

NARCISSUS NOTES Newsletter of the Midwest Region - American Daffodil Society  
Summer 2001

Hi Everyone!

It is with a great deal of pride in the American Daffodil Society that I write this first message as your Regional Vice President. I don't remember exactly when I did join the ADS, I think it was the early '80's, but it has been one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. Just the people I have met from all corners of the world would make it all worthwhile, but I have also found a desire to improve daffodils by hybridizing new cultivars.

It is truly amazing what I have received from being a member, and now, it is my turn to give back some of what I have received.

I've given some thought to what sort of cause I should adopt to mark my term of office. I think that one of the most important causes needing attention would be our membership numbers. The ADS has not been growing at the rate that other specialty flower organizations have grown. We need to fix this. All of us have an obligation to support our national society. We should also want to do what is necessary to increase membership. We have to find ways to interest others in our favorite flower. Linda Wallpe, from Cincinnati, is our national membership Chair. There is no doubt that she would like to have any suggestions about how to increase ADS membership. There may be things that I will ask you to do to help us get new members. If all of us just do a little, we could have a big membership surge and make Linda look really good.

So far, 2001 has been a terrific year in the Midwest Region. Our national convention was held in Louisville KY. Hilda Dunaway and her sister, Helen Trueblood planned a fun convention for us filled with unusual treats. We get to have the convention in our region next year, as well. The SWODS members have cooked up even more fun for us. The good thing is that most of us can drive and save the cost of airplane tickets. It is really fun for us Midwesterners to be able to strut our stuff two years in a row.

You will notice a few minor changes and a few additions in this newsletter. It seems to reflect the personality of the editor/RVP. The only major change is that you will not have a complete list of winners in the spring shows. Our region has more clubs than any other region. The lists have become somewhat lengthy. You will continue to get the complete list as usual in the September ADS Journal. Instead, we will be featuring one of our member clubs who are doing something unusual or special. This time it is the Adena Daffodil Society of Chillicothe Ohio. You will enjoy Mary Rutledge's account of their club and shows and celebrating 25 years of shows at the VA Medical Center. I hope you will like this feature and the others that are planned for the future.

Don't forget the Regional meeting on September 15th and perhaps you could call one of our new members.

Happy Summer!!

Donna Dietsch

ADS OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS  
FROM THE MIDWEST REGION

President Peg Newill  
2nd Vice President Mary Lou Gripshover  
Secretary Phyllis Hess  
Executive Director Naomi Liggett  
Editor of Journal Bill Lee  
Publications Hurst Sloniker  
Membership Linda Wallpe  
Round Robins Leone Low  
Photography Tom Stettner  
RHS Liason Mary Lou Gripshover

Midwest Regional Officers

Regional Vice president Donna Dietsch  
Regional Director 2002 Libby Frey  
2003 Nancy Kolson  
2004 Mary Ellen Sheridan

Midwest Region Elections

Each fall our region has to elect a Regional Director. This person serves a three year term.

Libby Frey is leaving the Board and we need to replace her. If you know of someone who you think should be nominated for this office, please contact Nancy Kolson, who will be chairing the election. Donna Dietsch, current Regional Vice President can serve three one year terms. She will be on the ballot for a second year term. We may have up to three nominees for each office.

If you wish to nominate someone, you must be certain that this person is willing to serve in this office. Your nomination must be supported in writing by five ADS Midwest region members in good standing and who reside in the same region.

Regional Directors must attend as many of the annual meetings and board meeting as possible. They are to assist the RVP in carrying out regional duties. They are to help build up membership and write articles for the Journal. Give some thought to this important job. Ballots will be mailed out before the fall meeting and votes must be received before that date.

