



SWODS News

REGIONAL MEETING OCTOBER 6 DON'T MISS THIS ONE

The Regional Meeting of the American Daffodil Society will be held Sunday, October 6, at 10:00AM, with local societies holding meetings at 9:30AM (in other words, be there by 9:30 for the SWODS meeting—we need to make plans for the spring show). The meeting is at the Cincinnati Civic Garden Center at Reading Road and Wm. Howard Taft.

The meeting will feature a slide show on double daffodils, a brief presentation by Suzy Wert of Indianapolis on the Junior Daffodil Grower's Club, a project Suzy started to get more youngsters involved in daffodils to ensure the continuing life of the society, and a potluck lunch (bring a covered dish or desert, plus your own dining essentials—you'll need a good-sized plate to sample all the goodies). If you have any slides of daffodils you want to discuss or ask questions about, please bring those along—the projector and screen will be available for use. The meeting concludes with the bulb exchange. **DON'T MISS THE BULB EXCHANGE**—it is a wonderful way to acquire new daffodils at no cost whatsoever. And because daffodil enthusiasts are so generous you can even participate in the "exchange" without having any daffodils of your own to contribute. There are always some very choice cultivars at the exchange.

DIRECTIONS FROM I-75: Take the Hopple Street Exit and go east toward UC. This street changes names from Dixmyth (as you go up the hill) to Martin Luther King Drive. Keep going straight until you reach Reading Road and turn right on Reading Road. The Civic Garden Center will be on your right in about 3 blocks. Turn right on Oak Street and immediately left into the parking lot.

ZOO SALE A SUCCESS

September 28-29 was SWODS' first attempt at a bulb sale on a large scale. We used a combination of 500 bulbs purchased from Daffodil Mart and additional bulbs donated by Harold McConnell, Peggy Macneale, John Bloomstrom, Linda Wallpe, Bill Lee and Hurst Sloniker, and Tom Stettner. Harold donated a large quantity with many interesting top-quality cultivars, as did Peggy Macneale.

Saturday began with rain and the traffic at the Zoo was very light all morning, picking up slightly in the afternoon. Linda Wallpe and Bill Lee set up the exhibit and staffed it the whole day, joined by Harold McConnell in the afternoon. They sold about \$250 worth that day. At the same time Peggy Macneale had a booth at the Wyoming Fall Harvest celebration and with some help from Liz Ragouzis sold about \$340 worth of bulbs. Peggy had promoted this for weeks to everyone in Wyoming she met—if we had more members who worked as hard and promoted daffodils as vigorously as Peggy, we'd be able to build our own downtown stadium.

On the second day at the Zoo, Peggy and Linda opened and were joined by Bill and Shirley Boardman and Ted and Susan Ruoff to help during the day. That day's sales amounted to about \$400. Total proceeds were \$978.75, just under \$1,000. Expenses are being tallied, including the cost of the Daffodil Mart bulbs, but we should have over \$700 profit. We can well use these funds to begin building new show properties. We may even be able to begin thinking about funding some new projects.

Next year we'd like to see more donated bulbs (100% profit) and more volunteers to work. There may be opportunities to establish sales in Dayton or other Cincinnati locations in future years.

QUALITY GIFT ITEMS FOR SALE

We located some high-quality gift items to sell at the Zoo sale and there was not much demand for them. Therefore, they are being offered to SWODS members. We have available pins, lead crystal ornaments, and etched beveled glass "suncatchers".

The pins are enameled daffodils on a black or gold background, and quite well-designed and attractive. They retail for \$18, but we can offer them at \$15. They'd be great on a lapel, fun to wear at garden meetings and flower shows, and a great way to promote our favorite flower. They measure 1" x 2".

The lead crystal ornaments are 2-3/4 x 3-1/2" and show an etched daffodil in the center surrounded by a carved crystal frame. These are also quite striking and we can offer them for \$13.50. They can be used as Christmas tree ornaments, as suncatchers, or displayed anywhere lead crystal would be appropriate. These are crafted by an artist in Maryland.

