

SWODS News

SWODS MEETING REGIONAL MEETING OCTOBER 14

The American Daffodil Society regional meeting will be held on October 14 at Cox Arboretum, located just south of Dayton. The meeting will begin at 9:30 with meetings for the local societies (SWODS will meet at 9:30 to discuss show plans and other business). At 10:00 the regional meeting will begin, followed by lunch. The program begins at noon, followed by the bulb exchange.

No one should miss this meeting. It is an opportunity to meet daffodil enthusiasts from all over the midwest region, including the rest of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Illinois. The SWODS meeting is critical to our organization, the regional meeting is enlightening, the lunch is fun and you get to sample the cooking of others, the program will be informative, and no one leaves the bulb exchange without some very nice additions for your garden.

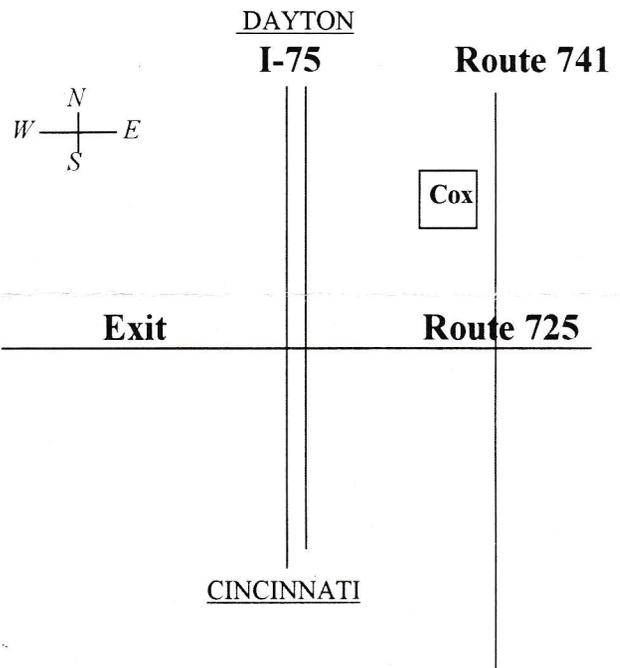
Lunch: Bring your favorite covered dish specialty to share. Salad, desert, casserole, entree, whatever. Don't forget to bring your own plates and table service. Beverage will be furnished at the meeting.

The noon program features a slide show by Mary Lou Gripshover, a local SWODS member and also executive director of the American Daffodil Society. She, Marilyn Howe, and Kathy Anderson traveled to Spain this past spring to explore daffodils in the wild. A few SWODS members have seen the slides of this trip and heard Mary Lou's narrative. All will tell you the photography is stunning, the images so crisp and brilliant you almost feel as if you are on the slope yourself seeing the daffodils in person. Mary Lou's insights in her narration will give you new ideas. This is a not-to-be-missed show. As if that weren't enough, Tom Stettner is also going to give a brief presentation on how he uses Cygon to combat the dreaded narcissus bulb fly. Anyone who has seen Tom's flowers should be eager to hear his techniques.

Last on the meeting agenda, but definitely not least, is the bulb exchange. Members bring extra bulbs, all labeled, and one-by-one each person attending selects one. The process continues until all the bulbs have been selected. If you have never attended a meeting before to experience the bulb exchange, you will be amazed at the generosity of gardeners in sharing their fine daffodils with others. Even if you have no bulbs of your own to bring and share, you will leave the meeting with bulbs.

Linda Wallpe, Regional Vice-President, also asks that if you have a few slides featuring daffodils that you bring them to this meeting and tell us about them.

To get to Cox Arboretum, from I-75 take Exit 44 (Centerville). Go east on 725 to Route 741 (the second light). Turn left on 741 and go about 1 mile to Cox which is on the left.



SWODS ON-LINE

SWODS is now Electronic. Bill Lee, the newsletter editor, can now be reached on-line for the convenience of those who have this capacity. You can reach me at BLEE811@AOL.COM. If you are on-line, drop me a note so I can add your address to the file. Then I can email you the newsletters in the future—you'll get them first and we'll save a little on postage and copying. Feel free to also send comments, questions, suggestions, ideas for the newsletter, concerns, compliments, criticisms, gripes, notions, and anything else to me. I will distribute a list to all (unless you indicate you would rather have your address kept private).

**1996 SHOW
April 13-14, 1996**

The 1996 SWODS show will be held April 13-14 at the Wegerzyn Horticultural Center in Dayton. Some chair positions have been filled while some need to be filled. Plans will be finalized at the October 14 meeting. Please be there to help.