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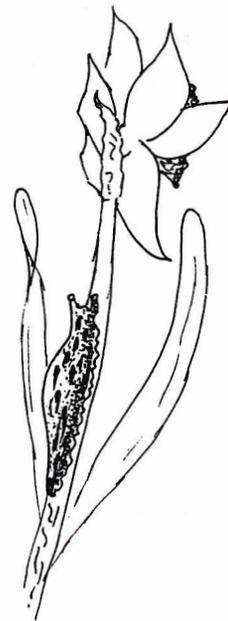
THE PSALM OF A SLUG

I move in you, Creative God, then rest,  
And rest again-to ponder what is best.  
You've loved me into being slow and strange,  
And I give thanks and do not care to change.

Ten thousand years ago you gave us eyes  
So we could slide about without surprise,  
But slow-while other folks go rushing on:  
Those racing snails! That tortoise marathon!

But I give thanks for being just a slug  
Who answers all harassments with a shrug;  
A little damp, a little weed to eat,  
A little ooze, and, ah! my life's complete.

All praise to God, Stillpoint outside of time,  
I love the comfort of your sacred slime,  
I rest serene within your placid calm,  
And dedicate to you this sleepy psalm.



## FALL REGIONAL MEETING

The fall board meeting of the Midwest Region of the American Daffodil Society will be held September 15, 2001 at the Wegerzyn Garden Center in Dayton Ohio. Directions will be in the next newsletter.

It will start at 9:30 and will include a judges refresher given by Naomi Liggett that everyone will benefit from. Remember to bring a potluck dish and your own table setting. Coffee and tea will be provided. Most importantly, remember to bring several bulbs for the bulb exchange. Newer members look forward to getting these bulbs. Remember when you did? Bring along a new member if you can.

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the Midwest Region of the American Daffodil Society. Current members are urged to contact someone who lives close to you to ask if you could help them learn about daffodils. I don't know about you, but I think you can never have too many friends.

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Indianapolis, IN 46268

Phyllis Ann Epperson  
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Indianapolis IN 46227

Stacy Holtzman  
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## A SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The year 2001 was special for the Adena Daffodil Society of Chillicothe, Ohio. Its' daffodil show in April was the 25th show the society has held at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Chillicothe. The Adena Daffodil Society was started in 1970 by Mary Elizabeth Blue, who also founded the Central Ohio Daffodil Society in Columbus, Ohio. The newly elected president of the Adena Daffodil Society is Mary Ellen Sheridan, Mrs. Blue's daughter, who returned to Chillicothe following her retirement. She is also on the American Daffodil Society's Board of Directors as one of the three Midwest Regional directors.

Three shows were held prior to the show being moved to the VA Medical Center in 1973. Since then, and due to various reasons, shows were not held in four different years. So, the Silver Anniversary Celebration is for the 25 shows actually held at the VA, but were not in consecutive years. At present there are 18 members in the Adena Daffodil Society.

Starting with the first show at the VA, there have been classes in the Design Section that are only open to veterans. Members of the Pickaway County Garden Club, from Circleville, Ohio have always held a flower arranging workshop before the show, at the VA greenhouse, for any veteran who is interested in participating in the show. All the veterans' entries receive a ribbon and the Best of Show is given a large Blue Rosette. The veterans always treasure their awards. Flowers for their arrangements come from the VA greenhouse, members of the Pickaway County Garden Club and the Adena Daffodil Society who's members have also donated bulbs to the VA greenhouse. Daffodils not entered in the show and those in good condition when the show is taken down are distributed to the hospital wards by the head of the VA greenhouse. These flowers are eagerly sought by the veterans.

There has always been good cooperation between the VA Medical Center and the members of the Adena Daffodil Society. Scheduling show dates, preparing the VA Recreation Hall, making signs announcing the show and putting publicity for the show in the VA newsletter and in various buildings have all been a part of the preparation by some of the VA staff for our daffodil show. For many years, the nurses would bring their groups of patients to the show so that many more than just those veterans making arrangements could see the show. As treatment patterns have changed at the VA hospitals, now it is the individual veteran who comes to see the show and asks for daffodils to take to their room.

