



CODS CORNER

Newsletter of The Central Ohio Daffodil Society

Vol. X, No. 1, January 1980

Mrs. William Miller, President

Mrs. James Liggett, Editor

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

As I reported in the October issue of COD'S CORNER we had been asked to display at the "Plant Fair" being held at the Franklin Park Conservatory and Garden Center from 10:00 A. M. to 4:00 P.M., Sunday, January 13th, 1980. At the November 5th meeting I put this before the members and it was approved.

At this same meeting we considered participation in the Home and Garden Show scheduled for March 1 through March 9, 1980. The matter was discussed at great length and the members voted to decline this invitation.

Due to illness in my family I have been unable to up-date our educational displays. This will still be done in time for the April show. SORRY!!!!

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to "Tag" for her contribution by Xeroxing over 400 pages of our assorted literatures for distribution at the "Plant Fair." They have been done on very bright colorful paper. Any excess will be available for our future use. Thanks again, "Tag."

I received a call from Marty Schmidt telling me Jim has a new job in Cincinnati. We are sorry to see her leave and thank her for her hard work for CODS. Lots of good luck and much happiness is wished for her and her family on their new venture.

I wish all of you a happy and beautiful New Year and will look forward to seeing you at the February 5th, 1980, meeting at the Upper Arlington Municipal Building.

Pat Miller, President

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Again, the CODS Annual Bulb Sale (Ways & Means) was a success. My thanks go to Naomi Liggett and Nancy Gill for their excellent help. We sold 50 Standard Collections (6 bulbs purchased plus 2 bonus bulbs, 50 each donated by Naomi) and 33 Miniature Collections (18 bulbs - portion of Minnow and Bobbysoxer needed donated by Naomi). Revenue \$965.02 - Expenditures \$503.57 = Profit \$461.45. This profit is due to the many bulbs donated by Naomi, Tag & Cecile, plus extra bulbs sent to us by Murray Evans. We thank them for their generosity.

Tag Bourne, Chairman
Ways & Means

Species
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"HOW NARCISSUS GOT THEIR NAMES"

In a beautiful daffodil catalogue is the name "p. ornatus." You see pictured a bold little species; snow white, much substance, good form, intense coloring, and think "I must have this one." Usually the first thing I do after seeing a cultivar listed is to go to my RHS Classified List of Daffodil Names of 1969 and see what I can find. In this instance, I find the listing as "10 poeticus L. Ornatus (Hort.) = a wild form of poeticus L. subsp. radiiflorus (Salisbury) Baker var. exertus (Haworth) Fernandes." What on earth does this all mean? Have you ever wondered why it was fitting that this cultivar should be named "p. ornatus" and how others got their names?

We know the Botanical family is Amaryllidaceae with a definition of "herbs mostly bulbous; many with lily-like flowers in umbels but differ from Liliaceae in having the ovary below the flowers (inferior ovary)." We know the genus is Narcissus and I know the species is poeticus. — ?
ret.

The successful growing of plants means knowledge of them, be it weather related, soil related, fertilizer related or disease-pests related. We gain this knowledge by studying and through our growing experiences, so why not make an effort to understand the name as well.

Early man must have classified plants even before he had a written language; he ate plants and knew he could only digest certain parts of them, used them to build shelter for his family, and made weapons to defend himself from his enemies as well as slaughter animals for food.

The first botanists were perhaps healers and priests looking for new drugs and magic charms. Aristotle and a pupil (Theophrastus) in 370-285 B. C. had classified all plants as trees, shrubs and herbs and there was no further attempt to develop a scientific knowledge of plants until the 16th century. According to Michael Jefferson-Brown in his book Daffodils and Narcissi, in 1548 the total number of daffodils known was 24. It was then that students again began to arrange plants into groups, but the groups were artificial. These attempts culminated in the famous artificial system of the Swedish botanist, Linnaeus, which was published in the middle of the 18th century and in use until the middle of the 19th century. — ?
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In 1629 John Parkinson, apothecary to King James I describes ninety different kinds of narcissus and relates how they were brought to France, Holland, Spain, Italy and North Africa.