DUES

Of course, no SWODS mailing would be complete without a plea to update your dues. 1995 dues are now due. Please update your membership today.

The 2-digit number above your name on the mailing label shows the last year you paid dues. A "P" indicates that you are a prospective member. Dues are still only \$5.00 per year. Send your payments to Liz Ragouzis, 425 Rawson Woods Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45220. If you think our records are incorrect, call Liz at 221-1166.

**CHALLENGE
BULBS
HAVE ARRIVED;
SOME STILL
AVAILABLE**

Elise Havens of Grant Mitsch Daffodils furnished 50 bulbs of Fidelity as this year's challenge bulb. In the 1995 Mitsch catalog, Fidelity is described as follows:

FIDELITY (Mitsch) 1982 1Y-P. LM. 18"
(Gloriola x Rima) KK4/4. A most unusual flower with pale sulphur yellow perianth of nice form, and a rich apricot pink trumpet that is flared and rolled. Considerably deeper in color than Memento and with a much more expanded trumpet.

Fidelity's catalog price is \$5.00, but we are offering it for \$3.00 (picked up). Send \$2.00 additional if we will have to mail you the bulb. There are still some left. You can use the enclosed form to order or call Liz Ragouzis or Bill Lee (see resource list for phone numbers) to reserve one to pick up at the regional meeting (or somewhere else if you can't attend) or arrange to have it mailed.

Those who have already ordered and paid for mailing should receive them next week. The bulbs are good-sized and very healthy looking. Don't miss a chance to acquire this

one. All extras will be sold at the regional meeting so be sure to reserve one for yourself before then.

While you are ordering your Challenge Bulbs, don't forget to also update your dues.

**1996
American Daffodil Society
Convention and Show**

The 1996 ADS Convention and Show will be held in Baltimore, Maryland on April 18-20. The convention promises to offer a lot for seasoned veterans and first time attendees alike.

Planned events include the hybridizer's breakfast and judges' refresher, both open to all attendees, garden tours, excellent banquet speakers, and a series of "focus groups" covering a wide variety of interests. If you are interested in broadening your depth of knowledge in daffodils, plan on attending the convention. Topics to choose from include the following:

Antique Daffodils for Gardens Old and New: Scott Kunst will discuss some excellent reasons for including "antiques" in your garden, varieties to choose for superior fragrance, and sources for those not readily available.

From Garden to Table: Richard Ezell, past ADS President, will share

a wealth of experience in growing award winners, grooming, staging tips, and everything else you might want to know about daffodil culture. Ruth Crocker, daffodil judge and flower arranger, will dispel the daffodil's reputation of being an uncooperative arranging flower and show her technique for decorating a table for spring dining.

Ikebana—The Art of Japanese Flower Arranging: Anne Christ, president of the Baltimore Chapter of Ikebana International, will join with fellow members to demonstrate the spirit of the organization whose motto is friendship through flowers.

Grant Mitsch, Hybridizer—A Pictorial History: Elise Havens, daughter of the renowned hybridizer, will present a pictorial retrospective of her father's flowers and trace the heritage of some of the famous Mitsch cultivars.

Miniature Culture....A to Z: Delia Bankhead, well known for her miniature collection, will provide valuable tips on how to plant, fertilize, and care for miniatures.

High Altitude Treasures: Kathy Andersen, past ADS President and back by popular demand, will present slides illustrating her adventures and discoveries of daffodil species in the mountain ranges of Spain and France.

INTERESTING

In the September/October 1995 issue of Organic Gardening, in an article titled "By All Means, Save the Leaves" by Vicki Mattern, the author writes:

"Dan Kluchinski, an agricultural agent with Rutgers University Cooperative Extension in New Jersey, feels that working 3 to 6 inches of leaves into the soil in fall helps reduce drought stress during hot, dry summers. And, according to the results of a 3-year research project of his own, fall leaf amendment can significantly reduce problems caused by pest nematodes."

Hmmm! Does anyone know anything more about this?

Have Daffodils, Will Travel; Exhibiting Here and There: A panel of people who have exhibited in several parts of the US and on two continents will discuss the intricacies of exhibiting in different areas.

Besides the sessions and activities listed above, the 1996 Convention and Show provides an opportunity to exhibit and meet other growers from around the country and even the world. If you haven't done so already, be sure to mark your calendar for April 18-20. For more information on registration, contact an ADS member (see the resource list). Registration forms will be printed in both the September and December issues of *The Daffodil Journal*.

