



The Indiana Ledger

A Triannual Publication of the Indiana Daffodil Society

Suzy Wert, Editor

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From the Garden of the President

Greetings Daffodillians!

We're trying something new this year – the picnic will be at Mrs. Link's on Saturday June 25th. That's Saturday, not Sunday, as is has been in the past. This year, we'll have a tent and tables, and provide the meat and drinks, but each person should bring a few things:

Potluck item

Hat

Sunscreen

Sunglasses

Bug repellent

Lawn chair or quilt

Spade - straight-sided for bulb digging, not a regular shovel which will cut bulbs

Guess that list lets the cat out of the bag – in addition to the picnic, we're going to be harvesting bulbs from Mrs. Link's for the sale. This is a great opportunity for us to bulk up our coffers, and I know I keep saying it, but maybe for the last time from Mrs. Link's bulbs, and I'm sure a lot of members would like some bulbs from Mrs. Link's Garden.

If you aren't interested in digging, then sit under the tent and keep us company. The foliage will be ripe, but maybe you'd like to write out tags or bag the harvest. Maybe just sit and talk, it's no big deal as everyone just does what they can. No one is expected to work all that hard; the bulbs are easy to lift, and Sara Kinne has been hard at work marking the ones that need dividing. They'll be easy to find since Bob Siegman made some really cool row markers that can sit flush with the ground so the mower can run over them.

This is a great opportunity to get some bulbs that are straight from Link Gardens and I hope you all show up and have a great time! The directions are on the label side of the newsletter.

Suzy Wert, President

2005 Daffodil Calendar

Saturday, June 25 - Picnic at Mrs. Link's --Also, Mitsch orders due to Sonja Eaton. Look for the "D" after the price for a 25% discount. (See article left)

Meeting and Plant/Bulb Exchange Holliday Park
Sat., August 20, 2005 - Saturday, 1-4pm.

Meeting & Plant/Bulb Exchange Holliday Park
Sat., October 8, 2005 - Saturday, 1-4pm

Bulb Sales Holliday Park - Sunday, July 31 and
Sun., August 28, 2005

2005 Daffodil Show Results

Back Home Again in Indiana

298 Exhibits

561 Blooms

Congratulations to Libby Frey and Kay Cunningham who tied with the most blue ribbon. They both won the Silver Ribbon!

Gold: 'Sunday Chimes' 5W-W George McGowan

White: 'Starlet' 9W-GYR Libby Frey

Mini Gold: 'Bebop' 7Y-Y Helen Trueblood

Mini White: 'Hawera' 5Y-Y Helen Trueblood

Youth Best Bloom: Chelsea Hutchison 'Tahiti' 4Y-O

Youth Vase 3: Elizabeth McDonald-Zwoyer 'Actaea' 9W-YYR

Small Grower: Dawn Garlich 'Whiskey Mac' 2YYW-Y

Historic: Helen Trueblood 'Shanach' 9W-YYR 1939

Historic V3: George McGowan 'Geranium' 8W-O 1930

Intermediate: Tag Bourne 'Scarlet Tanager' 2Y-R

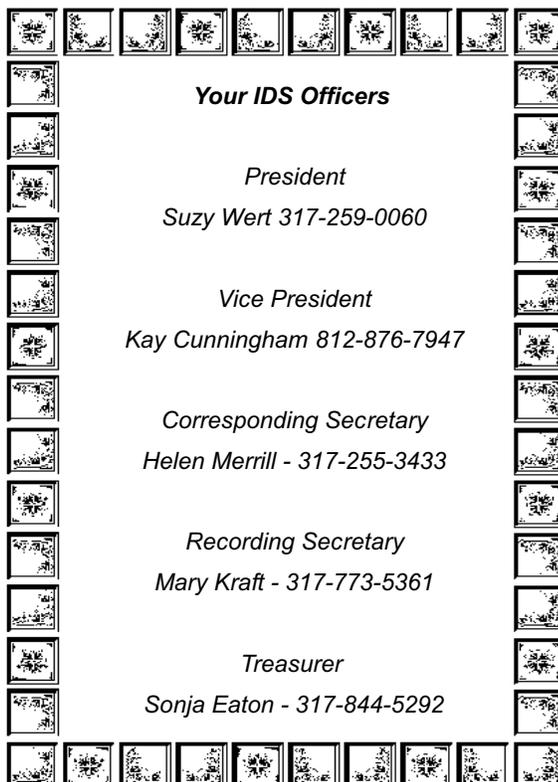
Rose Ribbon: Mary Lou Gripshover seedling #2001-17-2 5Y-Y

Mini Rose Ribbon: Suzy Wert seedling #W5 9W-GYR

Mitsch Daffodils

Discount to IDS Members!

Don't forget, we have a club order going in to Mitsch Novelty Daffodils on June 30th. You'll get a 25% discount on bulbs that are marked with a "D" in their catalog. e-mail havensr@web-ster.com.



Your IDS Officers

President
Suzy Wert 317-259-0060

Vice President
Kay Cunningham 812-876-7947

Corresponding Secretary
Helen Merrill - 317-255-3433

Recording Secretary
Mary Kraft - 317-773-5361

Treasurer
Sonja Eaton - 317-844-5292

On Digging

Ah, the harvest! If your bulbs are big and round and clean and dry, congratulations! (Do you live in Indiana?)

My bulbs had several anomalies this year that you might have noticed in your garden, too.

Dog Toothed bulbs are bulbs that have split too many times without ever gaining any size. One of the causes is narcissus bulb fly, which eats the center of the bulbs and only leaves a piece of basal plate left to grow. The bulb, in a magnificent effort to stay alive, sends up many little baby-bulbs from the basal plate. If you dig the first year after a bulb fly infestation, you'll see baby dog toothed bulbs, and the second year you'll see bulbs with 4 and 5 small noses coming from the same basal plate. The third year, the bulb should return to normal. You can also get dog toothed bulbs from cutting a bulb with your spade or other physical injuries. It can also indicate basal rot.

Rotten soft necks are from bad drainage and late spring-early summer rains. Lots of water as the bulb foliage is maturing and going dormant. Planting on a raised bed or slope will help with drainage, but nothing will make it stop raining! Be sure you aren't inadvertently getting your daffodils wet when you water with the hose.

Basal Rot is from a soil born bacteria that is prevalent in Indiana. It is acerbated by high soil temperatures and too much water. Planting bulbs directly on sand, grani-grit or perlite will help, along with a layer of annuals to help keep soil cooler. Something such as moss roses which don't need much water would be ideal. You probably have basal rot if your bulbs suddenly disappear or if your bulbs are blackish at harvest.

Little peas-sized noses appearing at the base of bulbs indicates injury. Most of mine come on double nose bulbs and I rip the noses apart and only keep the one without the little pea-sized nose. The bulb attached to the pea is always rotten in the core.

Wobbly nose on a triple nose bulb. How do you decide whether to keep the third (or fourth) nose on a big healthy bulb? You can shake it and see if it comes off on its own. Or you can just go ahead and snap it off. You get into trouble, though, if it starts to pull. One side will get all the basal plate and the other side will have nothing to grow on, rendering it basically dead. Generally speaking, you can snap the bulb after the third day out of the ground. And you might as well go ahead and snap it because an open wound at planting is bad – the bulbs needs a day to callous over the open wound before it gets soil and bacteria gets in it.