

PRESS RELEASE

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SWODS (SOUTH WESTERN OHIO DAFFODIL SOCIETY)

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Peggy Macneale Honored

SWODS gives first Distinguished Service Award

For Immediate Release

[Cincinnati, Ohio]—At the regional meeting of the American Daffodil Society on October 2, 1994, the South-Western Ohio Daffodil Society (SWODS) presented its first-ever award to Peggy Macneale for distinguished service, on the occasion of the society's 25th anniversary. Bill Lee, SWODS chairman, presented a framed certificate and Liz Ragouzis read a poem she wrote in Peggy's honor.

Peggy Macneale, a founding member of SWODS, was recognized for contributions in many areas of daffodil culture and education. SWODS especially commended her efforts in founding the society, recruiting members, training members for sustaining the society's life, regularly contributing articles to the American Daffodil Society's award-winning journal, educating the public by speaking about daffodils citywide, searching out opportunities for SWODS to gain public exposure through garden fairs, researching methods to promote wider variety in cultivars offered by local nurseries, and always being on hand to help in all SWODS activities.

Members recalled how Peggy noticed frequent daffodils on display at her local grocery store and persisted in discovering who provided them. She then recruited this young manager, Tom Stettner, as a member. He is now a student judge and active member of SWODS and the national society. Bill Lee recalls the year SWODS staged its annual show at a local mall the weekend before Easter. The Easter Bunny rued the day he occupied center court in place of the daffodils as Peggy worked vigorously with management to bring daffodils to the forefront.

Peggy's daffodil activities in 1994 include the following:

(1) Writing and producing a daffodil slide show and script titled "Birds and Their Daffodil Namesakes," which describes and illustrates daffodil cultivars that are named after birds. The slides show both the bird and the cultivar named for it.

(2) Designing a modestly-priced collection of ten daffodils of Australian/New Zealand/Tasmanian breeding for sale to local members to increase participation in the "Down-Under" collection class in local daffodil shows. Peggy has observed that few if any entries are made in this classification and demonstrated her inimitable pluck and creativity in solving the problem by offering this inexpensive collection so members could participate in this exhibition class.

(3) Judging and exhibiting in daffodil shows in Cincinnati, Dayton, and Columbus(all Ohio), Scottsburg and Indianapolis, Indiana, and Minneapolis. She has also judged the Philadelphia Flower Show in the past and will do so again in 1995.

Peggy Macneale is a driving force in SWODS, and the fact that SWODS is celebrating its 25th year in 1994 attests to the efforts of this founding member.

Whenever there is an event, she is the first one to arrive and the last one to leave. She

prepares her show entries the day before, after she has helped in all the setup activities, so that she can spend the rest of the time meeting show visitors and answering questions and helping them. Peggy Macneale is an asset whose value is beyond compare.