LIMITED TIME OFFER FOR NEW ADS MEMBERS

The American Daffodil Society is running an exciting membership campaign. New members will receive a coupon that can be used for \$10.00 worth of free bulbs from participating growers. These coupons may be used like cash with any order of \$25.00 or more. Members also receive the quarterly magazine, *The Daffodil Journal*. The Journal alone is worth the minimal \$20.00 annual dues. This 64-page magazine features articles from around the world on all aspects of daffodil growing and showing. Don't delay, join today! For more information please call Kathy Welsh at 703-242-9783. Of course SWODS members may contact Mary Lou Gripshover instead.

Book Review

Daffodils for American Gardens by Brent and Becky Heath

Daffodil titles are few and far between, so this is a welcome edition. Just published by Elliott & Clark Publishing (PO Box 21038, Washington, DC 20009; (202)387-9805), this lavishly photo-illustrated book is very aptly titled. The emphasis is on the Garden, and the American garden in particular. All chapters are relatively brief, but the information provided is solid. The Daffodil Culture chapter covers planting times and depths, soils and amendments, watering, mulching, fertilizing, and diseases. The fertilizing portion might be the most useful to the novice and even some experi-

enced growers. The Heaths also suggest that deadheading has negligible benefits, for those that wondered. This chapter also describes cultural recommendations for eight different growing regions in the United States.

Other chapters include naturalizing, companion plantings and different kinds of planting sites, forcing, and hybridizing. A very brief chapter describes arranging daffodils, showing daffodils, and daffodil display gardens. The longest chapter, *Recommended Daffodils in Commercial Culture*, shows full-color photographs of 200 cultivars. The cultivars are listed by division and include brief descriptions. Most of the daffodils illustrated and described are old standards. Division 1, for example, lists Arctic Gold, Bestseller,

Bravoure, Dutch Master, Foresight, Golden Spur, Holland Sensation, Honeybird, Kassells Gold, "King Alfred type," Las Vegas, Lemon Glow, Lunar Sea, Marieke, Modoc, Mount Hood, Mrs. E.H. Krelage, New Generation, Primeur, Red Curtain, Rinjveld's Early Sensation, Solo, Spellbinder, Toppolino, Unsurpassable, and White Ideal. If you receive the Daffodil Mart catalog, you will recognize many of those listed as being available for purchase from the Heaths. The most recent introductions and popular show cultivars are largely ignored in the book.

The Heaths generously list all the country's local daffodil societies, typical show dates for each, American sources of bulbs, and, of course, the ADS.

For the experienced grower and shower, there is nothing new here. But if you are hungry for books on our

favorite flower, this would be a good addition to the library. It is the largest collection of daffodil photographs available in one volume, and the photography is very clear. The color reproduction is of very high quality, without color distortions.

For the beginner or just-getting-interested-in-growing-and-collecting gardener, the Heaths' book is an excellent guide. This would also be a good book to have on hand when people express an interest in daffodils (potential members in your daffodil society, perhaps). Show them the book, buy them one as a gift, or at least give them the publisher's address so they can buy their own. (The book is also available from the ADS, \$28.00 + 6% sales tax if you live in Ohio—write to Mary Lou Gripshover, 1686 Grey Fox Trails, Milford, OH 45150—a good way to buy the book as the ADS makes a small profit from the sale.) It might also be a good idea for local daffodil societies to donate copies to horticultural libraries in their areas—remember that the local daffodil society addresses are given in this book—another recruiting tool!

Resources

Cincinnati:

Bill Lee, 752-8104

(BLEE811@AOL.COM)

Mary Lou Gripshover, 248-9137

Linda Wallpe, 221-4140

Liz Ragouzis, 221-1166

Peggy Macneale, 522-7025

Tom Stettner, 351-4268

Dayton:

Peg Newill, 885-2971

Harold MacConnell, 426-9557

Christine Hanenkrat, 275-9919

Rebecca Koesters, 252-3028

DUES AND CHALLENGE BULB ORDER FORM

Make checks payable to SWODS and mail to Liz Ragouzis, 425 Rawson Woods Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45220
Call Liz at 221-1166 if you have any questions.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number _____

_____ Dues @ \$5.00 per year

_____ Bulbs of Fidelity, the Challenge Bulb, @ \$3.00

_____ \$2.00 Postage and handling for Challenge Bulbs(one charge for up to 3 bulbs)

(include postage and handling only if you need to have the bulbs mailed; call Bill Lee at 752-8104 to arrange pickup if unable to attend regional meeting for pickup; this will save you the postage and handling charge and present a very good discount over the \$5.00 catalog price)

..... **Total Enclosed** _____