The beveled glass suncatchers are 6" in diameter in a gold-tone frame, with a chain for hanging. The daffodil is etched in the center. There are only four of these available at \$20 each.

All three items will be offered for sale at the regional meeting. However you can reserve one before they are sold out by calling Bill Lee at 752-8104. Leave a message on the machine if Bill is not at home. These can be picked up or we can mail them for about \$2.00 each. Please note that the 6" suncatchers cannot be mailed.

All profits benefit SWODS on these items.

POTTING PARTY

The first annual potting party will be held on November 8, Friday evening at 7:30 PM at Peggy Macneale's house. The Macneales are at 524 Abilene Trail, which is off of Hilltop Lane off Compton Road in the Finneytown/Wyoming area. About 20 people have prepaid their bulbs and materials. Others might want to attend just to hear the instructions on how to pot daffodil bulbs for forcing. And of course you can buy your own bulbs and pots and bring them along and pot them up as you hear how to do it from Peggy Macneale, who has been successfully forcing bulbs for many years.

If you are buying your own bulbs, suggested cultivars for successful forcing (not all will force well) are Tete-a-Tete, Salome, Ice Follies, Carlton, and February Gold. Many of these are still available in local nurseries and discount stores. Don't forget to check Frank's, Bigg's, and Meijer's. Tete-a-Tete was spotted at the Eastgate Bigg's this weekend. For a pot you want something the size of an azalea pot, not quite as tall as the pots many perennials come in. Soil mix will be available.

Peggy needs some folding chairs for this event. If you have any you can bring, call Peggy at 522-7025 to see if they are needed. Those who prepaid may wish to bring a box or flat to contain the three pots you will be taking home.

To get to Peggy's from I-75, take the Galbraith Road exit and go West on Galbraith. At Vine Street, turn right and look for Compton Road on your left. Turn left onto Compton and follow it up the hill to Hilltop Lane. Turn right onto Hilltop and then right onto Abilene Trail. Peggy's phone number is 522-7025 if you need directions or more information.

1996 CHALLENGE BULBS STILL AVAILABLE

There are still some Challenge Bulbs available. There are two Challenge Bulbs this year, sold as a single package. Each package will consist of two bulbs of

Tripartite(11Y-Y) and one bulb of The Alliance (6Y-Y). Tripartite is a favorite for many, as it is a split corona daffodil, but it also has multiple florets per stem. Even those who don't normally like the split corona daffodils seem to like Tripartite. It grows well here and multiplies. A "good do-er," as we say. The Alliance is a classic cyclamineus, and usually appears on everyone's list of favorite Division 6 cultivars.

The price for a package of two Tripartites and one The Alliance is \$5.00. Send a check to Liz Ragouzis, payable to SWODS, to secure your order—but hurry before they're all gone. If you can't be at the regional meeting to pick them up, we can send them to you if you include \$2.00 extra; or we can arrange to have you pick them up.

For new members who may not be familiar with the concept of a Challenge Bulb, each year we choose one cultivar that is both successful in the gardens in this area and show-worthy. We offer it as a Challenge Bulb at a price usually lower than you can buy the same cultivar for from any other supplier. Then in next year's show there will be special classes for the Challenge Bulbs, open to SWODS members only, in which members compete to see who has been most successful. Even if you do not intend to show your Challenge Bulb flowers, the cultivars selected will do well in your garden and are worth purchasing.

1997 DAFFODIL SHOW APRIL 19-20 AT THE ZOO

The 1997 daffodil show will be April 19-20 at the Cincinnati Zoo in the Peacock Pavilion. Committee chairs are being appointed by the co-chairs of the show, Don Caton and Mary Lou Gripshover. There may be a call for volunteers at the regional meeting, but no one should think for a minute that skipping the meeting will avoid a phone call from Don or Mary Lou that begins "I really need you to help at the show with..."

