



CODS CORNER

Newsletter of The Central Ohio Daffodil Society

VOL. XV, No. 1, JANUARY 1985

Mrs. James Dietsch, President

"Tag" Bourne, Editor

"The Apple Isle"

One of the highlights of the recent daffodil tour was the island of Tasmania that once formed the southwestern corner of the Australian Mainland. It split and now the rough waters of the Bass Strait separates it from the mainland. Tasmania has been a part of the Commonwealth of Australia since 1901, but don't tell the "Tassies"

After deplaning in Devonport, the largest town on the north coast, we were bussed to Ulverstone to visit the garden of Ross Glover. He has hybridized many outstanding cultivars i.e. Ida May 2W-YRW and Flash Affair 2W-Y. Many of his introductions can be purchased from Broadfield's Daffodils operated by his grandsons. Mr. Glover's yard is made up of a series of raised beds formed of poured concrete. The front yard contains no grass, but was attractively filled with beds of Rhododendron, daffodils, spring-flowering bulbs, and annuals. Rhododendron 'Pres. Roosevelt' a cultivar with variegated foliage and red blooms caught my eye. Vegetable beds are rotated with the daffodils in the back. Many beautiful blooms were seen, but two of interest to many were Pink Special 2W-P and Super Star 2W-W. The later had a very unusual cup edge - heavily serrated. The perianth had no mittons or tears which one would expect with this type.

A brown bag lunch was enjoyed at the farm of the Radcliffs, decedents of C.E. Radcliff. Cut specimens were used to depict the evolution of the pink daffodil in Tasmania. For some years Tasmania led the world in development of pink daffodils. The late C. E. Radcliff was one of the most successful hybridizers.

The trip to Launceston took us through some of the finest farmland in Tasmania. We stayed there for two nights attending the Launceston Daffodil Show, shopping, and enjoying the fellowship of the members of the Tasmanian Daffodil Council.

Then it was on to Hobart passing through quaint towns and Tasmania's grazing area, home of the world famous Merino wool. Hobart, the capital of Tasmania, is nestled between Mount Wellington and the River Derwent. and has a population of about 175,000. The next morning a tour to the summit of the mountain was taken, but the weather refused to cooperate and the view of Hobart and environs was obscured by clouds.

Next we drove through picturesque Hunon Valley enroute to David and Robin Jacksons. On the way many acres of apple orchards were observed, hence the name "Apple Isle". David is a third generation daffodil hybridizer and many outstanding cultivars bear the Jackson name. Upon arrival it was difficult to decide whether to eat lunch or view the daffodils. The buffet luncheon featured a large platter of crayfish and a Salmon Pate topped with a daffodil design. The main daffodil field is on a high slope overlooking the river. The beds are raised and run up and down the hill instead of across and the soil appeared to be very sandy. The first bloom I saw was the magnificent seedling Rhapsody x Immaculate 1W-W which later won a premier bloom at Springworld. The sad thing is there are only three bulbs. The yellow perianthed daffodils with red and/or orange cups attracted me the most. Some of them were: Mattara, Mate, Noway, Juel, Tia, Kasia, Rabid, and Pzaz (formerly Urchin). Of course there were other beauties too numerous to mention, but one cannot overlook Obsession 2W-P or Vahu 2W-P. After seeing Jackson daffodils one can easily understand why they are so successful on the show bench.

After a too brief visit to the Royal Botanical Garden in Hobart the next morning, it was off to New Zealand via Syndey. There were rumors that a World Daffodil Convention may be held in Tasmania. Let's hope so! I personally would love to return and renew acquaintances and to see many of the things there was no time for.

Naomi Liggett

A warm welcome to the following new members:

Art & Maureen Moshen
666 Parkway Drive
Marysville, OH 43040
Tele. No. 513-644-8551

The following is Mary Lou Gripshover's new address:

668 E. Olive Street
Apartment No. 1
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Tele. No. 408-749-0675

Please add the above to your new roster for 1985. If you have not received your roster for the 1984-85 year, please give Sharon Decker a call (457-2769).

ANNOUNCEMENT:

The Scottsburg, Indiana show will be held at another location this year. Their show will be at the Fire House. At the Midwest Regional Meeting in October, Helen Trueblood, show chairman, announced that she would like to have student judges for her show no mileage paid, but you'll get a great lunch.

