



# Growing Together Growing Together

Daffodil & Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania

APRIL 2019

From Bonnie Plato: Some Daffodil Ramblings

Volunteers are needed for our Daffodil Show (April 27th). We'll be missing several important set-up people, including a couple major players in the tables/classes department. Those are our judges Mitch and Kate Carney who were always terrific at organizing that very important part of the Show set-up. In addition to their help in set-up (April 26th at 4 PM), they greatly enhanced our Show with lots of beautiful single-stem and many collection classes! We will miss their many entries.

Please help fill in this gap by entering as many blooms as possible. Consider exhibiting some vases of three, or a couple collections (read the Show Schedule for ideas when it gets emailed out to you). Contact Bonnie for ideas and recommendations - especially at the Grooming Clinic. Remember to pick any early daffodils to refrigerate until the show. Clean and clock those flowers just after picking them. Don't wait for the Grooming Clinic. And if you have never entered before or haven't for awhile, NOW IS THE TIME!

Speaking of the Grooming Clinic, it's definitely worthwhile attending. You'll pick up a lot of very helpful tips for making your flowers look their best, and for contributing not only to the quantity, but also to the quality of our Show. Please bring your return address labels, a snack to share if you'd like, and your own drink. Remember to come to St. John's Lutheran Church at 1 PM Saturday, April 13th. Also, don't forget we have a Mock Show planned with some nice prizes

Six Clerks are needed for the Show. They will receive a special gift bulb at our End of Season Banquet for their extra efforts. Let us know if you are interested. I will be emailing out info on clerks duties before the Show so clerks can read and familiarize themselves with the job before we briefly cover that on the day of the Show. This way you'll have a chance to ask questions on what is expected of you.

We will need some good quality photos taken of the Daffodil Show, especially of winning entries and exhibitors. It would be exciting to see those published in the Daffodil Journal and posted in on-line info on our Show! Please come prepared to help advertise our Show and DHSWP.

See the article about sponsoring a Local Award for details. Some awards will be dropped if no one covers them. We would like to encourage more exhibitors to enter more Classes in the Show.

## Steering Committee

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Megan Danik

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E-Mail Editor to:  
[Pitvp@aol.com](mailto:Pitvp@aol.com)

We desperately need to find some sources of YEW (our official wedging material). Both Len's and Megan's bushes need a couple years, at least, to recuperate. Matt has one yew, but we will need a couple big bags for the Annual Show, plus a smaller bag for the Mock Show at the Clinic (Matt will be bringing that). Please let us know if you have any yew bushes or can think of some possible sources that can be trimmed. Family, friends, neighbors, your church, a public building where permission can be obtained? Possibly some nursery has a hedge to be cut back?

Note: we stopped using boxwood as it has been affected by boxwood blight and ADS asked that it not be used - to cut back on the spread of the blight. Personally, I need to replace a 25 foot hedge and three big bushes of boxwood!

Please note, there will be no plant/potted bulb sale at the Show this year due to costs and lack of things for sale at this time.

Food for the Show: we need food and drink donations for Friday evening, breakfast items for early Saturday morning (6AM), and for the Saturday Judges Lunch. Contact us for now.

And don't forget to FEED your bulbs now if you haven't already this spring. Ideally when the shoots are about 2" high. Use a "bulb" food, super triple phosphate, wood ashes, or a low or no nitrogen fertilizer. Organic or not, time release or not. Sprinkle lightly around emerging shoots according to directions on the package. Do not let any plant food sit in between the emerging leaves as it will burn and damage the foliage. Water the plant food in, unless it is supposed to rain shortly. Also, make sure bulbs are getting at least 1" of water per week. At this time they can take even more! Your flowers will be bigger and better!

Now, get out in your garden when you can and enjoy watching those shoots grow into leaves, and the buds bend up into blooming position, then unfurl! The blooms will get bigger and smoother after they are open awhile. Watch all the changes! Take some photos!



