



CODS CORNER

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Newsletter of The Central Ohio Daffodil Society

Phyllis Hess, President

Naomi Liggett, Editor

Dear Fellow CODS Members:

Small packages are arriving. Football season and planting time are here again! Where did summer go? As usual, I did not get half what I planned done. Maybe someday.....

I'm excited about our programs this year, and especially about having our Spring Show at the Zoo. I think you will all appreciate what a great place this will be to have our show and the fact that Steve Belcher and his staff have promised to set up the tables etc. We will have nice large rooms in which to stage and have lunch. There will be no walking as you can unload at the curb and carry things a few feet to the staging rooms. The Zoo should also be lovely then, as they have planted thousands of daffodils, everywhere. Plan what you are going to enter this winter as you go over your list!

Steve has also said he will be our speaker in November, that meeting will be on November 17th at 7:30 pm at Whetstone Library.

I had a call from Sandra Baxter, she and Michael work for Barbara Abel Smith, she tells me it has been very wet in England, but that all bulbs have been dispatched. She also gave me good news about Robin Reade, Kate's husband, he is doing much better and is now able to walk some.

Please don't forget we plant Whetstone on October 10, rain date October 17, (bring a sack lunch and proper planting tools). We now have a complete list of cultivars planted at Whetstone, check the list and if you have three bulbs of anything to donate to the park, please tell Nancy Kolson what cultivars you have. October 26 is the date for the Midwest Regional Meeting. Also, be sure to save a bulb or two for the bulb exchange .

Some things I dug were not very large, I feel this was due to the freeze damage in March. It seemed most were Division 3 cultivars, they were the ones most affected at the time. It occurred mostly in a "warm bed", what did the rest of you find as you dug?

Please remember to research some facet of growing or hybridizing daffodils and send the results to Naomi, she can't do it all herself !! Besides you will learn something in the process.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the planting of Whetstone and Midwest Fall Regional Meeting!

A LITTLE HISTORY ABOUT THE GARDEN AT WHETSTONE PARK

As most of you know, CODS was started in 1968; and some time in the early 70s, we started talking about a public planting of daffodils. Through Ruth Pardue's contacts with the members on the Rose Commission at the then Park of Roses, this planting became a reality in the fall of 1974 with Ruth Pardue as Chairman. The July issue of *CODS CORNER* included the admonition to "Remember to save some bulbs for this project when you dig any bulbs this year."

On October 10, 1974, about 125 cultivars which had been donated by Naomi Liggett, Grace Baird, Wells Knierim, Mary Lou Gripshover, Mary Elizabeth Blue, Betty Beery and Ruth Pardue were planted by Grace, Naomi, Glenna Bowman, Cecile Spitz, Ruth and Mary Lou. We planted one bed, and thought we had done a wonderful thing!

By the following fall, bulbs had been received from ADS members in several states as well as CODS members, and five new beds were planted with over 575 cultivars. This was the year the large rock was found in Bed 2. With the help of the Parks Department personnel and their fork lift, the boulder was positioned and our plaque subsequently added.

Weeds were a problem from the beginning, as numerous references in *CODS CORNER* will attest. Early on, thistle was a major problem.

At the first ADS convention in 1978, a stop at the garden was part of the tour. The garden received high praise from visitors, with Phil Phillips of New Zealand going on record as saying it was the best public daffodil garden in the world...better even than the test garden at Wisley in England. A policy was adopted in May, 1978, which stated that "Those persons in the Society who assist in the maintenance of the Garden will receive priority in purchasing excess bulbs when dug."

In April of 1979, Ruth reported that CODS had a written document saying that we could do anything we want with the bulbs at Whetstone as long as we leave three of each cultivar.

In 1980, CODS was the recipient of a Garden Club of Ohio, Inc. Citation, which reads:
We wish to commend the Central Ohio Daffodil Society's Display Garden at the Park of Roses, Columbus, Ohio, which is the largest Educational display of Daffodils in the United States. Begun in 1974, the garden presently contains over 1100 varieties of Daffodils, both old and new varieties and each variety is labeled with its name and correct classification. The bulbs have been donated and Society members care for the plantings until the foliage is matured. The garden is of GREAT educational value, being available to the general public throughout Ohio.

