



NARCISSUS NOTES

Newsletter of the Midwest Region
Spring, 2004

MIDWEST REGION SHOW DATES

Kentucky Daffodil Society, Louisville,April 3
**New location this year, Middletown Elementary School,
218 Madison Ave.**

Hilda Dunaway, HTDunaway@aol.com; 502-458-7121

Indiana Daffodil Growers South, Leota..... April 7-8
Helen Trueblood, 812-752-2998

SWODS, CincinnatiApril 10-11
Linda Wallpe, lwallpe@juno.com; 513-221-4140

National Show, Washington, DCApril 16-18

Granville Garden Club ShowApril 17-18
Tina Washka, Osageacresfarm@aol.com (Non-ADS show)

Fellows Riverside Gardens, YoungstownApril 17-18
Keith Kaiser, kkaiser@cboss.com (Non-ADS show)

Adena Daffodil Society, **Midwest Regional Show**,
ChillicotheApril 21-22
Note change in venue from that listed in the Journal.
Trinity United Methodist Church, 82 E. Main St.
Mary Ellen Sheridan, 85 E. Fourth St., Chillicothe, OH
45601; 740-775-7595

Indiana Daffodil Society, IndianapolisApril 21-22
**New location this year, Pleasant View Lutheran
Church**
Kay Cunningham, donkay1959@aol.com; 812-876-7947
Suzy Wert, limequilla@aol.com; 317-445-6993

Western Reserve, WadsworthApril 22
Sacred Heart Catholic Church; staging open at 5:00a.m.
Dan Bellinger, cuyahoga@neo.rr.com; 330-336-6314

CODS, Columbus.....April 24-25
Phyllis Hess, plhess@ee.net; 614-882-5720

NODS, AkronApril 27
Doug Fuhrmeyer, 330-467-4788 (Non-ADS show)

NEW Bertrand Barn Show, Bertrand, MIMay 2
John Reed, 269-684-3327; oakwooddaff@direcway.com
Suzy Wert, 317-259-0060; limequilla@aol.com

NEW OFFICERS are being installed in the ADS in April, so it seems fitting to meet the new regional officers.

Meet the new RVP—Phyllis Hess

Phyllis has been a member of ADS for 20 years and has served as Secretary since spring of 1994. She's active in CODS and has held most of their offices at one time or another. She's an excellent exhibitor and her favorite daffodils are the whites, 'Ashmore', 'Mountain Dew', 'Homestead', and 'Ice House'. She also confesses a fondness for the yellow/reds 'Dynasty', 'Someday', and 'Cameo Fire'.

Phyllis is a collector of Heisey Glass, following in her mother's footsteps. In "real life" she is in charge of a golf group that plays different courses around Central Ohio, and she plans three or four trips for them each year. She announced high school football games for Olentangy High School for 25 years (the first woman to do so in Ohio) and is an avid OSU football fan. She enjoys attending grandkids' soccer and football games, and husband Dave's softball games. (Yes, he still plays in over-70 and over-60 leagues.) Oh yes, she recently retired from driving a school bus, which she had done for 30 years.

Meet the new Regional Director—Sally Heckscher

Sally says she's been in ADS "since Peggy Macneale snagged me just before the Portland show in 1990. I almost called her to see about going, but somehow thought I needed to know a whole lot more before attending a convention. I've been sorry I didn't jump at the chance ever since."

She learned about daffodils and other flowers from her grandmother, Dorothy Rowe, who was shocked to spend more than \$1-\$2 for weird new "pink and white" daffodils! Sally helped her hostess the tour of the Rowe Arboretum when the ADS convention visited in 1974. Sally has a hard time finding a daffodil she doesn't like, but has a few winners that she loves—'Gay Song', 4 W-W, and 'Jetfire' which was her introduction to Div. 6. Coming from a family of birdwatchers and travelers, she's collected quite a few with bird names and places she's visited.

She's active in SWODS and several garden clubs. She volunteers for many Cincinnati area groups, enjoys yoga and Pilates. She and Jack have been married for 35 years, and have two children and a new granddaughter. Oh . . . she also gets letters from Robert Redford, but you'll have to ask her about that! ☺



KDS Show in Louisville to be in new location

The Kentucky Daffodil Society show will be at Middletown Elementary School, 218 N. Madison Ave in Louisville this year. There will be no Photo Section this year as no one entered last year. We gave bulbs to the school children to plant last fall. The teacher was excited about the idea for them to show the blooms, so we hope to have a good response from them.

--Hilda Dunaway



Leota Barn

If you've been to this show in Helen Trueblood's barn before, you know you'll see good flowers, have a good time, and be fed good food! If you're a judge and you come, expect to help with the judging. Sort of like singing for your supper!



