

SWODS News

MARCH 24 MEETING **Wine, Snacks, and Good Times** **3:00 PM**

Mary Lou Gripshover has graciously invited SWODS to meet at her home on Sunday, March 24, at 3:00 for a wine and snack meeting. The two highlights of this meeting will be the chance to tour Mary Lou's extensive gardens, featuring daffodils of course, and tips and pointers about entering flowers in the show. We will also share observations on how the daffodil season is progressing so far, what effect the winter season has had on our gardens, and what we should do if daffodils show signs of having been harmed by the late freezing weather. So, there's something for everyone, from those who just like to garden and grow daffodils to those who also like to show them off in public.

The meeting will begin at 3:00 but feel free to come as early as 2:00 to spend more time in the garden.

Plan to spend a few hours on Sunday, March 24, talking about daffodils and sharing experiences with others who have the "yellow fever." A map to Mary Lou's house is included in this newsletter. Feel free to call anyone on the Resource List for further information.

1996 SHOW **CELEBRATE DAFFODILS**

The 1996 SWODS show will be April 13-14 at the Wegerzyn Horticultural Center at 1301 E. Siebenthaler Avenue in Dayton. The show schedule has been approved and will be printed and mailed shortly.

The theme for this 27th annual show is "Celebrate Daffodils", in honor of Celebration Dayton, a year of events celebrating Dayton's 200 years.

Two new sections have been added to this year's show. The first is the Small Grower's section for those who grow fewer than 100 cultivars. You may enter single stems or vases of three stems of the same cultivar. The second new section is for container-grown daffodils. There are no rules for this new section this year except that daffodils must be included and the container must have been grown by the exhibitor.

Plan to exhibit in this year's show. If you can't exhibit, at least come see the show to see the broad spectrum of kinds and colors of daffodils that can be grown.

1995 CHALLENGE BULB **STILL AVAILABLE**

There are a few of the 1995 Challenge Bulb, Fidelity, 1Y-P, available. The price is \$4.00, picked up, a savings of \$1.00 over the catalog price. Contact Liz Ragouzis or Bill Lee for information on ordering (see the Resource List for phone numbers). These bulbs have been planted but will be dug in the summer for fall distribution for those who order one.

DUES

Of course, no SWODS mailing would be complete without a plea to update your dues. 1996 dues are due at showtime. 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. 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 at 221-1166.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

SWODS(South Western Ohio Daffodil Society) welcomes the following new members who have joined the past few months:

- Shirley Boardman
- Bob Blum
- JoAnne Brown
- Jo-Ann Lang Caudill
- Mary Louise Hawley
- Don Klemm
- Joy Krause
- Kathryn and George McGowan
- Angela Nesbitt
- Helen Trueblood
- Mrs. R.N. Wilkenson
- Ginger Warner

Hope to see all of you at the March 24 meeting. Come and get acquainted, share some experiences, and learn a few new things. Daffniks don't bite.



JUDGING SCHOOL 4

Judging School 4 will be held on Sunday, April 14, at the Star Bank Community Room (same place as last year). We will begin at 9:00 AM with the afternoon for taking the exam.

Ruth Pardue will be teaching Section A, Proper Staging of Specimens; Single Stem, Vase of Three; and Section C, Practice Judging and Review of Point Scoring. Mary Lou Gripshover will teach Section B, Seedlings, Culture for Container-Grown Daffodils, and Judging Container-Grown Daffodils.

There will be five questions on Section A and five questions on Section B. Students will be required to identify (name, division and perianth color, example: Silent Valley 1W) 50 out of 65 blooms on display. There will be five classes to

judge. Four classes are placement and comments, and one class must be point scored with comments. In preparation, students should read chapters 3 (pp. 10-11), 7 (pp. 31-32), and review chapters 9 and 11. (Und you VILL all pass!!)

POETRY

Jim Heninger has given us permission to print one of his own celebrations of spring. Look for *spring 4* elsewhere in this newsletter.

DAFFODILS ON THE INTERNET

If you have a computer, a modem, and access to the Internet with Email, you're missing a lot of fun if you have not joined the daffodil mail list. Over 75 daffodil hobbyists subscribe and comment on topics related to daffodils. Your email box will contain mail about daffodils nearly every day. Sometimes just chatty items, but more often real information about growing daffodils is emailed back and forth every day.

Neophytes and experienced growers alike often post questions and everyone rushes in to try to answer them. Combine gardeners with Internet Surfers and you have people who love to help other people and share information.

Recent topics have included what to do with year-old daffodil seed, what blooms early, why people like or dislike the division 11 split coronas, how to deal with currency differences when ordering from overseas, recommended books on daffodils, show winners at early shows, what are heritage daffodils(pre-1940s?) and how might we feature them in our shows, and many other topics.

To subscribe, send an email message to listserv@mc.edu. In the message area put the words *subscribe daffodil your name*(replace your name with your real first and last name, not your e-mail address). You do not have to put anything in the subject line. Send the message after you are sure it does not contain any other information. You will receive a notification message in return. Then you will begin receiving all the email posted by the other subscribers and you can post your own messages of information and/or questions. It's a lot of fun and you learn a lot. And it's free.



spring 4

a whiff of spring
i know that smell it almost has a taste
all tiny bits of tender green
they've popped up every place

the musky smell
is in the air and spring is on the grow
ice crystals floating
past the sun has made one great rainbow

ok, we've still a lot of winter
weather yet to come
but look at all these brave young fools
out poking at the sun

the snow and rain
will blow again and freeze these frail shoots
but i can feel the "stuff of life"
just surging thru their roots

and then a bud
against all odds the wild flowers bloom
it's mother nature's floral carpet
growing into view

ah but, it may be awhile
our weather's out of sync
it's probably a month or two
before eternal spring

it's over.
you should see it snowing, swirling overhead
the warm air spoke
and we awoke, but now it's back to bed

wake me, when the wild flowers bloom
and the creek don't run as fast
wake me, 'ever the robin sings
and feeds in lush green grass

wake me, when the dogwoods flower
and the dandelions glow
wake me, to an earth of color
'neath a great rainbow

jim henninger
3-7-95

Resources

Cincinnati:

Bill Lee, 752-8104
(BLEE811@AOL.COM)
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 MacConnell, 426-9557
Christine Hanenkrat, 275-9919
Rebecca Koesters, 252-3028

DIRECTIONS TO MARY LOU'S HOUSE

Gripshovers
1686 Gray Fox Trails
248-9137

Exit from I-275 onto Route 28 (Blanchester-Milford Road).

- Go east on Route 28, toward Blanchester.
- Turn left at the first traffic light (Meadowcreek Drive). Meadowcreek Drive dead-ends into Cook Road.
- Turn left onto Cook Road.
- Gray Fox Trails is just past Wilderness Ridge, to the right off Cook Road. The House is at the end, on the cul-de-sac.

See the map below.