FUTURE CHALLENGE BULBS

Harold McConnell has furnished bulbs of Quasar, Fellowship, Pink Whisper, High Society, and Colley Gate as future Challenge Bulbs. As you know, we have always purchased our Challenge Bulbs and then sold them at cost. For these five bulbs we will be able to sell them at 100% profit. The bulbs will be planted by Bill Lee and Hurst Sloniker to be grown to blooming size. When they have increased to about 50 bulbs they will be offered as Challenge Bulbs. This will give us five years of pure profit from our Challenge Bulb. Anyone else who is interested in raising bulbs to donate for a Challenge Bulb should contact Bill Lee at 752-8104 to discuss

details. We could also use more people who are willing to donate bulbs for this purpose.

DUES NOTICE

Of course, no SWODS mailing would be complete without a plea to update your dues. Dues are always due at Showtime; therefore, 1996 dues are now past due. Please update your membership today.

The 2-digit number above your name on the mailing label shows the last year you paid dues. A "P" indicates that you are a prospective member who has shown an interest in daffodils but who has never formally joined SWODS. Dues are still only \$5.00 per year.

Send your payments to Liz Ragouzis, 425 Rawson Woods Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45220. If you think our records are incorrect, call Liz Ragouzis at 221-1166.

CONVENTION PLANNING BEGINS

A small group has met to begin planning for the national daffodil convention in Cincinnati. Many chair positions have been filled, but many are still to be filled and all members will be needed to work on tasks to make the convention successful.

Some initial thoughts include the following ideas:

- Use a downtown hotel so traveling spouses have enough to do. The Omni Netherland would be ideal—imagine a large daffodil show staged in the Hall of Mirrors.
- Include a boutique of merchandise for sale.
- Involve local garden, flower, and plant societies in events. This could lead to additional exposure, new memberships, and more revenue.
- Schedule two days to include oral presentations in repeating sessions in the mornings, followed by lunch

and tours of local gardens that feature daffodils in the afternoon.

- Gardens on the tours should have the owners present for answering questions. Cold drinks should also be available at each site. Perhaps lunch could also be served there.

GARDEN TIP

I spent \$7.00 at Meijer's for a 30" wide plastic leaf rake, figuring that it wasn't that much money if it didn't do a good job. The performance is way beyond my expectations. It is extremely lightweight and does a fantastic job of raking up leaves and/or grass clippings rapidly. I'm thinking of buying a second one just in case some tines break before I finish with the fall chores. I highly recommend these rakes. I have also

seen them at Builder's Square and imagine that most of the garden and home improvement stores will carry them.

—Bill Lee

LUMBER NEEDED

One of the plans for the convention and the future of SWODS is to increase the number of show properties we have available. We need to make more blacks for single and three-stem exhibits, and collections of five stems. We are also intending to devise a system of tiers for the exhibits so that each class will be shown on three levels, which will display the daffodils to better advantage.

To do this we will need wood. We can use scraps of 2x4 lumber for making test tube blocks. Neil Macneale who has made many of these in the past advises that older lumber can be best because it is good and aged. If it is leftover scrap wood it has the added advantage of being free. If you have any such wood, or can scavenge any from building sites or construction projects, call Bill Lee(752-8104) to arrange pickup. We can also use larger pieces of particle board that could be used for the tiers.

Resources

Cincinnati:

Bill Lee, 752-8104

Mary Lou Gripshover, 248-9137

Linda Wallpe, 221-4140

Liz Ragouzis, 221-1166

Peggy Macneale, 522-7025

Tom Stettner, 351-4268

Dayton:

Peg Newill, 885-2971

Harold McConnell, 426-9557

Christine Hanenkrat, 275-9919

Rebecca Koesters, 252-3028

DUES AND CHALLENGE BULB ORDER FORM

Make checks payable to SWODS and mail to Liz Ragouzis, 425 Rawson Woods Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45220
Call Liz at 221-1166 if you have any questions.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number _____

_____ Dues @ \$5.00 per year

_____ Challenge Bulb package [2 bulbs of Tripartite (11Y-Y) and
1 bulb of The Alliance (6Y-Y)], @ \$5.00.....

..... **Total Enclosed** _____

SWODS
c/o Bill Lee
4606 Honey Hill Lane
Batavia, OH 45103-1315



98
GRIPSHOVER Mary Lou
1686 Gray Fox Trail
Milford, OH 45150