



Midwest Update

Well, like our friend above, it's time to stick our heads out from above the snow and celebrate Spring with our favorite flower.

The above photo was from last spring/winter. We came home from the Georgia show and got a foot of snow the next day. Daffodils are really tough flowers, and can survive even this level of abuse from Mother Nature. We'll see how this flower did at the end of the update.

Before we get to Midwest items, I wanted to share a few photos of flowers from shows held in the Southeast region over the past few weeks. There were several new and noteworthy exhibits. Both happened to come out of crosses between spring flowering standards and fall blooming varieties.



This beautiful flower is a new hybrid from Greg Freeman. He crossed one of Harold Koopowitz's green fall-blooming daffodils with Katrina Rae, a spring blooming daffodil to give a unique and beautifully colored division 6. Likely due to its seed parent, it is spring blooming.



This flower was best in show at Nashville. It is a beautiful intermediate named Harold's Legacy. While Harold Koopowitz did the cross, Bob Spotts registered it in 2018. The cross is Habit, a spring blooming 1 Y-Y, and Emerald Sea, a fall-blooming 7 W-G. The seed parent was spring blooming, likely influencing the spring bloom of its progeny.



On to Midwest items. The Midwest show season is about to begin, and will kick off in Kentucky the weekend of April 5 to 7.

The Kentucky show was the first to have a class for 12 American bred flowers, which is now a class at national conventions. In keeping with this spirit of innovation, KDABS has created several new challenge classes for exhibitors. Special awards have been created for 9 intermediate, 9 classic, and 12 historic cultivars, to go along with the class for 12 American bred flowers. The Helen Trueblood award is given by KDABS for the best bloom out of the single stems. Lastly, KDABS holds eight silver trophies which were given to winners of designated classes in the 1960's and 1970's. The show's organizers have decided to recreate these classes, and have two of the eight trophies available per year, with a full cycle lasting four years. Many of these classes were larger collections which predate some of the ADS awards. Winners will receive one of the blue and white ribbons shown above, as well as a certificate with a picture of the trophy along with the trophy winners. I hope you will be able to enter your flowers to try to win some of these unique classes and one of a kind ribbons.

KDABS also has a fun show, with relaxed entry requirements designed to introduce new exhibitors to the hobby.

Links to the KDABS show schedules are:

Fun show schedule:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xAvK7PEnHLghomvFvFjWEAHLInUNz9WL/view?usp=sharing>

Regular show schedule: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wJKEtAiuqDerCwN-kfTf-zfW2QjKtTeI/view?usp=sharing>

Also – I have written a guide to picking your flowers and refrigerating them to keep them fresh for the show. If you are interested in taking a look here is the link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1D9L3gi01k5DbBYZjRp2H4HsSQmz-5vF0/view?usp=sharing>

Many thanks to Mary Lou Gripshover for sharing her dry refrigeration method. I was a total skeptic, but Mary Lou convinced me otherwise at last year's convention. I attended a SWODS meeting at her home the week before the convention, and I brought a bouquet of our flowers from our garden, knowing southern Ohio's season was well behind ours. Mary Lou enjoyed the flowers, then, unbeknownst to me, dry packed them in her refrigerator. The night before the national show, Mary Lou handed me the box, and encouraged me to recut the flowers, rehydrate them and enter them. Sure enough, there were some flowers I needed for collections, and more than one won a blue ribbon, so this method works well.

Here is the full show schedule for the region, as well as contact information:

Kentucky Daffodil and Bulb Society

Saturday, April 6 and Sunday, April 7

George Rogers Clark High School, 2745 Boonesboro Road, Winchester KY 40391

Entries will be accepted Friday evening, April 5 and Saturday morning, April 6.

For more information contact the show chair, Mike Kuduk at kuduk@earthlink.net or at (859) 556-0897

Southwestern Ohio Daffodil Society

Saturday, April 13 and Sunday, April 14

Krohn Conservatory, 1501 Eden Park Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Entries will be accepted Saturday morning, April 8.

For more information contact the show chair, Fred Lawlor at lawlor.f@pg.com or at (513) 473-8321

Indiana Daffodil Society (Regional Show)

Friday, April 19 and Saturday, April 20

Amilton Community Center and Ice Arena, 2501 Lincoln Park Dr, Columbus, IN 47201

Entries will be accepted Thursday evening, April 18 and Friday morning, April 29.

For more information contact the show chair, Sue Luken at chemocurl@hotmail.com or at (812) 794-3675

Central Ohio Daffodil Society

Saturday, April 20 and Sunday, April 21

Franklin Park Conservatory, 1777 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43203

Entries will be accepted Friday evening, April 20 and Saturday morning, April 21.

For more information contact Phyllis Hess at dafflyphyll@gmail.com or at (614) 882-5720

St. Joseph Valley Daffodil Society

Wednesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 25

Fernwood Botanical Garden and Nature Preserve, 13988 Range Line Road, Niles, Michigan 49120

Entries will be accepted Wednesday morning, April 24.

For more information contact the show chair, Dan Bellinger at rdanielbellinger@gmail.com or at (269) 683-2804

Joe Hamm's show in Washington, PA and the Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania's show in Pittsburgh are the weekend of Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28. Though outside our region, these shows have been well-supported by Midwest region members.

The Midwest region held elections at its fall meeting in 2018. Please join me in welcoming our new officers:

- Jim Wilson, regional vice-president, first term
- Naomi Liggett, national nominating committee, first term
- Rebecca Koesters, regional director, third term
- Dan Bellinger, regional director, second term

- Tamara Mitman, regional director, first term

I know all of them will do an excellent job. Please offer your support and expertise, especially with those that are new to their roles.

OK – some of you may have wanted to know what happened to our flower which was up to its neck in snow. Here's what it looked like six days later, after the snow melted:



Not bad – looks like it can go to the show:



It even made it into a collection!

I hope your growing season is a good one.

Mike Kuduk, Midwest RVP