



THE INDIANA DAFFODIL LEDGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE INDIANA DAFFODIL SOCIETY

Vol. V, No. 1 January 1992

President: Helen K. Link

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

GREETINGS FOR 1992

The daffodil season will soon be upon us. As I write this message several pots of daffodils have bloomed in the cool greenhouse. The first to bloom was *N. serotinus* which appeared in October followed by *N. cantabricus* ssp. *monophyllus*. A few paper whites also appeared at intervals. *N. viridiflorus* usually appears in November, but for some unknown reason did not bloom this year. The paper whites are interesting in that there are several varieties which lend themselves to pot culture nicely. Some of the varieties have more odor than others and the flowers are larger and more round in structure.

Now is the time to look over your records and begin to plan for the blooming season. Plan to attend and exhibit in as many shows as you can. It is by attending shows and exhibiting that we learn new cultivars and keep up with changes which occur every year. Many new cultivars are registered every year. Many are expensive and hard to come by, but in a few years they will be available at a modest price.

The Executive Committee met on November 14th at my home. Officers attending were Corresponding Secretary, Dolores Moore; Treasurer Helen Trueblood. Committee Chairpersons: Douglas Clarke, Horticulture, Phyllis Vonnegut, Historian; Wanda Dove, Yearbook; Jeanne Clarke, Hospitality; Joe Higgs, Publicity; Caroline Brunner, Program; Dolores Moore, Show; Lavonne Mannfeld, Parliamentarian. Business transacted consisted of setting the dates for our meetings and programs. The meeting dates are:

March 19, 1992, at Nora Library. Show schedules will be ready. If you cannot attend please ask a friend to pick up your schedule.

April 15th, 1992 Annual Daffodil Show at Holliday Park, 6349 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis.

June 11, 1992, picnic at the home of Wanda Dove.

July 26, 1992, bulb sale at Keystone Mall, same place as last year.

August 13, 1992, meeting at Nora Library, program and bulb exchange.

August 16th, 1992, bulb sale, Keystone Mall.

October 15th, 1992, meeting and bulb exchange.

Joe Higgs, President of the Daylily and Iris Society announced the bulb sales will be July 26 and August 16 in connection with the Daylily and Iris Societies. The sales will be held at the same area as last year. We have been asked not to open the sale to the public until 11:00 a.m. as that will be the time as advertised; however, sales to society members will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will conclude when plants are sold out or at 3:00 p.m. whichever occurs first. Caroline Brunner has several good programs planned for us which you will not want to miss.

Plan to attend the Annual Convention of the American Daffodil Society which will be held at Columbus, OHIO April 23-25, 1992 in connection with Ameriflora 92 which opens on April 20, 1992 and runs for 6 months. This is an opportunity to attend the convention and also see Ameriflora at the same time. It is advertised as the biggest and best exposition in America for 1992 with 88 acres of exhibits and displays, attractions and gardens. Plan to attend.

SPRING DUTIES IN THE GARDEN

In March when the snow is on the daffodil beds is a good time to fertilize the plantings with a light application of 3 -12-12 or a low nitrogen fertilizer, often termed potato fertilizer. If the beds were fertilized in the fall, use a small amount in spring. As the snow melts the fertilizer is carried into the soil and slowly goes down to the roots of the bulbs to help produce good root growth and flowers for spring. Blooms for future spring are formed in the bulbs the current year following bloom.

If you have covered the bulbs with mulch, as the foliage begins to appear, watch the growth and remove it from over the bulbs as the leaves appear. Don't remove entirely, push it around the base of leaves. This will protect the blooms from dirt spots. Blooms which are kept clean in growth take less grooming at show time.

As buds appear watch them for possible show blooms. Make note of those which appear to be good specimens. Blooms left on the plants until fully open are usually larger than those cut earlier. If weather is inclement specimens may need to be cut before fully open, but examine perianth segments for nicks and mitten thumbs, and if present and severe, the blooms might be better left on plant.

When cutting blooms for the show, use a sharp knife or razor blade. If a plant has virus, using the same cutting blade can and probably transmits virus to others plants which are clean. A clean blade can be used for cutting from each plant. The blade can be sterilized and reused. Commercial razor blades can be purchased at paint stores in quantity and blades sterilized and reused. Blades can be boiled or baked to sterilize for future use.. Some growers pull the blooms or snap them off. Snapping gets juice on the fingers and thus transmits the virus to the next plant. Aphids can also carry the virus from plant to plant.

Cut blooms should be stored in tepid water in a cool, dark place until ready to be groomed for the show table. If possible groom them at home the night before the show. Entry tags should be on hand and can be filled out after deciding which class the specimens fit. Be sure to check each specimen for correct division and color code; many times an award is lost because exhibitor made an error.