SWODS Show adds new class to schedule

The SWODS show, Daffodowndilly, will take place on April 10-11 at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens. (Entries from 7:30 - 10:00AM on April 10th. Show opens at 2PM.)

There will be a new award for Innovation in Hybridizing in the SWODS schedule this year. A special judging panel will judge this section, those knowledgeable of today's standards and qualified to rate the quality of the breakthrough. The exhibitor should be prepared to state on the entry card what the innovation is.

Once again, there will be a Photography Section. Look through all those photos you took in your garden last spring and go for a blue ribbon! Tom Stettner needs some competition.

If anyone wants the schedule e-mailed to them, contact Rebecca Koesters at edwardsmom@ameritech.net and she will send an Acrobat file. She hopes to have the schedule ready by the end of February

--Linda Wallpe



If you were at the Regional Meeting last fall, you heard Jill Griesse tell about the Granville Garden Club Show. Why not visit the show to see for yourself?

Granville Garden Club Show

Our show dates and hours this year will be Saturday, April 17, 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 18, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. As always, it will be held at the College Town House in downtown Granville. The address is 334 E. Broadway. The College Town House is located next to the Granville Inn at the corner of Broadway and Granger Street.

This year's theme is "Reflections of Ourselves." In 2005 Granville will be celebrating its 200th anniversary, therefore we thought we would take a look back at our Club's history this year, and next year we will be working with the Bicentennial Commission to have a show that reflects Granville's History. It's always fun to think up new themes!!!

Our theme will be echoed throughout the show in each of the rooms. It is truly an amazing sight to see up to 400 varieties of Daffodil blooms at one time. The fragrance and beauty is breathtaking. Our show guests look forward not only to viewing and buying bulbs, but also viewing the niches, miniature displays, exquisite arrangements and scenes that our members put together. "Reflections of Ourselves" is not only the story of the vibrant ladies of our club, but also the history of the Daffodil Show. It promises nostalgia, humor and beauty.

Hopefully we'll see you at the show!!!

--Tina Washka



Fellows Riverside Gardens Daffodil Show

Gardeners and plant lovers will find diverse and interesting collections throughout the twelve acres of Fellows Riverside Gardens, 123 McKinley Ave., a public garden operated by Mill Creek MetroParks in Youngstown, Ohio. Roses of all classes are displayed along with other specialty collections such as heather, daffodil, shade, herb, and rock garden plants. Scenic vistas; identified trees and shrubs; and colorful seasonal displays of annuals, perennials, and flowering bulbs comprise the many features found throughout the year.

The Davis Education & Visitor Center offers visitors the opportunity to learn about plants year around. This unique facility includes exhibit spaces, art gallery, auditorium, classrooms, horticulture library, history museum, café, gift shop, and observation tower with at breathtaking view of Lake Glacier.

On Saturday and Sunday April 17 & 18, participate in the Fellows Riverside Gardens Daffodil Show. Entries will be accepted between 8:30 -10:30am on Saturday. OPEN TO ALL. Judging will follow the acceptance of entries with the show open for viewing until 5pm on Saturday, and 10am - 5pm on Sunday.

To receive a show schedule, directions or general information call Fellows Riverside Gardens at 330/740-7116 or email us at fellowsriversidegardens@cboss.com Hope to see you in April.

--Keith Kaiser



Adena Daffodil Society, Midwest Region Show

The Adena Daffodil Society welcomes daffodil growers to come and participate in this year's Midwest Regional Show. In addition to all of the regular ADS awards to be

For more information on the show, contact:
John Reed, 269-684-3327; oakwooddaff@direcway.com
Suzy Wert, 317-259-0060; limequilla@aol.com



The IDS is in Mourning

Joe Hamm has money down on a six-acre property in Hickory, Pennsylvania (Mount Pleasant Township in Washington County if anybody wants the specifics). The lot is undeveloped and has no trees, so Joe will definitely be starting from scratch. Right now it's set to close in March, but Joe is waiting to see if the state accepts his plan for an alternative septic system. If they don't, there are several properties in/near Hickory, including a wonderful lot edged in trees with a picturesque old barn.

Following the footsteps of Helen Trueblood, Joe is planning on having an outbuilding that is large enough to host his own society and host his own show. He says you're all invited when the time comes; bring your own sleeping bag.

Joe is currently packing odds and ends and his house in Indianapolis is for sale. The daffodils are moved to a holding pen in Hickory and taken care of by his friends Fred Settig and Chuck Orton. Fred belongs to the Western Pennsylvania Daffodil and Hosta Society but readers might remember him from the Cincinnati Convention and also look for him at the Washington DC convention this spring.

What's Joe looking for besides a great open area with a slope for daffodil growing? The move will be close enough to his family in Pittsburgh that they "can find my body after three days." When I tried to get more specifics, Joe said, "I don't know anything else at this point; I might move to Ohio!"

