

# CODS CORNER

Newsletter of the Central Ohio Daffodil Society

President, Mrs. Richard Bell

Mrs. Paul Gripshover, Editor

Presumably there is no such thing as a perfect daffodil season. Some are just better than others. This year has to be one of the most unusual in years, however, as Spring began in my garden on March 1 when a species crocus opened. Daffodil season began on March 4 with *asturiensis*. By St. Patrick's Day when we fortunately (or unfortunately depending on the amount of cold damage in your garden) returned to cold weather, most of my miniatures had opened.

Bagatelle, 1a, was delightful. There were over 20 blooms from 10 bulbs down two years. I plan to order more of this! Tete a Tete, which has never done well for me, had 5 bloom stems from one new bulb! Now I understand why it is so highly regarded! Quince, though not new, had 6 bloom stalks. Mustard Seed, which usually has very short stems, had stems long enough and strong enough to support the bloom.

The first standard daffodil to bloom was 2b Woodgreen. This is a pleasing bi-color which fades to almost white. Trousseau is another early one; it's a favorite of mine, perhaps because I won my first "Best of Show" with it. It has been blooming for over two weeks and still looks presentable. The things that have opened look very good - firm and smooth. I guess all the rain last year really was good for them.

Now that the season is upon us, I would like for each of you to make note of the flower that impressed you more than any other this year. I don't care if it's new or old, just write a short paragraph about it, and we'll use them in a future issue.

As long as you're making notes and writing short paragraphs, please also write a short note about any non-predominant (or as our show schedule says - cup rimmed or banded) flower. We wrote the schedule this way hoping that it would not be necessary to divide classes the day of the show. So if we get some comments about the rimmed ones, we'll know better where to exhibit them another year. It would be educational for all of us, and besides--wouldn't you all rather read something written by someone else for a change?

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## MAY MEETING

Mark your calendar now - the date of the next meeting will be May 9, at 9:30a.m., at the home of Naomi Liggett, 4126 Winfield. Please note that the date has been changed due to a conflict with Garden Club of Ohio. Hopefully we will have slides from the Convention of some new "goodies" not seen here before. Also, bring any late daffodils with you, for an impromptu late, late, late daffodil show!

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SHOW TIME NEARLY HERE!

Unfortunately, not near enough! The extremely early Spring has had your Show chairmen fretting about a lack of flowers for our Show, scheduled for April 28-29 at the Upper Arlington Municipal Services Center, Tremont and Kenny Roads. We have been praying for cold - but not freezing - weather to retard the blooms. So be sure to refrigerate anything that opens from April 7 on. I have kept blooms for three weeks in the refrigerator before; sometimes it works well, other times not as well. But if you don't TRY to save it, you won't have it for sure. Blooms can be either placed in a plastic bag without water and stored on the refrigerator shelf, or put in a glass with water. But DO save those blooms! We will be calling you soon to remind you which committee you're on.

Grace Baird, Mary Lou Gripshover

BULB SALE

Orders are now being taken for a collection of 6 prize-winning daffodil bulbs for only \$2.50! Cynthia Bell has been busy writing growers for the best prices, and has come up with a group of certain winners. The collection includes Preamble, 1b; Festivity, 2b; Mahmoud, a red and white 3b; white Tresamble, 5a; charming Beryl, 6b; and Trevithian, 7b. Wouldn't this make a lovely gift to introduce a gardening friend to GOOD daffodils? Cynthia reports that she is still trying to negotiate a miniature collection that can be delivered by October 1.

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JUDGING SCHOOL III

School chairmen Cecile Spitz and Tag Bourne report that there is still time to send in your reservation for ADS Judging School III. This will take place on May 1, at 8:00a.m., at Northwest Christian Church, with Leonora Wilkie and Wells Knierim as instructors. Send your check for \$5.00 to Mrs. Hubert Bourne to insure YOUR place in the school.

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DO YOU REMEMBER?

Do you remember why you first started ordering name variety daffodils from daffodil nurserymen? I will never forget the bright Spring morning my husband and I wandered, unaware, upon a hillside covered with bulbocodium conspicuus. We were visiting the Ida Cason Callaway Gardens in Georgia and found this wild garden enchanting above all the others. And these hundreds of dancing, dainty daffodils not only made me feel kin to Wordsworth, but also filled me with a realistic resolve to order some for my own garden.

So I did -- and the next Spring one of the little darlings rewarded me with my first blue ribbon - admittedly, it was the only miniature in the show, displayed in the "Any other" class. But that was enough - I was well started on happy daffodilling!

Other CODS members speak of the time they saw a Show displaying one faultless and beautiful bloom after another. Still others remember their disappointment when a particularly fine specimen of their large King Alfred border won no ribbon at all, much less the blue. Whatever the experience was which sold selective buying to you, it can be educational. Invite friends to visit your garden, encourage them to enter our Show, and spend some time there with them pointing out the merits of the blue ribbon winners. After that, direct them to the table where they can purchase our bulb bags - six winners for \$2.50! Sharing your enthusiasm is fun - for you and your friends!

--Cynthia Bell

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#### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our members! We welcome your ideas and look forward to seeing you at all our activities.

Mrs. Harry Wilkie, Box 222, Bellbrook, Ohio 45305

Mrs. Herbert Bowman, 5363 Poplarwood Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43229

Mrs. James Schmidt, 2651 Shrewsbury Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43221

#### DUES - PAST DUE

If you haven't already sent your \$2.00 dues to our Treasurer, Grace Baird, 1874 Collingswood, Columbus, 43221, won't you do so soon. Anyone not paid by the next issue of CODS CORNER will be taken off the mailing list. Now how could you bear to part with it?

#### THIS 'N THAT

Gerant Waltz, in a letter to our President, indicated that this may be his last year of selling daffodils -- at least by mail. There's another catalog for us to check carefully to make sure we have what we really want.