

# CODS CORNER

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL OHIO DAFFODIL SOCIETY

VOL XXV NO 4 October 1996

Cindy Hyde, President

Naomi Liggett, Editor

Dear CODS Members,

The warmth of summer always cools off too quickly for me. I get this urgency to plant my daffodils before the earth becomes cold to my fingers.

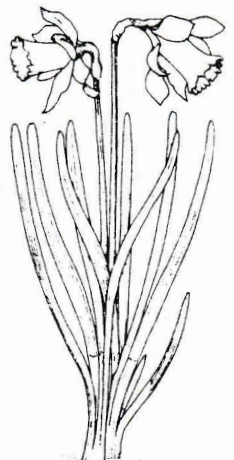
Planting is always an easy job if the soil has been well tilled and amended. With your reliable assistance the Whetstone October 26 and November 2 plantings will be finished quickly. The daffodil garden's soil is in prime shape -- the best ever thanks to Nancy Kolson's guidance and your hard work.

That is why it is so hard for me to accept Nancy's resignation as the garden's chairperson. She has donated much of her time, energy and resources to the garden and I sincerely thank her. Since her position will be difficult to fill, I strongly urge all members to give serious consideration to the future of the Whetstone Display Garden. If we cannot find a chairperson the garden may have to be turned over to the park system -- so your comments are important and welcome.

On a lighter note, Tag was very gracious to host the cocktail party. We had a great time and stuffed ourselves as usual.

I'm looking forward to our November Meeting and hope to see you there at the Whetstone Library meeting room. The program will be *Springtime in the British Isles* that I know will be very interesting and enjoyable. Also, the strange weather we had during the '96 growing season should spark some interesting discussions -- so don't be left out, join in the fun!

*Cindy*



## HAMILTON SHOW

### Peter Ramsay, Hamilton NZ

With the early season, it was a bumper show with a record 900 entries and close on 2000 flowers. The dominant exhibitors were Koanga Daffodils (alias Max and Peter) who won almost all of the collection classes with what they claimed to be their best flowers ever. Their twelve by Three New Zealand raised was in a class of its own and in the words of one American visitor were "absolutely stunning" (guess who -- clue likes Pinot Noir) Peter and Dianne Irwin also staged their best flowers ever and best Koanga in the nine bicolour trumpets. Tony Robinson put together his usual group of lovely jonquillas to win that class.

The amateur classes were outstanding. In the main class for twelve by one varieties, Tracey and Bruce Hooker scored a well-deserved win from eleven other entries. Tracey had been very busy in the organization of the convention, so it was a fitting reward. Graham Miller took best amateur bloom with a good example of 'Semantha' 1W-W (P. Phillips).

A special class to help "celebrate silver" for twelve white blooms staged in two vases was won by Koanga with fine flowers of 'River Queen' 2W-W and 'Homestead' 2W-W -- top marks to Bill Pannill. (Incidentally 'Crystal Blanc' 2W-GWW is in great form too and is in the cooler ready for Christchurch.

The premier stand was a picture with a range of old and new. The former was represented in the form of 'Viking' 1Y-Y, on its day the best yellow trumpet around, the latter by the best bloom in the show, a Peter Ramsay seedling bred from 'Silent Valley' x 'Ragamuffin'. There were four doubles on the premier stand. Best white was 'Kiwi Magic', best yellow was 'Kiwi Solstice', best amateur 'Kiwi Solstice' again, best seedling 22-96. So what you might say -- well all four were raised by the same gentleman, Max Hamilton. Quite a feat that.

The convention dinner was held at a local winery with well over 100 people in attendance. Two medals were awarded -- a bronze to New Zealand's best judge Brian Parr and much to his surprise a gold to Peter Ramsay. Food and wine flowed and dancing continued to the wee hours. One American visitor was observed in his quest to find the best Pinot Noir, but the bus went home too early, Bob. On Sunday, the visitors toured the main grower's

gardens in what they said was a lovely day. And it did not rain. Indeed it hasn't rained since, the hosepipes are out as the world Convention approaches as the season continues to be two weeks early.

Editors Note: Thanks to the electronic world we live in this was sent by E-Mail. What a great way to communicate with our daffodil friends so far away.

Congratulations, Peter on your Gold Medal and all your red ribbons (first place in NZ). Max, what an honor to have four of your own doubles winning premier awards!

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### Cecile Spitz, Chairman

Helen Meeker has an unlisted phone number - 261-0647. Please change it in your roster.

Tag Bourne has a severe case of vertigo for over six weeks. At one time it was an impediment to flying. Perhaps improved medication in the past four years has eliminated the flying problem. The Potluck Cocktail Party was at Tag's home on September 22. Thank you for having all of us at your home. Editor's Note: Tag is much better since seeing an ENT doctor and starting an exercise for vertigo.

Betty Kealiher's husband recently had by-pass surgery. We wish him the best of luck and good health from now on.