Pennsylvania, Hickory -- It's all the same to IDS members: Joe Hamm is definitely leaving us. Members will be wearing black armbands at the Spring Show.

--Suzy Wert



GETTING READY FOR THE DAFFODIL SHOW

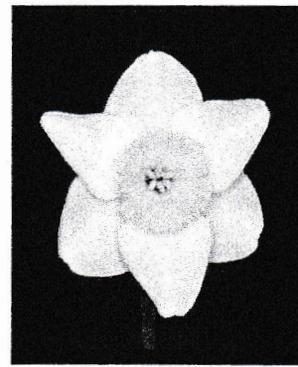
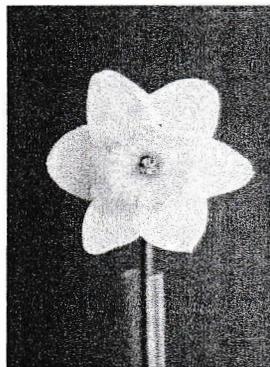
Never exhibited in a daffodil show before? Maybe this is the year to take the plunge! Presumably you've planted wonderful daffodils in the fall, and now you want to exhibit them at the flower show this spring. So, what are some of the things you can do in advance?

Mulch your bulbs. If you haven't mulched when you planted, try to get some mulch on the beds prior to bulb growth. You can do it after growth has started, but it's much easier if they're up no more than an inch. You can use fine pine bark, straw, hay, Hershey's cocoa hulls,

whatever is convenient for you. Just don't use peat as a mulch. When it rains, the spatters from the peat dirties the flowers, and it's hard to get off. It's much easier to remove ordinary soil spots. The mulch is to keep the flowers clean when it rains. If you mulched in the fall, you don't need to mulch again.

Walk through your garden frequently, looking for possible blooms to take to the show. If stormy weather, hail, etc., is forecast, you'll want to cut the flowers to bring inside. If it's a cultivar that "burns" easily, you will probably want to cut the flower when it is about 3/4 open. Put the flower in water, in a dark basement, for a few days to let it mature inside. A fine spray mist from time to time would prove helpful. Flowers will grow larger if you can let them mature in growth, but cutting and putting in a dark basement works almost as well. And you don't run the risk of the flower being damaged before the show date.

Some grooming tips: most daffodils should "look you in the eye." So if the head is hanging down, you should try to gently lift it. "Gently" is relative, and you have to practice. Take a flower and push its bloom up, toward the sky. You don't want to push so hard you break the neck, but if you do it right, a bloom that was looking down can be brought up to a pose that is more acceptable to judges. Division 5 and 6 flowers are the exception. They tend to look down. The six petals (and if there are less than that, let the flower home) should preferably be flat, in the same plane. If the petals are hanging over the cup, or "hooded," push the petals back and gently massage them with your fingers. You'll be amazed how much better the flower looks. The warmth of your hands can do a lot to improve the flower's appearance. You'll hear judges say a flower wasn't "clocked." That means that the upper and lower petals don't line up with the stem in a straight line. So, what to do? Gently, there's that word again, twist the flower head until they line up. This is a small point, but you can see for yourself how much better the flower looks. If you want to enter a vase of 3, choose three blooms that are as close to identical as you can.



OK, your flower looks perfect 10 days before the show date. What now? You're out of luck? No. Cut it and refrigerate it. First clean off any dirt that may be on the flower. You can do this with a Q-tip dipped in water. If the spot is troublesome, put a drop of dishwashing liquid in the water, then gently rub the spot. (If you've mulched,

you probably won't have a problem.) There are several schools of thought on refrigeration. Some put the flowers in water, with a plastic bag over them and keep them that way. I prefer to put them, without water, into plastic bags and lay them on my refrigerator shelf. When I take them out to exhibit (the night before), I re-cut the end of the stem and put them in water. Even those that look wilted will probably recover. Doesn't work for miniatures, though. You have to put them in water in the fridge to keep. If you don't try it, you won't have the flower, so what have you got to lose?

Know the names of your daffodils. When you plant bulbs, make some kind of map or planting diagram so that you'll know in the spring what you're looking at. Labels in the garden are good, but do the diagram also, in case labels get moved by children or animals, or by ground freezing and thawing. As you cut flowers, write the name on the stem, using a ball point pen—or something that won't wash off.

The night before the show (or even as the flowers are growing), decide if you want to do any collections. Choose what flowers you want to use, and don't forget to have extras on hand in case you need to make last minute substitutions. This eliminates a lot of stress the morning of the show.

Make out your entry cards in advance. If you have address labels, or a stamp that will print your name and address, you can put them on the cards weeks in advance. Then all you have to do is put the flower name, classification, and class number on the entry card at the last minute, maybe the night before. Anything you can do in advance saves on stress the day of the show.