We wanted to have a special celebration this year, since this was our 25th show at the VA Medical Center. We invited the two remaining founding members of the Adena Daffodil Society to be our guests, At 91 years of age, Emily Davis drove herself over from Indianapolis, Indiana, brought some of her daffodils to enter in the show and even made a ribbon winning flower arrangement! She also received the top award given by the Adena Daffodil Society in the section for Unidentified Daffodils. Our other honored guest was Aline Briggs who was show chairman for the first two years the show was held at the VA Medical Center. She and Emily were given gifts featuring daffodils and Certificates of Appreciation. Others receiving certificates were the VA Medical Center and its' staff members who have worked with us, the judges and members of the Pickaway County Garden Club. Several other people who could not be present, but have helped us over the years were to be given their certificates at a later time.

A special anniversary cake was served following lunch. The historical display was arranged by one of our members, Eileen Lovensheimer. Among the featured items was a picture of Ruth Pardue, who was a judge at the first show held in Chillicothe. There was also a picture of two of our longtime judges, Naomi Liggett and Nancy Gill, studiously considering blooms along with the third member of the panel, the late Wells Knierim.

Two Adena Daffodil Society members who have added greatly to our shows are Curtis Tolley, from Pinch, West Virginia and Libby Frey, from Bloomington, Indiana. Curtis has not only brought many beautiful flowers to our shows, including some of his own seedlings (17 of which he has registered), but he has supplied us with high quality bulbs for our yearly bulb sales. Libby has brought several thousand blooms to our show over the fifteen years she has attended and judged. Many of these blooms, even though of blue ribbon quality, do not get entered in the show but have been arranged as educational exhibits and donated for the veteran's arrangements and for the wards at the hospital. This year a special table in the center of the show room featured over 150 of the cultivars that Libby grows. Each had the name of the cultivar attached and had three or more blooms to the vase. Most divisions were represented with emphasis on Divisions 5 through 9, including lovely blooms of Ringing Bells, Sunday Chimes, Mission Bells, Carib, Akepa, Ladies' Choice, Hoopoe and Braid Valley to name just a few. This display added greatly to the beauty of our show and was popular with the visitors.

The Gold Ribbon winner this year was Whisky Mac, 2YYW-Y, a truly beautiful bloom which just edged out another top contender - Banker 2Y-O. Both flowers were grown by Tag Bourne. All white daffodils from Division 1 and 2 have always won many top awards at our shows and this year Leone Low's White Tea, 2W-GWW, carried on the tradition in great style, winning the White Ribbon. Two perfectly charming miniature cultivars, from down under grower - Glenbrook Bulb Farms, won both the Miniature Gold and Miniature White Ribbons. Mortie, 6Y-Y, was entered by Tag Bourne and won the Gold and Spoirot, 10W-W, was Naomi Liggett's winner for the White.

Our ADS Junior Ribbon winner was Christy Bellinger for Golden Amber, 2Y-OOY, which was taken from her outstanding winning Junior Best Collection of Five which also included Foundling, 6W-P, Sweetness, 7Y-Y, Pink Silk, 1W-P, and Cantatrice, 1W-W. The dates of registration of her five winning varieties were spread over a span of 44 years, from 1936 to 1980, with Cantatrice (1936) and Sweetness (1939) being Historic daffodils. It is really encouraging to see these older cultivars grown so beautifully and being so competitive.

Every year we have more exhibitors showing their own seedlings and this year Dan Bellinger won the Intermediate Ribbon for one of his. Leone Low included three of her seedlings in her winning collection for the Bozievich Ribbon and Donna Dietsch won the Rose Ribbon and entered eleven of her seedlings in her winning Quinn Collection.

Eileen Lovensheimer was awarded the Small Grower Ribbon for her brightly colored and popular variety, Limbo, 2O-R. Second year exhibitor, Alice Foglesong, from West Virginia, was this year's recipient of the Historic Daffodil Ribbon for Erlicheer, registered in 1934.

