



It Won't Be Long Now!

Despite the Wacky Winter, we'll soon see Delightful Daffodils...

Each MDS member and many others are likely anxious to get into the yard and to ready the beds for the spring teasers, the anticipated summer onslaught of beautiful flowers, and the pesky weeds. The warm weather this week put dirt under my fingernails that I can't get out, yet the forecast said we may get more snow! But the daffs are in abundance, up to 3 or 4 inches and buds forming. It's unlikely anything will slow them down now. Let's hope for a good month of April, capped by our usual fine show at the Chicago Botanic Garden on the last weekend.

- You may pick up show cards and get some tips on taking part in the show at Classroom #1 CBG between 10 AM and 1 PM on Sunday, April 12, or email or call George Dorner to have some sent.

- If you planted some of our bulbs at a church or civic location and can get a photo for our show, we'll show it on our bulletin board.

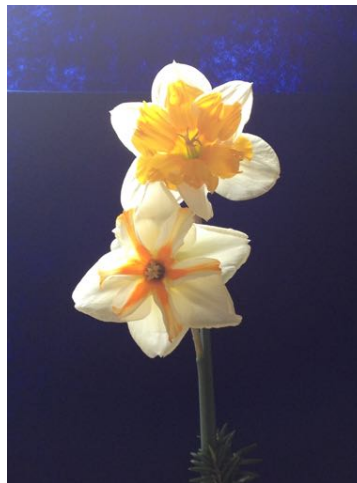
- We can always use more hands for show setup and during the times the show is open. Plan to spend a couple of hours on Saturday or Sunday serving as a host to the many attendees

walking through. We especially need folks during lunch on Saturday and for the cleanup at the end on Sunday around 4:30.

Be There and Be In Touch!



One of John Reed's cats inspecting the field at Oakwood Daffodils.



Do you know the difference between Divisions IIA and IIB?

**Spring Show:
April 25-26
Chicago Botanic Garden**

We Keep On Keepin' On

Our major effort of the year, the Spring Show, is coming up. I'm checking daily to see how the green spikes which survived our winter are doing, in hopes that the buds will open before April 25, just in time for our show that weekend. I hope you will be there with a few or a bucketful of beauties from your own yard, every one in contention for a blue ribbon or for recognition on the head table after the judging is done.

This is our chance to show our stuff and to tantalize folks who wander through the show display. Why not bring a friend or three to witness our pride?

You should get a show schedule in the mail soon, or download one from MidwestDaffodil.org.

It'll be fun!

*George Dorner
President*

THERE'S A NEW SHERIFF, ...ER, DAFFODIL SHOW IN TOWN, ...ER, IN SHEBOYGAN

Our New Jersey transplant who teaches in Sheboygan, Wisconsin is hosting a daffodil show on May 9 for his local garden club and, we hope, for daffodil fanciers who still have late blooms or who are just delighted to see another such event nearby.

Our club is helping Ray Rogers and his club by providing show properties and underwriting the show with a little financial support. We hope to

provide a few judges, too. It's a great area, less than two and a half hours from the CBG, up north of Milwaukee. It would make a nice weekend getaway and all would be welcome.

We wish those cheeseheads good luck in this first ever, and last of the season daffodil show.

Contact Ray at: rayoray0185@gmail.com or (920) 889-3466.



DAFFODIL GROWERS EVERYWHERE MOURN TWO PASSINGS AND LOSS OF A DAFF DEALER

Sandy Reed, wife of Dr. John Reed, Oakwood Daffodils, Niles, Michigan passed away recently. She had suffered from ALS. She helped John on the business side of his world renowned daffodil business for many years, often helping out as hostess at the dig sessions held there in late spring.

John is an honorary member of our club and is well-known for his gorgeous blooms and his generous support of our and other daffodil societies. He has donated many bulbs to this organization for our sale. John's blooms have often graced our show. His Windy City took five major awards at the American Daffodil Society show here in 2009. We grieve with him now.

Richard Havens, husband of Elise Havens, died this year, as well. He was the business side of Mitsch Daffodils, widely respected as the source of many of the best daffodils available in the U. S. Elise is the son of the founder and master hybridizer Grant Mitsch.

As a result of this passing and because of other health issues, Mitsch Daffodils has closed. Elise has also been a real friend of clubs like ours, always providing more than was requested or paid for.. We will no longer be getting that wonderful catalog which many of us have looked at longingly. John Reed purchased much of the Mitsch stock and hopes to get it established at Oakwood.

SHORT TAKES, ACTION ITEMS, RESOURCES, AND ???

• If you still have a copy of our By-laws, look them over. A new version with proposed changes is at hand. Maybe we can actually finish this project in the Fall.

• The Indiana Daffodil Society Show will be in Indy on April 17-18 at Holliday Park. Minnesota's is May 15-17.

• Fall Bulb Sale will be on October 17. Same drill as usual. We hope to get in on the dig at Oakwood this year. Details are not yet available, but if you are interested, contact me.

• Breck's, has two good collections for the yard, 5 each of 6 good doubles or 5 each of nice pinks for \$30. Some are of show quality. It's hard to find good bulbs for less than \$1 these days, and there's not much in the Big Box stores this year.

• Check out DaffodilUSA.org for new site design and new resources from the American Daffodil Society. Look at the Webstore entries, much improved and some very informative materials for newbies and veteran daff growers.

• And, don't forget MidwestDaffodil.org and our presence on Facebook.

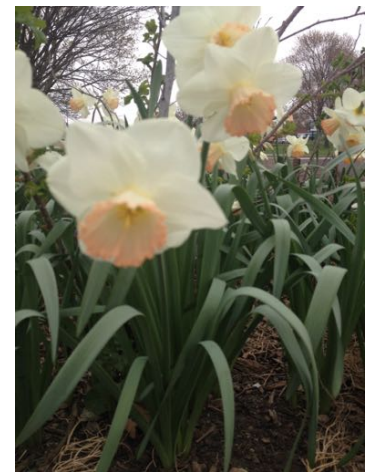
• Two nice new books: ***Daffodils in American Gardens 1763-1940*** by Sara L. Van Beck, U. of South Carolina Press, \$44.95.

Daffodil: The remarkable story of the world's most popular spring flower, by Noel Kingsbury, Timber Press, \$27.50

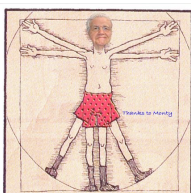
• Did you notice the two different logos at the top of the pages? Which should we use?



Daffodils in Chicago in early March



What pink was planted at U of I Extn Office some years ago?



WHAT SHOULD THE PRESIDENT OF THIS ORGANIZATION DO?

You're looking at it. If you want to talk about this or if you want to help out with ideas or actual volunteer work, give us a call at 847 219-2131 or send an email at daffodil@dorners.net.

MEA CULPA I only just discovered that the info on the website somehow reverted to last year's. This is the second time! If you spot this or wrong info appearing, let me know.