BUT I DON'T WANT TO EXHIBIT . . .

I just want to enjoy my flowers in the garden, or share them with friends. That's fine, too. So use the time on your daily walks through the garden looking for signs of disease as well as enjoying the flowers. Yellow stripe is something I hope I don't see. Sometimes this can be confused with weather damage. When foliage comes up in late fall or early winter, it can get damaged by the cold weather. Sometimes the tips become yellow. Sometimes the foliage is yellow if it's been under snow cover for a long time. But in yellow stripe virus, the thin yellow lines go from the tips of the foliage down to ground level. Conventional wisdom says to dig the infected bulbs and throw them away—not on your compost pile, but in the trash. Some say that the virus is present in a lot of bulbs, but only appears when the bulbs are otherwise stressed, and doesn't appear every year. And some say certain cultivars are "Typhoid Mary's," carrying the virus but never displaying symptoms. 'Silver Chimes' is said to be one such cultivar. As with "people" viruses, there is no cure for virus, thus the admonition to throw them away. It's said the virus spreads by aphids who feast on one leaf then another thus spreading the disease, and by the cutting knife when cutting flowers. There's a discussion currently

on Daffnet about viruses, with some opting to keep the bulbs, but watch for signs of spreading to other cultivars. Others say dig immediately. So, it's your choice.



It's also a good idea to check the foliage for "spikkels," or bumps along the leaves, a symptom of nematodes. I don't think there's any disagreement on what to do with these bulbs. Get them out as soon as you can! Either treat the soil with something like Basamid or don't plant bulbs back in that location for several years as the nematodes live in the soil. You can save the bulbs, but you'll have to give them hot water treatment before re-planting. You can rig up a "home cooker" by using a hot tray of the type used on buffet tables as the heat source. Then use any container that won't be hurt by heat, half fill with water and bring it to a temperature of 112°. Put the bulbs in the water and maintain a temperature of 112° for 3 hours. The temperature will drop when you put the bulbs in, so you might want to add hot water to get it back up to 112° as quickly as possible. If the water gets too hot, add cold water. I keep the bulbs in the net bags, with the labels, as it's easier to deal with them that way.

Daffodil flies don't show up until later in the season, when it begins to get warm. You might see them flying about or sunning themselves on the flowers or leaves. They look like overgrown house flies, or smallish bumble bees. Get out your butterfly net and amuse the neighbors as you try to catch the flies! I'm not sure which chemicals are currently approved for use on daffodils to control fly, but Dursban, Cygon-E, and Dylox 80 used to be approved. USE EXTREME CARE WITH ALL CHEMICALS, and follow all directions on the label. Raid Wasp and Hornet Killer will kill the fly, but it will also damage any foliage it hits. You can do a lot to control bulb flies if you give your bulbs a good squeeze when you plant. If the bulbs are soft, it's likely there's a fly larva inside. You can either discard the bulb, or try to get the larva out with some sort of hook. Depends, I guess, on how much you value the bulb.

THE CENTRAL OHIO DAFFODIL SOCIETY will meet at Inniswood Metro Gardens, 940 Hempstead Rd., Westerville, OH, 614-895-6216, on Saturday, March 13 at 2:00p.m.

Joe Hamm, former chairman of the Historic Daffodils Committee for The American Daffodil Society will conduct the program "Historics."

BRING A FRIEND, THE PUBLIC IS INVITED. SEE YOU THERE!!

From Interstate 71 North go East on Interstate 270 exit at OH Route 3 South, exit 29. Turn left onto Westerville Road/Ohio route 3 for 0.2 miles, turn Left onto Dempsey Road go 1 mile to left on S. Hempstead go 0.2 miles and turn right on S. Hempstead (will be Y in the road) entrance to Inniswood will be just ahead on the right.



**Celebrating 50 years of daffodils, Washington, DC,
April 16-18, 2004
Come join the party!**

<http://www.adsconvention2004.org/>

Mary Lou Gripshover
1797 Grey Fox Trail
Milford, OH 45150

Welcome to Bill Evans, who has joined in a family membership with his wife, Pat. Pat is the Past President of KDS, and she and Bill are always an integral part of the KDS Show in Louisville. Pat has a lot of gardening interests, of which daffodils play an important part. Now Bill gets to do all that hard work officially!

And a hearty welcome to Debra Knapke. (873 Clover Drive Columbus OH 43235, 614-459-7167, email dknapke@copper.net) Debra teaches at Columbus State in the Landscape Design Program. She's the author of three books on gardening, and has been growing daffodils for about 17 years. She loves the diminutive daffs and says she's a sucker for the fragrant ones, especially if they are "heirlooms." 'Thalia' and 'Petrel' are favorites.