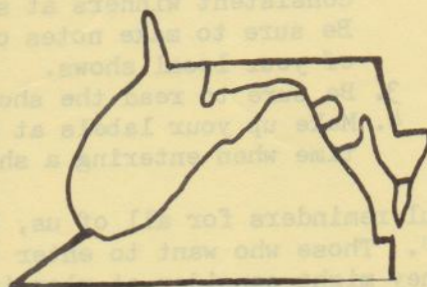


AMERICAN DAFFODIL SOCIETY, INC.

Middle Atlantic

Region



NEWSLETTER

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December 15, 1984

Dear Daffodil Friends:

By the time this comes from the printers, 1985 will already have arrived, so I wish you all a belated Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. This will be my last Newsletter. The three years have gone by rapidly, with good and poor daffodil seasons. It seems that no matter what date we pick for our shows, its a matter of luck when it comes to the perfect time. I have thoroughly enjoyed serving as your Regional Vice-President and particularly getting to know you all so much better.

Our Regional Meeting in Annapolis was attended by 52 persons, including Marilyn Howe from California, Wells Knierim, Ohio, Kathy Anderson, Delaware, and Betty Tracey and Mary Harrigan from Pennsylvania. We missed Joy and Bill MacKinney and Bill's talk on Chrysanthemums. Unfortunately Bill had just had an operation but I understand he is doing well and hopefully he will agree to speak another time.

Resumes of our Program follow:

Preparing and Transporting Daffodils
to Shows - Marie Bozievich

Mrs. Bozievich began by giving hints for beginners.

1. Get an American Daffodil Society Handbook.
2. Start by selecting bulbs that produce flowers that are

consistent winners at shows and plant them carefully.
Be sure to make notes on which flowers bloom at the time of your local shows.

3. Be sure to read the show schedule carefully.
4. Make up your labels at home and allow yourself plenty of time when entering a show.

All are helpful reminders for all of us, but then she went on to elaborate for the "Old Pros". Those who want to enter the large collections must plan ahead. Some things they might consider at planting time:

- cooler or warmer planting areas
- more or less sun or shade
- classes

In the spring, just before blooming time onemight throw on some potash for more brilliant color. Be sure that yourbulbs get plenty of water. (At least an inch of rain and if not she recommends overhead sprinkling before flowers emerge and are open and soaker method after flowers are open.) Water, water, water; fertilizer will never do what water will do for your flowers.

Now, it is time to look at your flowers more carefully than ever before. Enjoy getting to know their faces!

Mrs. Bozievich gave some helpful hints for cutting. If red cups begin to open too early, you can shade with a white grocery sack. The sack should have two holes for ventilation. Thenplace four stakes in the ground for sack corners and turn sack upside down over stakes. Be sure to leave sack above the ground for air circulation. When you are looking at flowers in the garden for cutting, you might mark the ones you have selected with a white tag. When you cut, be sure to make a list so you do not duplicate. Use a Sharpee pen (waterproof) to write names on the stem. Mrs. Bozievich warns that Division 3s with rims can burn in less than an hour. (They may even burn on the show bench if cold air hits them.) You can cut them before the open and Division 3 flowers will develop well after cutting.

Next, be sure to cut flowers when they are young and fresh, especially important if you are going to refrigerate. If you do refrigerate flowers you should keep the refrigerator very cold, about 34 degrees and very moist with a wet towel in the bottom. Everyone agreed with Mrs. Bozievich when she asked if the audience didn't feel that darkness, along with cold, retards the flower aging process.

Mrs. Bozievich advised us that she feels cutting with a knife spreads virus and recommends breaking the stems rather than cutting.

Everyone was intrigued with Mrs. Bozievich's method of carrying flowers to shows, either local shows or those thousands of miles away. She demonstrated with Chrysanthemums, laying flowers face up, side by side, in her packing box on a pillow of disposable diapers. She says that she picks flowers and packs them right in the garden and finds that perianth segments can overlap without damage. Then she uses diapers as a cushion, again, for the next row of flowers, using dressmakers tape with three thumb tacks to hold down the flower stems. She advises when choosing a box, be sure that the box will fit in the trunk of your car. She uses a double sided cardboard box (i.e.: dressmakers box) with building material glued to the inside for tacks to press into. She also uses both sides of the box for packing flowers.

