

The Trumpet

Spring, 2008

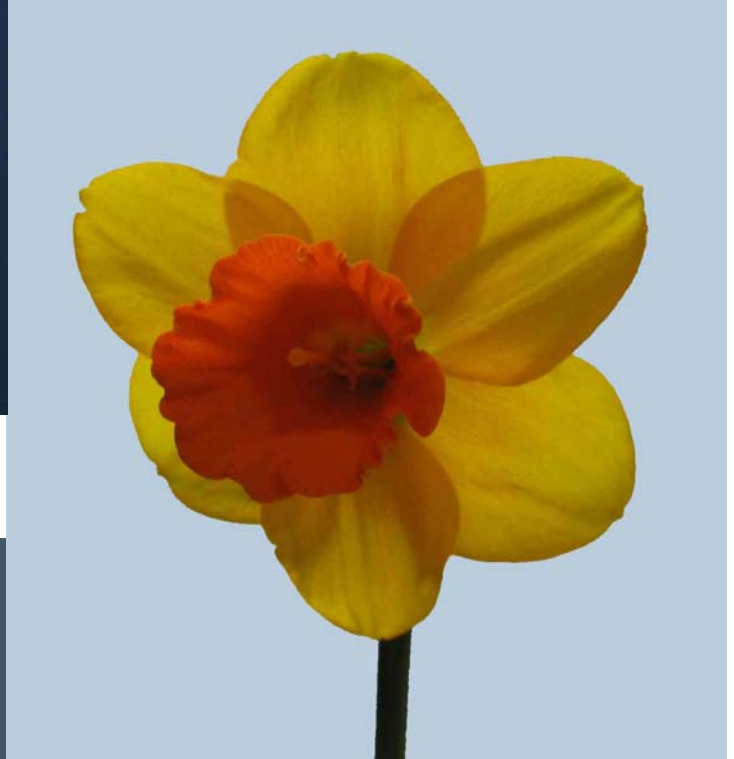
NEWSLETTER OF *The Kentucky Daffodil Society*



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'Arrowhead' 6Y-R >

< 'Excitement' 3W-YYO, KDS Club Bulb for 2007
PHOTO Courtesy of Daffseek, <http://daffseek.org/>



< 'Motmot' 8Y-R



Below: Guest Daffodils from Mitsch survey the crowd at the March 18 KDS meeting



Dear Fellow Daffodilians,

I know you are eagerly anticipating a great bloom season. The daffodils have responded to all the rain with lots of bloom. A little warm weather and no freezes should make for a spectacular show. We have excellent news: Janet and Jim Wilson (dwarfiris@insightbb.com, wilsonjh@insightbb.com) are going to be the editors of our newsletter and website. They are planning lots of worthwhile info for all of us. If you take digital pictures of your blooms, send those pictures with your comments. We could have a lot of fun with this. It seems that KDS is entering a new era in its development. Not only will we be able to take advantage of the opportunities that the computer has to offer, but we are also restructuring our club activities. The club hopes to do less organizational business and have more on educational opportunities. We have been slowly going in this direction the past few years--with visits to nurseries and a trip to the Nashville Show, as well as bringing in speakers, and having combined meetings with other flower clubs.

We acquired several new members at the combined Hosta and Daffodil meeting March 18th. The enthusiasm over the beautiful blooms from Mitsch Gardens and the anticipated trip to see Ruth Duncan's Garden in Bagdad, KY was certainly energizing for all.

This year we're planning two trips to Ruth's farm, the first April 3rd at 10:00 am. Meet at the Wal-mart on Blankenbaker, and we will leave no later than 10:15am. The trip is planned as to mark and to take pictures of Ruth's Daffodils. Ruth is generously donating all her bulbs to KDS. We plan to return in June to dig, and we will bag in July and sell at the Otte Sale August 3rd. Members who participate in this rescue mission will be able to share in the harvest. We want all of us to have an opportunity for a memory bulb of Ruth's beautiful home in the country and of this wonderful endearing lady. Ruth is a proud 93 year-old and has lived a rich full life. She is such a delight to hear when she tells her stories of her days of serving our country in the WACS and teaching school children for many years before retiring. Life

on the childhood farm where she still lives provides sources for endless humorous stories. She has supported KDS with donations of bulbs and garden space for years.

Continuing with our activities, the fall will bring a picnic social and plant and bulb exchange. At that time you will receive the club bulb and be able to participate in the drawing for bulbs from Mitsch garden. We will keep you posted as to the date, time and location. We are considering a fall bulb sale. If anybody knows of a good venue or place to have the bulb sale please let Pat Evans know.

We are doing a large mailing of the newsletter. Please note that a membership application is included. If you have not rejoined and wish to continue receiving the newsletter, please send your dues to Mary Zirnheld. Also the Show and Grow has been updated; anybody interested in ordering one please contact Mary Zirnheld, and we will check into getting them.

