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# CODS CORNER

Newsletter of the Central Ohio Daffodil Society

President, Mrs. Richard Bell

Mrs. Paul Gripshover, Editor

## JUDGING SCHOOL III

Judging School III of the ADS will be held on May 1, at Northwest Christian Church, from 9:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Letters have been sent to all former students, and study guides are available upon payment of the \$5.00 fee. School III is open to all who wish to attend; however, ADS credit will be given only to those who have previously attended School I or II. Mrs. Harry Wilkie and Mr. Wells Knierim will be the instructors.

--Cecile Spitz, Tag Bourne

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## CODS SHOW 1973

Our annual show will be on April 28-29 at the Upper Arlington Municipal Services Center. We will be calling you soon to solicit your help for the various committees. We know that you will all want to participate to make this show as successful as our first show last year.

--Grace Baird, Mary Lou Gripshover

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## DUES

Dues are now payable for the year 1973. Send your \$2.00 to Treasurer Grace Baird, 1874 Collingswood Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43221, so that you won't miss a single issue of this marvelous publication!

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It is seldom that your editor is at a loss for words, particularly about daffodils, but this is one of those times, so with a bow to Bill Ticknor, we reprint here his article from the February, 1969, WDS newsletter.

## A DOZEN BEST DAFFODILS

Is it your intention to win the Washington Daffodil Society Trophy and the ADS Gold Ribbon for the best bloom in our forthcoming show? If so, what entries do you have in mind for this achievement? Perhaps history can give a clue as to what varieties have the potential for greatness and --what types the judges like. In the 13 years from 1956 to 1968 approximately 19,000 blooms have been exhibited in our WDS shows. Out of this staggering amount of beauty, 13 blooms, 12 varieties have been selected as most beautiful of all. One variety, Festivity, has twice had this high honor.

Following are the beauty queens:

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|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1956 - 2c Ludlow     | 1960 - 2b My Love       | 1964 - 2b Festivity |
| 1957 - 1c Cantatrice | 1961 - 2b Festivity     | 1965 - 2c Pristine  |
| 1958 - 2b Carnlough  | 1962 - 2c Ave           | 1966 - 3b Rockall   |
| 1959 - 1a Slieveboy  | 1963 - 3c Chinese White | 1967 - 2b Arbar     |
|                      |                         | 1968 - 2a Camelot   |

(Editor's note: winners since then have been 1969, 2c Sleveen; 1970, 2c Woodvale; 1971, 3c Tranquil Morn; 1972, R33/29, a Mitsch seedling with a pale wide cup.)

It is easy to see where the judges have, and have not, found top quality. All of the above varieties are cups or trumpets. Harry Tuggl who is really a great daffodil authority, simply states that the present daffodils in classes 5 through 9 won't score more than 90 points. The above varieties do. While the doubles, Acropolis and Tahiti and their kindred, have received high praise they have not yet gotten top billing at our shows. Neither have the reversed bicolors. Only two red cups were among our top winners and there, interestingly enough, the child, Rockall, was succeeded by his father, Arbar. Our judges seemed to have liked the serenity of white daffodils or of whites with yellow.

Guy Wilson was the originator of 6 of our top winners and Lionel Richardson the originator of 4, including the last three. Grant Mitsch was the originator of but one, but that one was the double winner, Festivity.

All of this seems to tell us that a large cup daffodil with a white perianth and a pale cup originated by Mr. Wilson is likely to be a winner, and indeed it is. Next year and the next few years, though, may see our top winners from among the exciting new pinks and the reversed bicolors. Grant Mitsch is readying for us some outstanding jonquil and triandrus hybrids. He and his mountain top neighbor, Murray Evans, are quite possibly already the originators of the grand champions of tomorrow.

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After reading Mr. Ticknor's article, I tried to remember which varieties had won the top awards at the Northwest Show since 1965 when the Mary Elizabeth Blue Trophy has been awarded to the best daffodil. I believe in 1965 it was Mitsch's Lebanon, and in 1966 perhaps it 2c Ave. I know that in 1967 it was Trouseau, 1b; 1968, 2b pink Radiation; 1969, 2b Tudor Minstrel; 1970, 2b Festivity; 1971, 2b Avenger; and 1972, 3b Redstart. At our own first show last year, the winner was 2c Easter Moon.

So it would seem that Mr. Ticknor's observation that a large cup daffodil with a white perianth and a pale cup is likely to be a winner is still worth bearing in mind as we prepare those entries for the coming shows!

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#### THIS 'N THAT

I have had a letter from Mrs. Richardson in which she states that this will be her last year of commercial daffodil growing. So if there's a particular bulb you've been wanting to buy, perhaps this is the year to do it.

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Word was received right after publication of the October newsletter that Ruth Pardue had daffodils growing in her garden already. Not just the jonquils, which tend to send up early growth, but cultivars like Masaka, Unsurpassable, and others.

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The date of the May meeting will have to be changed, due to a conflict with Garden Club of Ohio. Watch for further details in the next newsletter.

#### FEBRUARY MEETING

The next meeting of our Society will be on February 13 at the home of Tag Bourne, 1052 Shadyhill Dr. The meeting will begin promptly at 9:30a.m., and it promises to be a busy meeting. In addition, there will be an ADS slide program, "107 from Grant Mitsch." I'm sure we'll all find lots of goodies to add to our "want lists."

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