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SHOW DATE CHANGED:

The Adena Daffodil Society will have a one day show on April 16, 1985, at the Veterans Administration Medical Center, Building No. 9 in Chillicothe. They originally had the dates of April 17 and 18, but had to change due to the fact that they could not get in the building the night before for staging.

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Those of you who missed our last meeting at Inniswood certainly missed an excellent program by Dr. William Bender from Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. You not only missed a great speaker, but the food was marvelous. The following is an example of a dessert brought by Bessie Haddad. Bessie calls it "Y-WY DAFFODIL DELITE."

1 Stick Oleo (soft)

1 Cup Flour

1/2 Cup Chopped Nuts mix together for bottom crust. Press into bottom of 9x9 cake pan. Bake 20 minutes at 375°F. Let cool.

8 oz. Soft Philadelphia Cream Cheese

1 Cup Powdered Sugar beat until fluffy. Fold in 1/2 Medium-sized Cool Whip and put on crust as one layer.

As next layer; put on one can of "Thank You" brand Lemon Pie/Pudding Filling. Top with the rest of the Cool Whip.

Chill.

(Note: Can be made day before and will keep refrigerated several days.)

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BULB SALE: The total taken in on CODS Bulb Sale now stands at \$1220.64.

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On July 6, 1984, I wrote to Mrs. Walter Thompson, ADS Classification Chairman, and to Dr. Tom Throckmorton, Chairman of ADS Data Bank, in regards to our "Papyrus" (2 Y-0) and our chances of exhibiting it. To date, I have not heard from Mrs. Thompson. Dr. Throckmorton replied immediately and in detail, stating we received a severe case of the "Dutch Treatment." The raisers, Konynenburg & Mark, purchase large quantities of English and Irish bulbs and put any name on the bulb without registering it. They, in turn, sell it to the wholesale distributor, in our case, Groenevelt and Lindhout. We cannot exhibit the cultivar as Papyrus 2 Y-0 and Groenevelt will not replace it as they do not have the poet "Papyrus." One of our members thought the flower looked like "Amor." Check your blooms this Spring to see if it could be "Amor." Mine was very smooth and colorful. (Editor's Note: Cecile had more luck than I did this was a horrible flower in my garden. I admit it was colorful. It has been rogued from my garden.)

June 1984 I dug and distributed to many members a few bulbs of Ornatus??? It is a very white, red rimmed, scented small flower. I don't know the cultivar, and hopefully, Tag Bourne, a member of the ADS poet round robin can identify it for us and publish it in CODS. It is an old cultivar...I dug up ten 18 years ago when the River Ridge Riding Club was demolished for progress. I dug up 169 bulbs from the original ten. If you didn't get any in 1984, let me know and I'll make sure you get a few in '85 as I replanted 15.

Dr. Bender brought one of his markers to our Inniswood meeting. The Perfection Garden Marker was 14" long and very sturdy. It looked as if it would last two lifetimes. The cost last year was \$180.00 for 1000. The following is the address for ordering:

S. W. Supply Company
Girard, Kansas 66743.

Cecile Spitz

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We were delighted to have the following guests at our Inniswood meeting:

Mrs. Kathy Wildman (and her grandmother, Louise M. Bennett) 40 W. Broadway Westerville, OH 43081	Leone Y. Low 1450 President St. Yellow Springs, OH 45387	Evadene Holyoke 608 S. High St. Yellow Springs, OH 45387
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We hope they will join us again.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO GRACE AND BILL BAIRD:

On December 19th, Grace and Bill Baird celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. They were married in Akron and came to Columbus by train for their honeymoon. They have had a wonderful and varied married life with Bill serving in the Armed Forces

in many parts of the world. We wish them many more happy years together.

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Since our next meeting on February 12th, 1985, is titled "The Hybridizer in America Today", I thought I would share with you an article that appeared in The Oregonian on Grant Mitsch while we were attending the ADS Convention in Portland, Oregon.

CANBY DAFFODIL KING CREATED 405 VARIETIES

Grant E. Mitsch is at home with his rows and rows of daffodils. Major awards for his 50 years of hybridizing the flowers are nothing new to him.

But even the man who has created 405 kinds of daffodils was noticeably impressed with a recent award, and two gifts from a friend. He is the recipient of the Dix Medal, awarded by the people of The Netherlands, for his half-century contribution to expanding the types and varieties of daffodils.

"But look at those pictures over there," he said admiringly, pointing to two paintings. "They are wonderful and required a very lot of work."