Next, Mrs. Bozievich discussed staging. She had the following suggestions:

- Know what you are going to enter
- Be sure you have your entry tags madeout before you get to the show
- Pack all flowers for a collection in one box.
- Get all your bottles with water, etc. when you get to the show
- Be sure flowers are clean, (Mulch does help keep flowers clean in the garden.) Check for pollen and brush it out if some has fallen in the cup.
- Check the schedule as you go along to be sure you are placing in right category and entering according to the schedule

Thanks to Nancy Whitlock for this report.

The Round Robins - Frances Armstrong

A Round Robin is a group of letters written by and circulated among people with a common interest, in our case, daffodils or some aspect of daffodil growing. Each robin has a list of members, ideally 8 to 10 people. When a member receives a packet of letters, he removes his old letter, writes a new one and sends the whole package of letters on to the next person on the list. He is asked to do this within a week or two.

Each robin has a director whose duty it is to see that the robin moves along and who may suggest subjects for discussion. When each member sends the packet of letters on, he is asked to also send the director a card. So then, if another card is not forthcoming within a month or two, the director must communicate with the overdue one either to prod or to ascertain the cause of the delay. Sad to report, the robins have been lost in the mail on several occasions. In that case the director starts a new letter.

All the Robins fly by the Chairman of the Robins Committee, Otis Etheredge, of Saluda, SC, usually just before they return to the director. He duplicates them, sometimes adds a note or a suggestion, and sends them on. If there is anything of general interest to the ADS in any Robin, he reports it in the Journal.

Otis informs me that currently we have only five robins. #1 is the HYBRIDIZER's ROBIN which he describes as the most consistently active Robin. There have been a number of new members in the past year making a total of 18 now. Instead of being divided into two Robins, it was given a new pattern of flight in the form of a figure 8. Dr. Bill Bender is the flight director. Both loops converge with him. He duplicates the letters and adds Loop 1 letters to the packet of Loop 2 letters and vice-versa. In that way the letters circulate faster and no one misses the good information in the other loop. Dr. Bender tells me that they no longer call it a Robin but rather a Hummingbird. He says the hummingbird has many flight patterns and does a great deal of hybridizing whereas the robin does not do much. Several well known hybridizers belong to this group - Roberta Watrous, Dr. Throckmorton, George Morrill, Meg Yerger. (Brent Heath added that he shares pictures of successful crosses and new discoveries on fertility data.)

#2, the Men's Robin has 8 members. This one has no particular director and members discuss many aspects of horticulture besides daffodils. #3, the Poeticus Robin has 9 members, with Meg Yerger as director. #4, the Miniature Robin, with Sue Robinson as director has 10 members. This Robin disappeared several years ago, was reorganized by Sue and is now very active, with one member in New Zealand. Otis says we don't recruit members out of the country because of time, mailing expense and possible loss, but if some ask, we try to accommodate them. I am a member of this robin along with Lucy Christian and Celeste Cox. Other members include Nancy Wilson and Mary Lou Gripshover in CA, Rosalie Dilliard in ARK, Jim Wells in NJ and Dave Karmstadt in Minn.

#5 - Southeast General Robin. I have been a member of this robin for 23 years, and am currently serving as director. This surely must be one of the oldest robins and most of our members have been from the southeastern part of the US, not necessarily the SE region. We discuss a wide variety of daffodil subjects from cultivars that do well for us, problems of culture, storage problems, show winnings, most anything that pops in our heads. Lucy Christian was a member when I joined and shortly thereafter Bernice Ford and Sue Robinson. Marie Bozievich was a member until other ADS duties took too much of her time. Joyce McKenzie, Miss., Delia Bankhead, VA, Pat Bates, TN, and one lone male member Barry Nichols of TX now join us.