Two collections won ADS ribbons with beautifully grown, dependable varieties. The Purple Ribbon went to Dan Bellinger for five trumpets, Aurum, 1Y-Y, Coho, 1W-W, Meldrum, 1Y-Y,

Tenterfield, 1Y-Y and Silver Convention 1W-W. Naomi Liggett captured the Lavender Ribbon with Spoirot, 10 W-W, Clare, 7Y-Y, Minnow, 8W-Y, Segovia, 3W-Y, and Stafford 7Y-YYO.

Tag Bourne's winning collection of 15 blooms for the Throckmorton Ribbon showed the universal appeal of daffodils with cultivars from 10 different hybridizers and 6 different countries! Countries were: Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, England, U.S.A., New Zealand and Australia. Cultivars were: Caribbean Snow, Colley Gate, Crackington, Killearnan, Banker, Colonial White, Limbo, Royal Marine, Fire Blade, Notre Dame, Hartgrave, Tristram, Red Alert, Intrigue, Whisky Mac.

Leone Low's winner included named cultivars: Great Gatsby, Triple Crown, Malibu, Fresh Lime, Lemon Sails, Galactia, Soprano, Michael's Gold and White Tea and her three seedlings. Donna Dietsch's Quinn Collection included her 11 seedlings plus Howard's Way, Sabre, Glasnevin, Swing Wing, Spindletop, Altun Ha, Gransha, Late Call, Carib Gipsy, Netherwood Marsh, Starfire, Sun Ball and Witch Doctor.

Naomi Liggett's Watrous Award winner contained her usual perfectly grown miniatures which visitors to our show always admire and find it hard to believe that there are such tiny daffodils. Her twelve blooms were: n. bulb. graellsii, Sabrosa, Yellow Xit, Snipe, Xit, Little Rusky, Segovia, Clare, n. assoanus, Minnow, Stafford and Angel's Breath. Nancy Gill has given us several outstanding Red-White and Blue Ribbon winners over the years and did so again this year with Bittern, Oregon Pioneer, Molten Lava, Tyson's Corner and Intrigue. With 17 blue ribbons, Naomi Liggett received the Silver Ribbon. We had 27 exhibitors enter our show with 421 exhibits and 715 blooms.

Two special awards given by our Adena Daffodil Society were given for the Best American Bred Daffodil which was won by Naomi Liggett with Williamsburg, 2 W-W (Pannill), and the Betty Beery Award for the Best Vase of Three from Division 3 which was awarded to Libby Frey for Triple Crown 3Y-GYR. Betty Beery was a very active member of our society for many years. She gave many people bulbs, encouraged them to participate in shows and join daffodil societies. She also hybridized and had registered several cultivars. As Betty especially liked division 3 daffodils, this award was given in her memory. Two of her sons have continued to participate in our shows. In the Adena Daffodil Society Challenge Class, open only to our members, the Curtis Tolley Award for the Best Standard Daffodil was won by Joanne Corcoran with Rapture 6Y-Y and the Best Miniature Award went to Eileen Lovensheimer's lovely Segovia 3W-Y.

Without judges we could not have an accredited show and over the years we have been fortunate to have had many loyal judges. We would especially like to recognize those who have judged ten or more years at our shows. These are: Naomi Liggett - 24 years, Grace Baird - 20 years, Peg Newill - 18 years, Nancy Gill - 17 years, Libby Frey - 15 years, Christine Hanenkrat - 14 years, Donna Dietsch - 13 years, Tag Bourne 11 years and Ruth Pardue - 10 years, To these judges and the many other judges who have given so much time and support to our shows, we give our sincere thanks. Our judges this year were: Margaret Baird, Dan Bellinger, Tag Bourne, Donna Dietsch, Kirby Fong, Libby Frey, Nancy Gill, Naomi Liggett, Leone Low and Peg Newill.

Our love of daffodils brings us together, but it is the people we meet there that keeps us returning.