Carl von Linne' was born in Southern Sweden in 1707. Linne' is more often known as Linnaeus (the Latin form of his name) under which he wrote. He was a Swedish naturalist, essayer, physician, and professor at Upsala near Stockholm, who brought into general use the system of naming plants and animals which is now universally employed. This is the binomial (two-name) system, in which each plant and each animal is assigned a name consisting of two Latin words. The first word is the name of the genus (capital letters) and the second is the name of the species (~~italics~~). At the university he was fortunate in attracting many students from many parts of the world and trained them as naturalists and they traveled to far parts of the world for natural history specimens. Linnaeus was interested primarily in Botany, not only in the kinds of plants, but in their distribution and natural history. Knowledge of plants had been accumulated for centuries and preserved in many volumes but that knowledge lacked system since there was no plan of arrangement and no simple set of names.

It was in these two fields that Linnaeus made his outstanding contribution to biological science, i. e., classification and naming. His system was based mainly on the number of stamens and pistils in the flower. The Linnaean System, although destined to be overthrown as the author knew it eventually would be, enabled the plants of the world to be ranged in definite classes and orders. This system brought together great numbers of plants closely related as well as divorcing many natural relationships. Linnaeus wrote approximately one hundred and eighty books. He wrote Genera Plantarum in 1737 and Species Plantarum in 1753. In his Genera the concept of the genus was defined and recorded essentially as we know it today. In Species Plantarum all species of plants known to him at that time were described under the appropriate genera. He developed the concept of varieties subordinate to species and entered varietal names in the margin in a different type. Therefore, the date of 1753 is the starting point for the naming of plants in an organized system.

Linnaeus listed and described thirteen Narcissus species in the 2nd edition of his Species Plantarum published in 1762.

Daffodil enthusiasts are indebted to William Curtis, who published Botanical Magazine in the 1700's; F. W. Burbidge and J. G. Baker for Narcissus, It's History and Culture in 1875; John Gilbert Baker for his Handbook of the Amaryllidaceae published in London in the year 1888; to Dean Herbert's Amaryllidaceae in 1837 (Contemporaries of Herbert: Haworth, Salisbury, Ellacombe and others dealt with characteristics and arrangement of different forms and varieties of the plant), and last, to Dr. Abilio Fernandes for "Keys to the Identification of Native and Naturalized Taxa of the Genus Narcissus L" (this being published in the RHS Daffodil and Tulip Year Book in 1968). no line

L. H. Bailey in his book How Plants Get Their Names states, "It is impossible accurately to define what is meant by species." His brief definition is a "Kind lc of plant or animal that is distinct from other kinds in marked or essential features, that has good characters of identification, and that may be assumed to represent in nature a continuing succession of individuals from generation to generation."

If a botanist finds a new species, he has a choice of any name not before applied in that genus. Once this is done and published, the name cannot be changed by the botanist or anyone else.

This undertaking by Linnaeus and later cohorts was a monumental task and we certainly should be grateful enough to at least be able to read our classified lists intelligently.

Conventions called congresses composed of delegates or representatives of regional or departmental scientific bodies are continually pursuing nomenclature and the RHS is a part of this congress. This helped to bring us to today with our Daffodils To Show and Grow and Color Coding.

The International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants was presented at the Stockholm Congress in 1950. It was adopted by the international committee on horticultural nomenclature and registration at the 13th International Horticultural Congress in London in 1952.

This brings me back to Tag's "Jigsaw Puzzle" referred to in paragraph one.

10 *poeticus* L. *Ornatus* (Hort.) = a wild form of *poeticus* L. subsp. *radiiflorus* (Salisbury) Baker var. *exertus* (Haworth) Fernandes

Genus: Narcissus (N.)