In 1977, CODS had approved a Trial Garden Award, and a scale of points had been established. However, the only record I could find of such awards being was in 1980, when Bobbysoxer, Downpatrick, Green Quest, Peeping Tom, Dickcissel and Chapeau were recognized. (Looking at the 1992 list for the garden, I see that Green Quest is no longer there.) In 1980, we shared the bounty from the Whetstone Garden with other prospective gardens around the country: River Farm, Virginia; Brookside Gardens, Maryland; Denver Botanic Gardens; Clemson University; and the Minnesota Arboretum. During the early 80's a half dozen more gardens received our surplus bulbs, and the remaining bulbs were given to Franklin Park Conservatory for forcing for their Spring Bulb Display. Also during this time, it was noted that the beds were fertilized, with CODS supplying the fertilizer.

Health problems surfaced in 1984, and no beds were dug. Subsequently some beds were fumigated.

The continuing problem with keeping the beds weed-free prompted Cecile Spitz to suggest that CODS buy a seedling and give a bulb to each member who kept a bed weeded until the foliage died down and who also helped with bulb digging and planting. This would be a seedling exclusive to CODS for the first year. In 1986, 25 bulbs of Whetstone 1W-W was purchased from Elise Havens for this purpose. Also in 1986, Ruth Pardue held preliminary talks with OSU about initiating a herbicide project.

After serving as chairman from the project's inception in 1974 to 1987, Ruth Pardue decided 13 years was enough and Donna Dietsch was appointed chairman. Plans for the herbicide project were finalized in 1987, with Dr. Elton Smith and his associates doing the research. CODS applied to the American Daffodil Society for a \$300.00 research grant, which was approved. The funds were used to defray the cost of buying inexpensive cultivars from The Daffodil Mart for use in the trails. To my knowledge, this is the only time bulbs were purchased for the garden. All the other bulbs have been donated.

Surplus bulbs continue to be sent to other gardens, with bulbs going in 1987 to Indiana and Kansas as well as the local conservatory, and in 1988 the Reynoldsburg Senior Citizens Center also received bulbs.

Our planting at Whetstone Park has a long history made possible by the hard work and generosity of CODS members as well as ADS members in other states and around the world. Each of you has a list of what is planted there, and if you have bulbs to contribute, please let Nancy Kolson know what you have so that she can prepare a planting chart prior to our planting date. I've probably got 30 or so cultivars to share this year. Can't you help with a few cultivars, too? This is our garden, and we should be proud of it and do whatever it takes to keep it the best public daffodil garden in the country. I'm looking forward to seeing each of you at Whetstone at planting time.

Mary Lou Gripshover

DISPLAY GARDEN REPORT: or "What I Did This Summer."

Many Saturdays were spent in pulling weeds at Whetstone, and later, in identifying them. Now, at least, I know the difference between the spotted spurge and field pennycress. (I already knew *Taraxacum officinale* (the common dandelion)...the plague of gardeners everywhere!

In August, the beds were sprayed with Roundup and will be tilled before planting. The planting date is October 10th and the rain date is October 17th. Please bring any necessary items...shovels, garden gloves, trowels and rakes. Also, don't forget your sunblock!

Although many bulbs have been donated, we can still use more...particularly brightly-colored cultivars (yellow/reds, oranges). Please give them to me by October 3 OR they can be dropped off at Phyllis Hess' and she will give them to me.

Nancy Kolson, Whetstone Display Garden Chairman

Editor's Note: In 1983 CODS was awarded the Horticulture Award for Affiliates by the Garden Club of Ohio, Inc. and an Award of Merit to a Plant Society by the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. It states: A collection of 1400 cultivars is planted and maintained each year in a display garden in a city park. Every year the increase is sent to 13 test gardens in the United States and the remainder used in plantings in other parks. This permanently labeled daffodil collection is a beautiful and educational display for the citizens of Columbus.

PROFILE: PRESIDENT PHYLLIS HESS

I was born in Worthington, lived in Powell until the 6th grade and ultimately graduated from Bexley High School. Until the time of my marriage, (35 years ago last month) I was a professional photographer, specializing in weddings and children's photos. For a short time I assisted a photographer at The Dispatch and did have one photo on the front page. I was also the manager of the Photo Department at Budd and Company, a jewelry store just north of Board and High.