Fred Rucker has his second hip replacement in July. He is just beginning to get around -- very cautiously.

Virginia Kelley recently received a Neighborhood Beautification Award for her yard at a luncheon held at the Reynoldsburg Courthouse. She was one of 33 street winners. These are street by street awards given by the Reynoldsburg Beautification Committee. It plans on making the city one of the most beautiful in the Central Ohio area.

Helen Meeker's sister-in-law passed away in September. Our deepest sympathy to Helen for her loss of a beloved relative.

I had a surgical procedure in my doctor's office that has eliminated my constant high fever -- no more antibiotics I hope.

Hope we all get better.



## WHETSTONE PLANTING

Nancy Kolson

There has been a change in the date for planting at Whetstone from October 12 to October 26 and November 2. Four beds need to be planted. We will do as much as we can on October 26th, then we can finish up, if we need more time, on November 2. This change is necessary due to the length of time we will need to get ready for planting. We got a later start than usual due to there being no chairman for the Daffodil garden. I will serve as interim chairman and be in charge of planting. Because of an extra work assignment, I have had to resign this position. If you are interested in being the chairman of Whetstone Daffodil Garden, please let Cindy or Phyllis know.

## MY FIRST DAFFODIL DIG

Abby Butts

Boy did I have to get up early! Betty picked me up about 7:00 am to drive to Columbus. We got to the park and my job was to take the daffodil bulbs down to the end of the flower beds. After that I had to take the empty trays back to the diggers. Then the ladies put all the bulbs in bags, these were going to be sold. Everyone ran out of bags so they had to fill the other up to the top!

We finished our job and we all sat down and talked. After we visited everyone left. Betty and I got lunch and later we had ice cream. It was a fun day!

Editor: Abby is one of our newer junior members.

## WORLD CONVENTION

This information is just hot off the E-Mail "press" from Peter Ramsay.

Hi everyone. We are just back from Christchurch and what was a very successful World Convention. This is just to let you know that we managed to win the International Class, with Jackson Daffodils second and John Hunter third. There were nine good entries from both sides of the Tasman Sea. Best bloom in the show was 'Cameo King' 2W-W grown by Clive Denton, a second year exhibitor. As it is one of my raising it gave me best in show at both nationals!!! The celebrations concluded at 3

a.m. on Saturday when the final American, Australian and English person were escorted from the party room -- guess whose!

One thing we did prove this year is that a properly conditioned, refrigerated, well-substanced flower will last almost a month and still look good on the final day of the show after hours out of water and an extremely hot staging area (30° C). Some of our flowers deserved to be issued with walking sticks. All in all a wonderful weekend. More later when I've recovered a little.

Look for more on the World Convention by Mary Lou Gripshover in the January issue of *CODS Corner*.

## GROWING AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND DAFFODILS

Naomi Liggett

In the near future you will be reading all about this years winning daffodils in New Zealand and Australia. You may be fortunate to see slides of many of these premier winners. If you have never ordered bulbs from there, why not try your hand at it next year. As you know their spring is our fall, so the daffodils will be out of sync when you import them to the USA.

It is best if you can receive the bulbs February or earlier. Keeping the bulbs until fall to plant can cause the bulbs to lose moisture and some may even rot. In Central Ohio there is usually a warm spell in February and one is able to get the bulbs in the ground. If you know where you are going to plant them you could cover the area to keep it dry. It has been suggested that you choose a planting site that will be cooler during the summer months.

When I plant in late February or early March many of the cultivars start to bloom around the 4th of July. This year the bloom was spaced over a much longer period. A bulb may not come up the first year, but don't start worrying until the second year down. Some come up but do not bloom. If they do bloom the color and size can be off due to the heat. Unfortunately the blooms do not last long.

One of the first to bloom this year was a Glenbrook seedling, 79/89 6Y-R. I saw this at the Australasian Championships last year and was the happy recipient of it in January. The last to bloom was a second scape on 'Oops' 2W-Y Jackson. It had great

substance but the color of the cup was pale yellow. Two bulbs did not emerge until the end of August, 'Possum' 3W-P Cross and 'Truculent' 3W-WWY Jackson. Needless to say I had given up on them for this year.

If I order miniatures I treat them differently. They are potted, watered and placed in the basement under lights. They stay there for a period of time to put down roots. Then they are moved to the garage window until it is warm enough to set the pots outside. After the foliage dies down they are returned to the garage until time to repot in the fall. This way they stay warm and dry.

See how easy it is. Get brave and place an order early next year. Then you too can be growing some of the newest and best New Zealand and Australian cultivars.

Congratulations to Robin & David Jackson, this years' winners of the Peter Barr Cup awarded by the RHS for exceptional service to the daffodil world. It couldn't happen to a nicer couple!

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**DEADLINE JANUARY NEWSLETTER:  
DECEMBER 15, 1996**

**NEEDED:** Articles written by CODS members for future issues of CODS Corner. This is your newsletter!

