

CODS CORNER

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL OHIO DAFFODIL SOCIETY

VOL XXVI I I NO 2 March 1999

Phyllis Hess, President

Naomi Liggett, Editor

March 21, 1999

Dear Daffodil Friends,

It is my sad duty to tell you of several deaths in our Daffodil World. Paul Gripshover, Neil Macneale, Phyllis Vonnegut, Marie Bozievich, Ruth Pardue's sister, Irene Moseley's sister, Elsie Hack's niece and Robert Jerrell all died just recently. My deepest sympathies to all their families. There are several of our friends who are or have been very ill. We hope all are soon much better. Is it any wonder we are all anticipating spring so much?

I am happy to report that Fred Rucker is much better and is planning on being at the show. Irene's daughter, Averly, is also improving following her recent surgery. I also heard from Peter Ramsay, who is supplying the slides for our May meeting. He and Les are the Grandparents of a new Grandson, Ethan James Leslie. Peter said he was proud they thought he looked like Grandpa until they said he looked "grumpy".

There are several of us going to Tennessee on the 26th to attend the Knoxville Show and visit with Ruth Pardue. I am most eager to see her garden. I understand it is fabulous. I am just sorry that more of you are not going.

There were fourteen of us who went to Roman Claprood's, a wholesale florist, who allows the local American Cancer Society to use their facilities. Daffodils were arranged in baskets of fifty and vases of ten. We had a good time. The volunteers worked quickly. There was plenty of help, so we were done very early. Daffodil Days is a major fund-raiser and they sold more baskets, vases and bunches of daffodils this year than ever. On a side note, the vase I purchased lasted for a week, even after "visiting" our meeting. Many thanks to Tom Stettner for coming up from Cincinnati he showed us a great slide show put together from his recent travels. There were photos of some wonderful new flowers.

We will be putting out labels at Whetstone Park on April 3 and our show, *Ode to Daffodils*, will be held at Franklin Park Conservatory on April 17, 18. My thanks to Cindy Hyde for chairing the show! We will need lots of help starting at 2:00 a.m. on the 16th to set-up (NOTE TIME CHANGE). Then on the 18th at 5:00 p.m. we will need those same helping hands to tear down.

The last couple of warm days had me singing (don't know if you are aware that I am the only Grandma whose grandchildren beg NOT to sing) and thinking Spring was really here I planted my "down under" daffodils and pulled a few weedsthen today back to winter!!

I am convinced that Spring will arrive, We WILL have a show this year come whatever and I hope all of you win lots and lots of ribbons. Most of all I hope all of you has lots and lots of fun and enjoyment growing our favorite flower!! Aren't there some dandies in the new catalogs!

Happy Daffodiling!

Phyllis

The Final Touch to the Daffodil Season

Donna Dietsch

As much as I love the first half of the daffodil season, I love even more, the second half. That's when most of the Division three daffodils bloom. After the cyclamineus and trumpets are mostly gone and the lush colors of the long cups have faded, another season begins. Our eyes, jaded by all the beauty that has gone before, are attracted by the jewels of the daffodil garden. The threes show off their bright colored cups against the pristine white segments that surround them. There are, of course, other colors; all white ones, orange petaled ones and even a few that bloom earlier in the season. However, the preponderance of the Division three daffodils look like their poet ancestors and bloom later in the season.

Division three daffodils respond better to soil that tends to be more acid than alkaline. In Columbus, those who live west of I-71 will have alkaline soil, for the most part. Divider fences, made of slabs of native limestone from the Marble Cliff quarry abound in the area. The farther east you live, the more acid your soil will be.

I first discovered the relationship between Division three daffodils and acid soil several years ago when I planted some azaleas with daffodil clumps between them. I used an acidifying fertilizer on the azaleas called Miracid. One of the daffodil clumps was 'Doctor Hugh' 3W-GOO. I was astounded by the blooms the following spring. They were larger and better formed. The stems were sturdier, the color of the cups brighter and the leaves greener. The reason for this is probably because plants need certain trace minerals, one of which is iron. Alkaline soils retard the absorption of iron from the soil. Oak trees get a condition called iron chlorosis, caused by lack of iron, which causes the leaves to be yellow with green veins. Daffodils, while not showing this sort of result from lack of iron still may not grow as well as without iron easily available in the soil.

There are several ways to increase the acidity of your soil. Before you do anything, it would be a good idea to have the soil tested to see what its' pH level is. Azalea fertilizer is only one way to increase the acidity of the soil. You can compost oak leaves and till it in at planting time. Even tilling in last years' mulch will help. Mushroom compost will do wonders, as will Com-til. Mix these into the soil early in the year so that it breaks down before you plant in the fall. Sulfur can be used, but it is tricky and you need to know exactly how much your soil requires.

I have no doubt that almost all daffodils like the soil to be slight acid, but I know my threes like it. I have never used extra acidifiers on miniatures or species, since some species are found in wild among limestone outcroppings. I hesitate to experiment and kill them.

I have some favorites that do well for me in my garden. They are 'Doctor Hugh' 3W-GOO (Duncan), 'Witch Doctor' 3W-YYO (Ballydorn) 'Carole Lombard', 3W-YYO (Postles), 'Palmyra' 3W-YRR (Mitsch), 'Sugar and Spice' 3W-YYO (Pearson), 'Irvington' 3W-R (Pannill) and 'Green Linnet' 3W-GGO (Richardson).

Whetstone Park

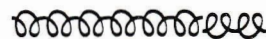
Phyllis Hess

We will putting out labels at Whetstone Park on Saturday, April 3 at 9:00 a.m. I know I always mention this, but if there is a good crew there, it will not take long. This is one of the few dates we can do it because of our show and Easter.