Join the American Daffodil Society

Individual Membership	\$20.00
Husband and wife one copy of Journal	\$25.00

Executive Director:
Mary Lou Gripshover
1686 Grey Fox Trails
Milford, OH 45150

SPRING SHOWS IN AREA

April 4, Scottsburg, IN, Daffodil Growers South, and Kentucky Daffodil Society at Leota Barn, **Information:** Mrs. Verne Trueblood, R.R. 3, Scottsburg, IN 47170

April 11- 12, Dayton, OH, Midwest Regional, Southwestern Daffodil Society at the Wegerzyn Horticultural Center 1301 Seibenthaler Ave. **Information:** Mrs. Richard Omlor, 237 Hadley Ave., Oakwood, OH 45419

April 15, Indiana Daffodil Society, Holiday House, Holiday Park, Indianapolis, IN. **Information:** Mrs. Helen K. Link, P. O. Box 84, Brooklyn, IN 46111

April 18 - 19, Midwest Daffodil Society at the Botanic Garden, of the Chicago Horticultural Society, Lake Cook Rd. **Information:** Mrs. Steven Carr 12523 South Fairview Ave., Blue Island, IL 60406

April 23 - 25, Columbus, OH, National Show. The Central Ohio Daffodil Society at the Hyatt at Capitol Square. **Information:** Mrs. Nancy Gill, 2475 West Lane Ave., Columbus, OH 43221

May 2-3, Kingwood Daffodil Society at the Exhibit Hall, Kingwood Center, 900 Park Ave. West. **Information:** Mr. Charles Applegate, 3699 Pleasant Hill Rd., Perryville, OH44864

May 2-3 Northern Illinois Daffodil Society at the Sinnissippi Gardens, Sea Scout Bldg, 1700 N. 2nd St. **Information:** Mrs. Nancy Pilipuf, 11090 Woodstock Rd., Garden Prairie, IL 61038

LINK DAFFODIL INTRODUCTIONS

The Daffodil Journal always lists U.S. Daffodil Registrations. Mrs. Goethe Link (Helen) has three new daffodil cultivars listed:

Opal Sky 2Y-Y, has a light buffy perianth with segments which overlap nicely. It has a bowl shaped light buffy corona which fades as it ages. It is a long lasting and smooth, heavy textured flower.

Prissy 5W-GYO has a white perianth which reflects slightly. The green to yellow corona is funnel shaped and flared. It resembles its sibling Missy, but is later, larger and has heavier substance.

Sunsplash 3Y-YR has flat yellow overlapping perianth segments. Its bowl shaped corona has intense colors of yellow, yellow and red. It has an excellent pose and is show quality. This too is a late blooming daffodil.

When visiting Helen's garden this spring watch for these new daffodil introductions. They are sure to be beautiful.

After digging into past December issues of the Journal, I have come up with some of Helen's other registrations of previous years.

- 1953 Tanager 2Y-Y, Corbula 2Y-Y
- 1958 Titmouse 2W-YO, Towhee 2W-Y
- 1966 Pewee 3W-GGP Roseve 2W-GPP
- 1973 Sora 2Y-Y,
- 1975 Lucy Jane 9W-GYR, Phebe 9W-GYO, Sheilah 9W-GYO
- 1979 Lemon Moon 2Y-GYY, Lime Mist 2Y-GYY, Roberta Watrous 7Y-GYP, Tu TU 5W-GWW, Whip-poor-will 6Y-Y
- 1985 Angelique 8W-GYO, Galactic 2W-GYW
- 1986 Moon Moth 5W-Y
- 1988 Bitsy 6W-W, Little Miss 6Y-Y miniature, Lovette 2YW-GWY, Pink Morn 2W-GWP ~~miniature~~ Trivial 1Y-Y miniature
- 1989 Enchanted Elf 3W-GYO, Ole! 7Y-Y, Orange Kite 6Y-YOO Pogo 3W-GYO, Requiem 3W-GYO

- 1990 Gidget 3W-GGY, Polar Gull 2W-GWW, Pure Bliss 6Y-Y
- 1991 Opal Sky 2Y-Y, Prissy 5W-GYO, Sunsplash 3Y-YR

I am sure I have missed some, but this is quite a list of wonderful daffodils. Watch for these when visiting the garden this spring.

Wanda Dove

DAFFODIL CELEBRITIES OF THE PAST

There is considerable interesting literature about the daffodil, its culture and early history.

When looking through the RHS (1913) Daffodil Year Book, I found an article written by the Rev. J. Jacob concerning the early work of John Parkinson. He was born in 1567 and became an apothecary to King James the first. He was a distinguished horticulturist and botanist. Of interest to all book collectors are his two large folios (1629), "*Paradisus in Sole Paradisus Terristris*" and *The Theatrum Botanicum* (1640).

He was a great lover and cultivator of daffodils, probably the first to hybridize. In 1618 he flowered Parkinson's Daffodil. About his seedling he said, "I think non ever had this kind before my selfe nor did I my selfe ever see it before 1618 for it is of my own raising. The name given to it was *Pseudo-narcissus aureus hispanicus flore pleno* or the great double yellow Spanish bastard Daffodil. The *Paradisus* contained 612 pages, forty-one of which were devoted to the daffodil. This shows the author's estimation of the daffodil.