

Narcissus Notes

April 1987

Midwest Region-American Daffodil Society

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VICE-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

We seem to be having another abnormal spring, which has become normal for our region. As I look out and see all my daffodil foliage and early blossoms flattened to the ground by 10" of heavy wet snow, I am thinking that judges this year will have to be lenient when it comes to points off for crooked stems. May this April Fool storm be our last hazard! I'm looking forward to seeing most of the shows in our region, especially the National one in Columbus, and hope you all have made reservations to attend and bring what flowers you have at that time. We have some new members, so if you spot them, make them feel welcome to the ADS:

Mrs. Margaret Veale, Indianapolis, IN.
Mrs. Elaine R. Marsh, Buchanan, MI.
Florence Browning, Toledo, OH.
Mrs. T.F. Neff, S. Euclid, OH.
Donald Smith, Booneville, IN.
Flo Padgett, Noblesville, IN.
Craig Ewoldt, Saline, MI.
Neal Leimbach, Castalia, OH.
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Veach, Youngstown, OH.
Mrs. Dean wells, Mansfield, OH.

To all members, new and "old", comes the plea to fill out the form on the second page of the March Journal. Charles Wheatly is making a great effort to revive the poll of favorite daffodils which used to be such a help to novices in choosing which varieties



to seek for growing and showing. I remember how I used to count on that December issue as a guide for my spring orders. Let's assist Charles in making this new poll the success it deserves to be.

My last thought is also a plea: support your local shows with your flowers, as well as your help in staging the shows. If we want to attract and educate more people in daffodilliana, we must take on some of the responsibility for exhibiting. It's very pleasant to win ribbons, but the competition is not the whole story of a show. The impact produced by a hall full of flowers cannot be over-estimated, whether or not they are all of blue ribbon quality.

See you in Columbus!

Peggy Macneal

INVITATION TO CONVENTION-GOERS

Every member in the Midwest Region attending the American Daffodil Society convention in Columbus April 23-25 is cordially invited to a hearty brunch at our home on April 26, 12-3 p.m. I would appreciate an attendance figure by April 15 if possible. I have purchased many new cultivars since our '83-'84 deep freeze and wish to share their beauty with you. I hope to see you at convention and my garden.

Cecile Spitz, 4985 Charlbury Dr., Columbus, OH. 43220
614-451-5669

DOWN-UNDER DAFFODILS REPORT

At the SWODS meeting in June '86, Harold McConnell gave a slide talk on his impressions of the daffodils seen in Australia and New Zealand, and the steps involved in successful acclimation of some of these bulbs in his Ohio garden. We had hoped to have Harold's words of wisdom put into an article for this newsletter, but perhaps another year or so of testing will give him more material for such an assignment. Meantime, he suggests that we contact Down-under firms, ask for catalogs and listings, and try a few bulbs:

"Daffodil Acre"

W.J. & W.C. Dijk
Wairoa Road, RD 1
P.O. Box 834
Tauranga, N.Z.

-- Now growing some of the Brogden varieties.

David Bell
Barthers Road
Box 36
Templeton, Christchurch
New Zealand

-- Good catalog with descriptions
Prices from \$1.00 to \$100.00 plus.
Impressive: Kabanova, Lemon Haze,
& Belzone (all expensive).
Has introduced some 1 Y-Prs.

Clandon Daffodils
Graham J. Phillips
Boyd Road, Gordonton
P.O. Box 126
Hamilton, N.Z.

-- Grows extensive (1000 +)
number of varieties.
Issues both a catalog with
descriptions and a longer
list with names & prices
(from \$1.00 to \$70.00).

Koanga Daffodils P.O. Box 4129 Hamilton East New Zealand	--	New firm (Ramsays & Hamiltons) emphasizing good exhibition varieties, including many Jim O'More introductions.
Jackson's Daffodils P.O. Box 77 Geeveston Tasmania 7116	--	Very successful growers and exhibitors. All varieties listed are of show standard. Good catalog with descriptions & pictures, varieties of their own introduction.
Harold Cross 254 Geilston Bay Road Geilston Bay Tasmania, 7015	--	2nd year for this catalog Varieties include own intro- ductions plus others such as Ross Glover's. Particularly liked: <u>Melbil</u> , a 3W-WWR, shown in South Bend last spring.

Many thanks to Harold for this list, some of which I have had myself since the ADS trip to New Zealand in 1976. I ordered a few bulbs at that time, and will add my experience to this report. Highfield Beauty 8 Y-GYO was by far the most successful bulb of any I ever bought from Down-Under, blooming the first spring after holding until fall planting, and increasing with abandon until the bitter freeze of '83-'84. I still have some other Jackson, Bell, and Phillips bulbs: Chasta 3W-GWP, Placid 3W-Y, Demand 2Y-Y, City Lights 2W-YYR, Nala 1W-Y, Tubal 1Y-Y, among others, plus some new ones, planted in March '85 and March '86, which haven't begun to bloom much yet. In the last couple of years I've about decided to get my Down-under bulbs through Carncairn, Rathowen, and Oakwood, where they have already been acclimated. I note that Barbara Abel Smith lists City Lights, priced at £1.00. I can recommend that as a great one for starting a collection of Down-under daffs.

Peggy Macneale

DATES TO RECORD, 1987-1988

April 10 - Show, Scottsburg (Finley Township Firehouse, Ste.Rt. 56)
 April 14 - Show, Indianapolis
 April 18-19 - Show, Cincinnati
 April 23-25 - Show and Convention, ADS, Columbus
 April 28-29 - Show, Midwest Regional, Cleveland
 May 2 - Show, Akron
 May 2-3 - Show, Mansfield
 May 3 - Show, Ft. Wayne

See March ADS Journal, pp. 159-162 for details

* Oct. 3 - Fall regional meeting & bulb exchange SAVE THIS DATE *

April 21-24, 1988 - ADS convention, Washington D.C. area
 Sept. 6-21, 1988 - "Tasvention", Tasmania

GLEANINGS FROM THE 1986 FALL REGIONAL MEETING

On a beautiful October day 54 of our members found their way to the Cox Arboretum for our fall meeting and bulb exchange. We had planned a tour of the perennial plantings, but somehow never did find the time to carry this part of the program out. Maybe another year --

Helen Link brought specimens of *N. viridiflorus* and *N. serotinus* to amaze and delight us.

Handy Hatfield, in his report of the CODS' doings made us all realize what enthusiasm and hard work can accomplish in signing up members who have put Columbus and CODS at the top of the region's groups of daffodil growers.

Bill Schrader is doing a one-man education job with the young people in the Ebove School in the Sandusky area. We may expect lots of future members from northern Ohio.

Our panel of experts fielded questions from selection of varieties, to the growing and showing of them. Show cultivars at \$2.00 and under: Merlin, Viking, Ormeau, Charity May, Stainless, Easter Moon, Cantatrice, Golden Rapture. \$5.00 and under: Golden Aura, Rose Royale, Resplendent. It was agreed that Div. 5's are difficult in our region, but most 6's do well. In holding blooms for show, set in 2" of water, with frig. set at 38°- 40°, and mist twice daily.

When showing, winning is 90% grooming for cleanliness, pose.

There was lots more -- too bad anyone had to miss it.

The food and the bulb exchange, as always, were great. Do plan to participate this fall -- October 3 is the date.

From notes taken by Leone Low

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