--Pat Evans, wj_evans@bellsouth.net



Hilda A. Dunaway, who passed away Sunday, Oct. 7, 2007, has been a vital force in the gardening arena. Her last day before she entered the hospital for gall bladder surgery was spent monitoring exams for a Kentucky Flower Show Judges Symposium. She was a National Garden Club Master Judge, Daffodil Judge, Hosta judge and Iris Judge. Her garden was a showplace for daffodils, iris, peonies, hosta and daylilies. And she also nurtured a great collection of African Violets and Cacti.

Not only was she a passionate horticulturist, but also a creative floral designer. >>

Hilda loved gardening and she loved sharing it. Many of us can find 'Hilda' in our gardens. She was most generous with her plants and her talents.

Sewing, and its many variations, was another passion in which she excelled. Many of us own treasured examples of her handiwork....tree top angels, delicate fabric Christmas ornaments, warm throws.... as well as numerous clothing alterations. She gave time to teach others how to master certain techniques.

Plants and flowers dominated her life. We traveled together many times to visit gardens, judge flower or plant shows and attend garden and plant related conventions.

We've laughed together, cried together...been up the wrong road numerous times and had to turn around. This time there is no turn around.

She has been a very special friend....and I'm sure that dozens of others would echo those words as well.



--Jean Ohlmann

DAFF-FAQs

- **What is the difference between daffodils and narcissus?** None. The two words are synonyms. *Narcissus* is the Latin or botanical name for all daffodils, just as *ilex* is for hollies. Daffodil is the common name for all members of the genus *Narcissus*, and its use is recommended by the American Daffodil Society (ADS) at all times other than in scientific writing.
- **What is a jonquil?** In some parts of the country any yellow daffodil is called a jonquil, usually incorrectly. As a rule, but not always, jonquil species and hybrids are characterized by several yellow flowers, strong scent, and rounded foliage. Daff-aholics call these 'Division 7'.

Visiting Shows: Helpful Hints

During the spring of 2000, KDS hosted the daffodil convention, and I remember coming into the display room and being totally amazed. Daffodils were everywhere, in every color, and I was overwhelmed. I tried to take notes of the varieties that I liked but when I left I had no clue why I had made my choices other than looks. I've since learned a few tips:

■ Talk to the club members and exhibitors. They know what grows best here and are willing to share their successes.

■ If you notice a variety that is entered multiple times in the show, it must be a good grower. Similarly, entrants in the sections that have three stems of the same flower clearly came from clumps good enough to give the exhibitor lots of flowers to choose from.

■ Check out the "Small Grower" section. If gardeners who can only keep a few varieties in their yard choose to keep growing it, then the flower must have garden "staying power."



-- Janet Wilson

Book Review

Daffodils for American Gardens by Brent and Becky Heath. Elliott & Clark Publishing, Washington, D.C., 1995.

In this book Brent and Becky explain everything, from planting a few daffodils in your garden and forcing paper-whites to naturalizing masses of daffodils and developing prize hybrids.

Daffodils for American Gardens is the first daffodil book that I bought, and it is still one of my favorites. It's filled with simple, straightforward information along with beautiful color photographs, making it interesting to both the beginner and the more experienced grower.

Its chapters cover the daffodil anatomy, culture, naturalizing, companion planting, forcing and hybridizing. For those interested in arranging it outlines home and show arrangements.

The book finished with a list of sources for bulbs, different daffodil societies and recommended reading. The recommended daffodils in commercial culture is my favorite part of the book. It divides the flower into 12 divisions and suggests tried and true flower favorites for each. Each variety is accompanied by a color photograph.

The book can be bought through Brent and Becky's catalog or by going on-line at Brentandbeckybulbs.com. It's a great bargain at \$12.00. Pick up a copy today and enjoy your favorite flower all year long.

--Janet Wilson



Pat's Points

At the March meeting Pat Evans went over some helpful tips for growing daffodils. Here are a few:

- √ Position the tip of your daffodils at least 6-8" deep, allowing for settling of freshly prepared soil.
- √ Plant your bulbs when the soil temperature is 54 degrees or below.
- √ Another sign to plant your daffodils is when the dogwood leaves turn red.
- √ Daffodils need lots of water when they are growing, but don't water your daffodils in the summer.
- √ Potash is critical to daffodil growth.
- √ Alfalfa pellets or meal is great for bulbs.
- √ Six weeks after your flowers bloom, you can cut back your foliage.
- √ Preen can be applied when the tips of the daffodils turn yellow.
- √ If your garden gets out of control and you need to use Roundup, you can do so after the foliage is brown.
- √ Never set your daffodil directly upon fertilizer. This will encourage rot.



Resources

The internet now offers a vast array of information of all sorts, and we strongly encourage our readers to take advantage of what is available on our favorite flowers. If you don't have a computer of your own, a local library can quickly get you into action.

<http://daffodilusa.org> The American Daffodil Society

This site serves as your main index for all things related to daffodils in the USA. It includes local societies, events, show results, display gardens, references and youth activities. Authoritative information is available on divisions and cultivars, classifications, frequently asked questions, naturalizing daffodils, non-blooming daffodils, guidelines for growing, and daffodils in pots. It offers excellent tips on buying bulbs -- what to watch out for (getting what you order, checking for guarantees, and much more.)

