and need a refresher course, this course will qualify. Remember, you MUST refresh every three years. You do not have to take the test.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members:

Nora Branch, Indianapolis Public Library, 8625 Guilford, Indianapolis IN 46240

Mrs. John L. Pope, 7610 Acton Road, Acton IN 46259

Indianapolis Museum of Art Horticultural Society, 1200 West 38th Street,
Indianapolis IN 46208

Peggy Steffel, 72 Elmwood Drive, Delaware OH 43015

Mrs. James Keene, 604 Velvet Avenue, Portage MI 49002

F. H. Helmreich, 1226 Young Street, Port Huron MI 48060

Nancy H. Waldron, Box 193, 1909 Resort Road, Burt Lake MI 49717

Jeff Gali, 21008 Halworth, Beachwood OH 44122

Mrs. Herb L. Kromholz, 5650 Miami Road, Cincinnati OH 45243

AN AFTERNOON WITH THE POSTLES

by Leone Low

Clive Postle, a nearby neighbor of the late John Lea, is growing John's last seeds and seedlings. He also acquired many of the Lea bulbs. I visited Clive, his attractive blonde wife Astrid, and their twenty-year-old son in Droitwich in early September. Their cottage is an intriguing mix of the historic 17th century and the modern. It was perfectly framed by Astrid's stunning perennial garden. It lacked only daffodil blooms!

However, Clive showed me the seedling boxes and beds, bulb storerooms and drying trays, bags of two-year-down seedlings (about the size of snowdrops), and the bulb growing area. He had a number of things to say about growing, showing, and hybridizing daffodils. He won best blooms this year at both major British shows, the London show and the RHS show, with APRIL LOVE, 1 W-W, and GOLD CONVENTION, 1 Y-Y. He said his son took over the grooming of the April Love and was able to move the perianth back to the correct angle, after they had given up on it.

It was surprising to hear that he plants his bulbs without fertilizer. The soil was manured for hundreds of years, so he finds it sufficient to scatter fertilizer when the foliage emerges. He waters regularly. His Midland growing area is cool and windy, so he puts black plastic over the beds to encourage early growth. Then he has racks that hold recycled windows and create mini-greenhouses. He says that he also has burlap caps to shade red cups that might otherwise burn.

When he digs his bulbs, he hoses them clean and dips them in a benlate solution within a few hours after digging. He also recommends thiabendazole (sold in England as Tecto and Storite) as a later dip, usually in conjunction with other chemicals. His daffodil business, which is hobby-sized at present, appeared clean, well organized, and has been fitted in unobtrusively behind Astrid's lovely garden.

Since he knows that a number of Midwest Region members are interested in hybridizing, he had some suggestions: cross cultivars within a class; try for improvement in each class separately. For example, BALVENIE 2 W-P x DAILMANACH 2 W-P. Neither he nor John Lea have used INVERPOLLY 2 W-W in hybridizing pinks for twenty years since the progeny are too pale. He has been hybridizing long enough that he rarely makes a cross involving named cultivars; instead, he uses his of John Lea's seedlings under number. Because not every cultivar is both seed and pollen fertile, he plans his crosses in advance, but he may change his strategy when he looks at the actual blooms and another cross seems more appropriate. Blooms seldom set seed spontaneously. However, a SILVER CONVENTION sister seedling which was best bloom in Liverpool in 1984 produced seeds in every uncut bloom, to his astonishment. He said that he planted them all, since he wanted to see if Mother Nature really knew best!

(continued next page)

The Postles said that Mrs. Lea is continuing her career as a magistrate. She has sold the last of the Lea daffodils, and she is in the process of selling Dunley Hall. Unlike the Leas, the Postles have no guest room, but they welcome visitors just as much.

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(Ed. note: Tag Bourne sends this recipe that Naomi Liggett used for the dish she brought to the fall Regional Meeting. She used Uncle Ben's rice, water chestnuts and cream of celery soup.)

CHICKEN BROCCOLI CASSEROLE

- 1 6 oz. pkg. seasoned long grain & wild rice
- 1 10 oz. pkg. frozen chopped broccoli
- 3/4 cup cooked chicken
- 1 4 oz. sliced drained mushrooms or 8 oz. water chestnuts
- 1 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- 1 cup cream of celery or cream of mushroom soup
- 1 cup Hellman's mayo (or Best Foods)
- 2 t. prepared mustard
- 1 t. curry powder
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese

Cook rice. Use a 9" x 13" pan. Spread rice on bottom; cover with broccoli. Mix chicken, mushrooms or water chestnuts, soup, cheddar cheese, mayo, mustard, and curry powder. Pour over broccoli. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese. Bake @ 350° for 45 minutes. Serves 6 - 8 people.

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It has been a pleasure serving as editor of NARCISSUS NOTES for the past 3 years; I have learned much, and I wish the new editor God speed and fewer typos! May your blooms be beautiful in garden and prize-winning in shows!

Caroline Brunner

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