

The American Daffodil Society  
Midwest Region  
Fall, 1999

Midwest Region Officers

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The summer of 1999 will certainly be one to go down in history as one of the hottest and driest in history, and from what I read on the daffnet, it's been the same over the entire midwest region. We did get some rain about three weeks ago, but it was only enough for the weeds to grow. And grow they did.

My bulbs have started to arrive from the growers and, hopefully, they will all be in the ground before the first of November. After that time, I start to panic while watching the weather report. I've learned that I'm not the only one who likes to unpack the bulbs and handle them. It never fails to amaze me that a beautiful flower will develop from such a funny looking bulb. If only the hybridizers could give us a flower which would bloom in the middle of summer. Maybe someday.

We certainly hope to see many of you at the meeting this weekend, but if not, I hope you all have wonderful weather for planting bulbs and no problems with Y2K. See you all next year.

### Our Sympathy

The Midwest Region was saddened by the deaths this summer of two long time members. First, Cecile Spitz passed away on July 10. She had long been the membership chairperson of CODS and was instrumental in many of us joining ADS. Once we became members of CODS, we were soon becoming life members of ADS not knowing exactly what it was or what was expected of us. On September 14, Helen MacPhearson of IDS passed away. She was the chapter treasurer. She will be greatly missed by many and especially the junior members because of her many talents and giving personality. Our sympathies to their families and many friends.

## Show Dates

I am pleased to announce that a new show will be added to our roster next spring. There will be a new show in Wadsworth to be known as the Cleveland Daffodil Show. It will be held at the Ella M. Everhard Library in Wadsworth on April 25 and 26. The contact is Dan Bellinger. The Adena show at Chillicothe is scheduled for April 13. CODS and SWODS will both be holding theirs on April 15 and 16. IDS is being held April 18 and 19. These are the only ones which are scheduled at this time.

## Judges School

The first session of a judges school in the Midwest Region will be held in the spring of 2000 at a time and place to be determined. If you are interested, please contact me. With an additional show scheduled and with many of our judges retiring, we are fast approaching a shortage of judges. Nancy Gill and Mary Lou Gripshover will be conducting the school.

## Regional Meeting

The Midwest Regional Meeting is this coming Saturday, September 25. The Wegerzyn Horticultural Center in Dayton can be reached by exiting I-75 at the Wagner Ford Exit and turning west. Jog to the right and then jog to the left onto Siebenthaler. Follow to the left and down the hill. The center is on the right. If you go over a bridge, you have gone too far. The meeting starts with coffee and donuts at 9:30. The discussion will be regarding collections for the show bench and will be considered a judge's refresher course. However, that certainly doesn't mean that if you are not a judge that you can't participate. Pictures of 1998 show winners will be shown. Please plan to attend the potluck luncheon and bulb exchange. Also, please bring your own table service.

## Nominations

This year we are fortunate that two ladies have allowed their names to be put forth in nomination for the position of Director representing the Midwest Region: Nancy Kolson and Mary Ellen Sheridan. Please mark the enclosed ballot, stamp and seal, and return to Hilda Dunaway before October 7.

## Memberships

As stated in the last newsletter, there is a continuing decline of membership in the ADS. Perhaps you know someone who has shown some interest in daffodils. A Christmas gift of a membership in ADS may be the answer to the problem of what to give that 'hard to shop for' person. Please help keep the ADS growing.

## This and That From the Internet

Some time in the mid-60's, my father and I collected some daffodils from an island in the Chesapeake Bay. The island had not been inhabited since the 1860's according to local information.

These daffodils are very pretty - single flowers per bulb, about 15" tall, yellow, approximately 2.5" across, and with a very short trumpet (1/4-1/2"). I have become curious as to the variety since I have never seen anything like it in the bulb catalogs that I receive.

Any way that I can find out what variety they are?

thanks,

Wally Ramsey  
ramseyw@rl.af.mil

DaffNetters:

I'm working on updating the intermediates list. It has been suggested that a couple of cultivars currently listed are too large to be intermediates. Any comments would be appreciated.

Titmouse        2 W-YYO  
Starbrook      3 Y-O

Linda Wallpe  
Intermediates Chair

<< VIAGRA BRINGS LIFE TO...PLANTS:

An Israeli university researcher says a dose of the impotence drug Viagra helps increase the lifespan of plants, fruits and vegetables. Professor Yaacov Leshem, a plant physiologist at Bar-Ilan University, says "Plants aren't all that different from people." He says two or three milligrams of Viagra dissolved in water helps, as he put it, "prevent aging and helps them stay erect." >>

Dear All,

I've been following with interest Suzy's query about ribbons for juniors. The replies would indicate that those of us "over 21" don't really care about the ribbons and awards. Ha! There must still be a kid in me because I still think they are grand. :) And I just bet there are lots more "kids" out there who enjoy seeing them hanging from their entries at every show they enter.

I think ribbons are a fine investment for any society to be given for all sections, not just juniors. They are, after all, a simple wee little pat on the back and bit of recognition for all the digging and spraying and storing and labeling and planting and mulching and watering and watching and recording and transporting and grooming and hoping and wishing over all these "easy to grow" little darlings. Or have all of you who've gotten too "big" for ribbons forgotten all that? :)

Chriss Rainey