The American Daffodil Society also operates a web store. It runs a database called DaffSeek that has a treasure trove of information and pictures of individual daffodil varieties. There is also an on-line discussion forum where novices and experts alike can ask questions and share experiences.

We invite you to take advantage of these opportunities. If you haven't done it before and don't feel adventurous, pair up with a member who has -- you'll both find lots to enjoy.

Specialty Bulb Growers

A Specialty Grower is an individual or company that grows what they sell. Many sources listed hybridize daffodils and offer new creations and/or rare bulbs.

Mitsch Novelty Bulbs
www.web-ster.com/havensr/mitsch/
 Richard and Elise Havens
 PO Box 218
 Hubbard, OR 97032

Nancy Wilson Miniature Daffodils
www.asis.com/~nwilson
 6525 Briceland-Thorn Road
 Garberville, CA 95542
(specializing in miniatures)

Oakwood Daffodils
 John Reed
 2330 W. Bertrand Road
 Niles, MI 49120

General Bulb Dealers

A General Bulb Merchant is an individual or company that sells bulbs grown by others. The sources listed below sell mostly standard or "older tried and true" varieties.

Jacques Amand, Ltd.,
 PO Box 59001
 Potomac, MD 20859,
 (800) 452-5414
British, many species & unusual, free.

Brent and Becky's Bulbs
www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com
 7900 Daffodil Lane
 Gloucester, VA 23061
 (804) 693-3966

Colorblends
www.colorblends.com
 747 Barnum Avenue
 Bridgeport, CT 06608
 (888) 847-8637

Daffies - Will Dewees
www.buydaffodilbulbs.com
 Amesville, OH 45711
 Phone (740) 448-2039
 Fax (740) 592-4679
Antique and pre-chilled bulbs available.

Dutch Gardens
www.dutchgardens.com
 144 Intervale Road
 Burlington, VT 05401

Holland Bulb Farms
www.hollandbulbfarms.com
 W162 N4914 Graysland Drive
 Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

McClure & Zimmerman
www.mzbulb.com
 PO Box 368
 Friesland, WI 53935
 Phone: (800) 883-6998
 Fax: (800) 374-6120
*Many early-1900s & species,
 Free catalog.*

Old House Gardens
www.oldhousegardens.com
 536 Third St., Ann Arbor, MI 48103-4957,
 (734) 995-1486
 FAX (734) 995-1687
*All antique, some nowhere else, dates,
 (Heirloom/Historic Daffodils)*

John Scheepers
 P.O. Box 700
 Bantam, CT 06750

Van Bourgondien Brothers
 P.O. Box 1000
 Babylon, NY 11702

Van Engelen, Inc.
 313 Maple St.
 Litchfield, CT 06759
 (203) 567-5662
"Wholesale" (= \$50 minimum)

Wooden Shoe Bulb Company
 P.O. Box 127
 Mt. Angel, OR 97362

White Flower Farm
 Route 63, Box 50
 Litchfield, CT 06759-0050
 (800) 255-2852

Upcoming Nearby Shows

March 29, Jeffersonville, Indiana

Indiana Growers South/Leota Barn at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, corner of Walnut Street and Market Street, Jeffersonville, IN. *Contact:* Sue Bartle, 107 Nashua Drive, Clarksville, IN 47129, (812) 945-8219, suebartle@att.net

April 05-06, Cincinnati, Ohio

Southwest Ohio Daffodil Society (SWODS) at Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens, 3240 Vine Street, Cincinnati OH 45220. *Contact:* Linda Wallpe, 1940 Gregory Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45206, 513-221-4140, Lwallpe@cinci.rr.com

April 15-16, Chillicothe, Ohio

Adena Daffodil Society Show at Trinity United Methodist Church, 82 E. Main Street, Chillicothe, OH. *Contact:* Mary Ellen Sheridan, 83 E. Fourth Street, Chillicothe, OH 45601; (740) 775-7595, no e-mail or Karen Beery, 469 Happy Hollow Road, Chillicothe, OH 45601, (740) 775-5664, DaffodilMom@hotmail.com

April 17-18, Indianapolis, Indiana

Indiana Daffodil Society Show at Holliday Park Nature Center, 6333 Springmill Road, Indianapolis, IN. *Contact:* Suzy Wert, 7350 North Illinois Street, Indianapolis, IN 46260, (317) 259-0060, limequilla@aol.com

April 19-20, Columbus, Ohio

Central Ohio Daffodil Society Show at Franklin Park Conservatory. 1770 East Broad, Columbus OH. *Contact:* Phyllis L. Hess, 3670 East Powell Road, Lewis Center, OH 43035-9530, (614) 882-5720, dafflyphyll@hotmail.com

Welcome New Members!

- Rosemary Salsman
- Tom Brimm
- Karen Sidebottom
- Janette & Bill Hutchinson
- Lynn Jaquith
- Linda Bourke

Join the Kentucky Daffodil Society!

Individual: \$ 5.00
Family: \$ 7.50

Send to: Mary Zirnheld
4707 Southern Parkway
Louisville, KY 40214-1424

_____ **Date**

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone and/or Email address

Comments? Questions?