Many thanks to Nancy Kolson for updating the labels and making the new ones. We voted at our recent meeting to stockpile some of the plastic label material, due to costs rising rapidly.

The beds were mulched by the city and due to the yeoman duties of Helen Meeker, the weeds are under control at this time.

It appears that our experiment of trying to take care of the Park by committee is working, at least for now. I want to thank all of you have been so diligent in helping.



Change of Address: Fred Rucker, 3666 East Link Circle, Hilliard, OH 43026

IT'S SHOW TIME!!!

Cindy Hyde, Show Chairman

Are you ready? We will begin setting up for the show at the Franklin Park Conservatory at 10:30 a.m., Friday, April 16.

Phyllis will be providing buckets; Nancy Gill, taxus; Elsie Hack, trays on which to carry blooms from the staging area to the show room, a daffodil cake, and donuts and Donna, extra large coffee maker and additional taxus. If you think of anything I have forgotten, please give me a call (if I am not home just leave a message)

Be sure to bring your own scissors and/or hand pruners, towels, ink pens, etc. as we may not have these items available.

Nancy Gill will coordinate the box lunches. Please see her information in this issue. The after show dinner will be held at Cameron's on Main Street. A private area has been reserved at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday for approximately 15 guests. You will be able to individually pay for your dinner. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU CALL ME TO LET ME KNOW IF YOU WILL ATTEND. 740-474-7483 -- just leave a message.

I wish everyone good weather for show perfect flowers! Good luck!!

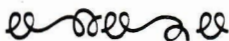
Show Luncheon

Box Lunch:

- * Marinated grilled chicken breast sandwich marinated and grilled, with red leaf lettuce and tarragon mayonnaise on house-made focaccia bread
- * Shaved roast beef sandwich with provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato with a creamy Dijon mustard horseradish spread on house-made focaccia bread

Served with potato salad and fresh fruit salad.

Please send check with your choice of lunch to Nancy Gill, 2454 West Lane Avenue, Columbus, OH 43221, by April 10. Price: \$9.95



NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 11, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. *New Zealand Daffodils on Parade*, *New Zealand* a slide program prepared by Peter Ramsay

TENNESSEE TRIP

Tag Bourne

Naomi and I left Columbus on Friday anticipating enjoying spring in the mountains of Tennessee, but to our chagrin, we found Knoxville colder than Columbus. Just to the East was more than six inches of snow and most mountain roads were closed.

Naomi had a few miniatures but I only had one Tete-a-Tete in bloom. East Tennessee seemed to be in the early mid-season bloom period.

The show was staged at the University of Tennessee Agriculture campus in Ellington Hall, the Plant Sciences Building.

The following ADS ribbons were given:

Gold - 'Coronet' 6 Y-Y
White - 'Beryl' 6 Y-O
Miniature Gold - 'Mite' 6 Y-Y
Miniature White - 'Sundial' 7 Y-Y
Lavender - 'Mitimoto' 10 W-Y, *cyclamineus* 13 Y-Y, 'First Kiss' 6 Y-Y, 'Wee Bee' 1 Y-Y and b. *Graellsii* 13 Y-Y
Intermediate - 'Dik Dik' 2 Y-R
Historic - 'Beryl' 6 Y-O

Ruth Pardue won the Red-White-Blue, Maroon, Purple, Miniature Bronze, Silver and the Quinn

In the past, Elise Havens has sent blooms of new cultivars to this show for a display but the cost of shipping blooms has now made this prohibitive. I was disappointed in not seeing another of Elise's displays, because I always looked forward to it.

After lunch several guests traveled to Frank Galyon's to view his seedlings. We were impressed by a number including 'Ouzel' x 'Cotinga' 6 W-P, a spectacular clump of 'Mite' x *cyclamineus* resembling the species caught the group's eye and we hope we have convinced Frank to send these to Elise Havens to be grown on and, hopefully, introduced in the near future. Another cross going to the Havens is *triandrus* x *fernandesii* with bell-shaped florets and medium yellow in color. There were several clumps of *triandrus* x *triandrus* growing in grass which we "drooled" over.

Later in the evening, in time to see the OSU basketball game, we gathered at the Pardue's for a delicious buffet dinner.

Those members who did not attend missed a great weekend of daffodils and fellowship. A trip to Tennessee was planned by CODS for the past two

years. So far, this has not been successful due to poor participation. It's a long way, requiring two nights at a hotel and a time when some are on spring break. CODS members attending were Tag Bourne, Bill Lee and Naomi Liggett. It's not fair for the Pardue's to make all these preparations and the participation be so poor. It's more valuable to have a pre-show meeting
so let's not plan this another year

Nominating Committee

Slate for 1999-2000:

President -- Phyllis Hess
Vice-President -- Nancy Kolson
Secretary -- Donna Dietsch
Treasurer -- Elise Hack

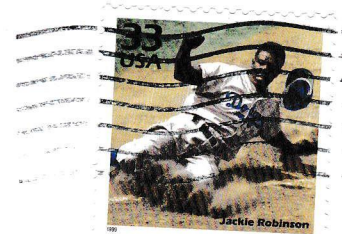
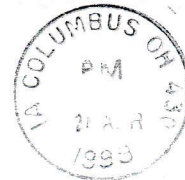
Irene Moseley, Chairman; Betty Kealiher, Cindy Hyde

Naomi J. Liggett
4126 Winfield Road
Columbus, OH 43220-4606

NEW MEMBERS

Sarah Feiger and Charles Jenkins Whomever gave money to Elsie for these two people please call me and give me their addresses.

DEADLINE July Newsletter: June 15, 1999



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