For the past 20 years, eek such a long time, I've driven a school bus for the Olentangy Local Schools. When my children were in grade school, one day the principal announced on the PA that they needed a bus driver. That evening while attending my son's basketball game, he said he understood I was to be his new bus driver. it seems my son and daughter had volunteered my services. I said I guessed I could help him out a couple months till he found someone else, now 20 years later, guess I'm still helping out, currently driving the handicapped bus.

This same gentleman in his role as athletic director also heard me announce a little league football game and wondered why I didn't do the High School games. At the time they had a person doing them that really did not know much about football. This year will be my 21st year as the "Voice of the Olentangy". At one time a reporter for *Sports Illustrated* told me he thought I was the only female announcer he knew. I started announcing by doing softball tournaments in Columbus when we sponsored a team there.

It seems much of Dave's and my life has revolved around sports, our children and their school activities. They were all three very active. The boys played most every sport, Teri was in the band, a cheerleader and also played three sports. We also helped start the little league football program, and I started the little league cheerleader program so the girls would have something to do. So I've driven the bus to, and chaperoned at, most any kind of game or camp.

In later years we have taken up golf, and are Directors of the Central Ohio Grasshoppers, a group of golfers who have outings at different courses about every three weeks. In August we also arrange and take them on a trip, this year it was three nights and four days at Glade Springs Resort in West Virginia, while there we also played three other courses.

Over the years some of my other interests have been, collecting Heisey glass, cooking, crocheting, gardening, reading and of course, my latest being the computer. I've learned a lot doing Handy's invoices, etc. There is just never enough time to learn everything I would like!

Maybe my greatest gardening blunder was reading about Handy Hatfield in *The Columbus Dispatch*, my interest piqued, I'm proud that he has become my mentor. My greatest thrill was when I beat him in the vase of three class! Or....was it when I met Naomi at the park and she told us there was to be a sale of daffodil bulbs at Franklin Park in the fall, and then meeting Cecile there, not sure which caused me the most trouble!

My family is very small and so very close. It is such fun to dream of sharing the lottery.. We always say the first thing we would do is find a way to bring my Dad home from the nursing home. After that, we would like to help The National Heisey Glass Museum. The rest...who knows?

ADS BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

The ADS Board of Directors met on September 12th in Baltimore, Maryland at Haborside and this Editor had a great time, the weather being picture perfect. The trip to LeDew Topiary Gardens on Sunday was very interesting. Two new daffodils have been added to the ADS Approved List of Miniatures - Little Sunshine 6Y-Y and First Kiss 6Y-Y. The first one was hybridized by Eileen Frey a daughter of Grant Mitsch and the latter by our own Helen Link. I was fortunate to receive a bulb of this from Helen last year and I feel it is a great addition to the list. Little Sunshine I felt was a little large, but as it settles into this climate it may grow smaller.

An Ad Hoc Committee was appointed to study conservation of the daffodil species. It is to be chaired by Steve Vinisky of Oregon along with Kathy Anderson, Helen Link Louisa Conrad and Bill Ticknor.

Our own Tag Bourne has been appointed Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Don King resigned from the Board because of health problems and was replaced by Anne Donnell Smith of Maryland.

The board passed a resolution that would recognize as ADS Accredited Judges any person who is recognized as a judge in the following societies: The Daffodil Society (Great Britain), Northern Ireland Daffodil Group, Australian Daffodil Society, Tasmanian Daffodil Council and New Zealand Daffodil Society .

JIM RADCLIFF

Jim Radcliff of Tasmania died in May at the age of 83. He was the son of C.E. Radcliff progenitor of Tasmania's pinks. He was a dairy farmer on the northwest coast of Tasmania who had retired to Devonport. Redlands Too one of the top 2Y-Rs originated by him was the Premier Bloom at one of the shows in 1988 when we had the privilege of visiting him. He will be best remembered for O/R trumpets.

NEXT MEETING: November 17, 1992 at Whetstone Library

DUES ARE STILL DUE!

DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY CODS CORNER IS DECEMBER 15TH.