In return for the nuisance of writing a few letters a year, I have received much from the Round Robins in information and lasting friendships. There are several people in the US interested in a Div. 7 Robin. Otis writes that he did not receive enough response to his note in the Journal so has enlarged it to include some other divisions and the species. If interested contact Otis Etheredge. Loyce McKenzie has agreed to be director. Unless you absolutely detest writing letters, you will have many happy and informative moments when your robin comes flying around.

From Frances Armstrong's Notes.

The World of Daffodils - Kathy Anderson

For those of us who were not fortunate enough to have participated in the World Convention of 1979 and Springworld '84, Kathy and Marvin Anderson gave us a treat with their excellent photography and commentary. The presentation would have been a delight to anyone; to daffodil fanciers it was super!

Beginning with her own garden, abloom in April, Kathy carried us on a daffodil carpet around the world. Pictures of a dazzling commercial field in Holland preceeded the picture of a Japanese arrangement. She showed us pictures of stamps featuring daffodils - a tazetta from Syria, a trumpet from Hungary, a poet from Bulgaria; also daffodils on cakes, in embroidery and in arrangements, large and small.

Pictures of daffodils in pots from the RHS show in London, 1979 showed Bagatelle, triandrus albus, watieri and bulbocodium. Pictures of landscapes ranged from RHS gardens at Wisley to the Daffodil Mart in Gloucester to the Mitsch farm in Oregon with snow capped Mt. Hood in the background. There were several pictures of the Mitsch fields as well as of Grant's daughter, Elise Havens. We were then taken to Murray Evans' with one picture "zeroing in" on Murray's outstanding cultivar GHOST; then Muaray's display at the 1984 Portland Convention, showing many Pannill cultivars. On showing a Picture of Father Athanasius' garden, Kathy remarked, "I have never seen such large flowers."

There followed pictures taken during Kathy's visit to New Zealand in 1978. Several were of people; the late beloved Phil Phillips with some of his cultivars; "Bud" Brogden and a display which clearly proved his reputation as the best stager in the world; Graham Phillips, Brian Duncan and David Jackson in Graham's field; Mac Hamilton's garden and Peter Ramsay's garden. And the we saw a breathtaking picture of Mt. Egmont, reputed to be the second most properly shaped, snow capped volcano in the world after Fugi.

For those of us who did not make Springworld '84, Kathy's pictures provided a glimpse of what we had missed: The great show with pictures of the hall before and after, outsize daffodil sculptures made of hundreds of blooms, a picture of PROSKA 2Y-Y (Jackson 1979), the best bloom in the show and many pictures of individual Brogden and Jackson blooms. There followed landscapes of tree ferns and waterfalls and of Mt. Cook and Milford Sound.

The Australian portion of Springworld began with an air view of Sydney with long and close shots of the famous Opera House. Then came pictures of the fauna, Koala Bear/kangaroo, Platypus and Emu. After that the flora, Mrs. Murray's garden lush with rhododendron, the Breen Farm and Frank Cole's garden in a lemon orchard.

Pictures of Tasmania featured more beautiful landscapes plus the gardens of Ross Glover, Jamie Radcliff and David Jackson. In addition to daffodils, color in the Jackson garden is brilliantly supplemented by bed after bed of cowslips.

The program ended with a return to England and Northern Ireland at the time of the World Meeting in 1979. Pictures of the RHS show in London featured John Lea's exhibit, the Carncairn and Kath's own winning exhibit. Other pictures were of Wisley, Saville Gardens, Windsor Castle, the Solihul show and John Lea and his gardens. In Northern Ireland we saw the Guy Wilson Memorial Garden, several slides of Carncairn with Kate and Robin Reed and the Omagh Show with Sir Frank Harrison's winning exhibit.

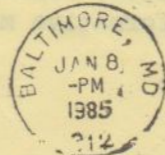
All present were grateful to the Andersons for preparing this program for us.

Donald King - Reporter

My thanks to Nancy Whitlock, Delia Bankhead and Donald King for their Excellent reporting.

Alison

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