Species: *poeticus*

L: Linnaeus (who named it)

Ornatus: variety or varietal name

(Hort.): when it appears in the RHS Register means "Horticultural as opposed to Botanical. In other words, a gardener's but not a botanists' name," according to Amy Anthony in the March 1976 Daffodil Journal

Subspecies: Taylor's Encyclopedia of Gardening informs me that subspecies is a technical designation for a race or form, specifically a geographical race of a species.

Poeticus L is the original name given by Linnaeus to the original specimen seen by him. Over a period of time it was shown that there were a number of geographical variations of that species. Therefore, that specimen became one of several forms of the species, viz., *N. poeticus* L. subsp. *radiiflorus*. A variation of it became var. *exertus*.

(Salisbury): a name in parentheses is the author of first or original publication on this variety

Baker: authority for the name

(Haworth): author on var. *exertus*

Fernandes: authority for the name

If I haven't totally confused you, get out your old 1969 Classified List (Green Bible) and see how many puzzles you can solve.

"Tag" Bourne

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In October, 6 members gathered to plant a new bed in the garden. We added about 40 new varieties to the list and replanted an additional 30 that had been dug from Bed I. Earlier when we were digging in Bed I, we were concerned about losses from the very wet summer we were having so decided to plant back immediately and also hold and plant several varieties in order to make a comparison. When you visit the garden next spring, note Bed I and Bed 8 duplicates.

Another comparison you might want to check is the cultivar 'Chino'. We have an established clump and we added one bulb of it sent directly from Phil Phillips. We held it until planting in the fall. We will make date comparisons for the next two years to check acclimatization.

We have had some losses this past year and anticipate others. We found evidence of the lesser *Narcissus* fly when we were digging. When talking to Ted Snazelle, he told me that this pest usually invades only bulbs that already have a problem. We noted rot and a foul odor to the bulbs. Those that were sound were washed and dipped in Benelate, recorded as having a problem and will be evaluated at blooming season.

Labels will be made by the city soon so that all will be ready for spring. Hope everyone will try to get to the park for admiring and maybe a little weeding too.

Ruth Pardue, Chairman Whetstone Display Garden

November 6, 1979 CODS Meeting

Ten members and one guest present. Grace Barid reported on the ADS Fall Board Meeting. The 1981 ADS Convention will be held in Newport Beach, California and Nashville, Tennessee in 1982.

Gambas 1Y-Y has been added to the Miniature list. Flomay's color code has been changed to 7W-WPP. Two new awards for the National Show are: Collection of Five English Bred Daffodils and Collection of Five Northern Ireland Bred Daffodils.

It was decided not to participate in the Dispatch Charities Home and Garden Show in 1980. It was felt our efforts could be put to better use at the Plant Society Fair to be held at the Franklin Park Conservatory and Garden Center January 13, 1980.

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Dues of \$4.00 were due in June and past due by the fall meeting. A check here means your dues have not been paid and this will be your last copy of CODS CORNER. _____ Send dues to Jean Wright, 2501 Bristol Road, Columbus 43221.

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Some members of CODS were mailed two copies of the December Daffodil Journal. One of them was sent without the customary envelope. Will each of you send me a note telling me in what condition the journal without the envelope arrived. Thank you.

Mary Lou Gripshover, Editor Daffodil Journal

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Bits and Pieces

It is with much regret that I learned that Marty Schmidt will be moving to Dayton. She has been an active member of CODS for several years. Her family's help at show time will also be greatly missed. SWODS take note! Our loss is your gain. Good luck in Dayton, Marty.

Two other members will be moving sometime in the future. Louise and Tommy Dunn have purchased a home in Arkansas and plan to move there on retirement. Certainly hope it is not soon!

Jenette Smith almost left us for Florida, but she and her husband changed their minds.

Jennie Belle Adler's husband Bill suffered a heart attack in November. In early December he had open heart surgery and is now home recuperating. Glad to hear he is getting along just fine.

One new show this year will be in Scottsburg, Indiana April 10 with Mrs. Verne Trueblood chairman.

Tag Bourne is serving as Chairman of the ADS Nominating Committee this year.

Daffodils!
Here and there
In the cold Capital.