One painting is of Mitsch and his late wife, Amy, standing in front of rows of yellow and white daffodils.

The other is of several daffodils, with a background scroll including the names and dates of every kind of daffodil Mitsch has developed. The paintings are a gift from Marie Bozievich, a friend and daffodil enthusiast who lives near Washington, D. C.

For many years Mitsch operated Grant E. Mitsch Novelty Daffodils on several acres of Canby farmland. In the late 1970's he retired from the business. He now lives near Hubbard with his daughter and son-in-law, Elise J. and Richard D. Havens.

The Havens, with a consulting assist from Mitsch, carry on the business of growing and exporting daffodil bulbs throughout the United States and many countries.

Elise Havens said that some of the daffodils developed by her father are well-known and big sellers abroad, including the Jet Fire, Accent and Dickcissel hybrids.

How does the daffodil master think of names for all the different types of the flower he has developed?

"I like descriptive and interesting names," Mitsch explained. His creations include the Butterflower, Centerpiece, Catbird, Bell Song, Canary, At Dawning, Beauty Tip, Barbet, Cherry Spot and many others.

Mitsch added that his wife was just as interested in the flowers as he has been all his life. He grinned and added, "She did all the work and I took all the credit."

Elise Havens said that developing and raising daffodils is not a business for persons wanting immediate results. "It takes five to six years for a bulb to have its first blooms," she said. "And 15 and sometimes 20 years often pass before you really know what you have in a hybrid."

The Havens sell some cut daffodils, but nearly all of their business is confined to mail-order bulb sales. Mitsch believes there are about 11,000 different kinds of daffodils in the world.

Mitsch, who obviously is closer to his flowers than to his awards, concedes that his honors have included a congratulatory letter from President Reagan, a picture taken with Lady Bird Johnson, the Peter Barr daffodil award from England, a gold medal from the Garden Clubs of America, a congratulatory letter from Gov. Vic Atiyeh, and honors from the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs and the National Federation of State Farm Clubs.

And then he glanced again at the painting of himself and his late wife, standing in a sea of daffodils --- perhaps the most precious bit of memorabilia with which he has ever been honored.

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CLASSIFICATION CHANGES:

The following cultivars have been re-classified as follows:

Cricket 5 Y-Y
Amber Castle 2 Y-WWP
Cairngorm 2 Y-WWP

SEEDLINGS IN ADS SHOWS:

All seedlings, both miniature and standard, must be identified by a number designation assigned by the originator. If the originator has not provided a number for the seedling, it cannot be shown in ADS accredited shows. See Rule #7 on Page 22 of Handbook for Growing, Exhibiting, and Judging Daffodils. In the future, should an un-numbered seedling win an award, it shall be forfeited by the exhibitor.

Mrs. Hubert Bourne
ADS Awards Chairman

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The new Daffodils to Show and Grow 1985 will be available shortly after the first of this year. It will include registrations through 1984. No exhibitor or judge can afford to be without it. They will be available from the ADS Executive Director, Miss Leslie Anderson, Rt. 3, 2302 Byhalia Road, Hernando, Mississippi 38632 on a "First come, first serve" basis.

Our President is supposed to be ordering a supply for CDS members. If you desire one and have not already signed up, call Donna Dietsch at 866-9582.

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We have at least another two months of winter ahead of us. Why not take this time to check out books from your local library on daffodils? Some of the best material on miniatures can be gotten from Alex Gray's "Miniature Daffodils." One idea might be to study the "Look Alike" Miniatures and learn the difference in such cultivars as Wee Bee and Little Gem, Segovia and Yellow Xit, and of course, we have had our discussions on April Tears and Hawera. I receive newsletters from different ADS regions and have been noting comparisons of these two triandrus. A good way to distinguish between April Tears and Hawera is to check the pistil. April Tears you'll find that the pistil ends very close to the end of the anthers. Hawera comes about an 1/8th of an inch further out. April Tears has a fuller more closed perianth. Hawera has a smaller perianth and is more like a star. April Tears blooms later and generally has fewer florets than Hawera. The perianth on April Tears is rounded, Hawera has a wavy perianth; Hawera's form is not as good as April Tears. April Tears has fragrance; Hawera has none. Why not make some comparisons of your own?

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Happy New Year to all and I look forward to seeing you on February 12th at the Municipal Center at 7:30 p.m.

"Tag" Bourne, Editor
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