## 2019 DAFFODIL GROOMING CLINIC

### Get your flowers show winners ready!

DHSWP's Annual Daffodil Grooming Clinic is fast approaching on Saturday, April 13th from 1 to 5 PM. Held again this year at St. John's Lutheran Church, 311 Cumberland Rd, across from the Northland Public Library. We will be working in the Friendship Hall, downstairs. Now is the time to learn some new skills and tips on exhibiting, or refresh your memory on what you learned in previous years.

Please join us for an interesting educational experience on what it takes to exhibit flowers in a Daffodil Show. Everything from choosing blooms, cleaning and grooming, filling out entry cards, staging flowers - including lots of tips on what judges look for, will be covered. There are always new tips absorb.



We will also cover what is involved in clerking for a show, and how to assist the judges - in a Mock Show of the daffodils you groom and stage. If you can bring in some of your own daffodils that you grew outside, you'll learn how to save those groomed (and staged?) flowers to enter into our Daffodil Show on Saturday, April 27, 2019 (6 to 6:45 AM) at the Shady Side Academy Ice Rink. Preferably enter flowers on Friday, April 26th, after 4PM.

If you don't have daffodils at this time we will provide practice blooms that you can enter in our Mock Show to try for some very nice prizes. We also provide the grooming and staging supplies to work with. Either way, it's a fun experience, you do not have to be, or become, a member of the Daffodil and Hosta Society of Western Pennsylvania (DHSWP), or of the

American Daffodil Society (ADS) to participate. All are welcome.

Learning about exhibiting in shows is a great way to more fully appreciate your spring garden and these special flowers that so enrich our lives! Fulfilling their promise every year, they return to lift our spirits with a glorious, sunshine filled season. Come to learn how to be involved and participate in the joy, and camaraderie of like-minded gardeners.



Following the grooming and Mock Show, we will have a wonderful program on Daffodils planned with our own widely known and respected authority, Len Lehman, speaking and possibly showing an ADS Program on "Show Flowers" and/or "Judging Intermediates" should time permit after the grooming session and Mock Show.

There will be light refreshments available. Tickets will be sold for Raffle Items of gardening interest. Should you wish, refreshment items and donated raffle items are always appreciated. There will also be Membership Information available for anyone interested.

Hope to see you there!  
Contact Steve Plato at [sjplato46@gmail.com](mailto:sjplato46@gmail.com) for any questions.

## Sponsors for Daffodil Show Local Awards Needed ASAP!

Note: So that Local Awards can be listed in the 2019 Show Schedule, being completed as we speak, we need some members, or interested parties, or businesses (know anyone to ask?) to contact us immediately. Send Steve a message at [sjplato46@gmail.com](mailto:sjplato46@gmail.com)

As you know, we offer a number awards at our daffodil show each year. There are American Daffodil Society awards and our local awards. Local awards are awards that are sponsored by the members of our club or the club itself.

How it works: A sponsor covers a prize to be awarded to the winner at our End of Season Banquet. Most sponsors have elected for a cash award of \$25, but a sponsor can choose any monetary amount or a gift item to contribute. Simply let the club know what that is before the luncheon or earlier.

The sponsor also decides what daffodil category the award is for, and names that award. It's your call! Some ideas include: your favorite daffodil color combination, a favorite daffodil division, or even a favorite Class listed in the Show Schedule. Perhaps named as a memorial for a lost loved one, a lost pet, a special person in your life, or a personal celebration. Just choose something not already covered by a Local Award.

As examples: I created the Anna Mae Cavitt Memorial Award for the best predominately yellow daffodil - in memory of my Mom whose favorite color was yellow (or turquoise, but there are no turquoise daffs!); Steve created the Reginald D. Plato Memorial Award for the best double to honor his brother.

The Club sponsors 5 Local Awards: the Sweepstakes Award (most blue ribbons); the Club Flower Award (Section M); the Single Stem Award (one stem from Sections A, F, or Classes 222-226); the Best of Show Award; and the Dianne Mrak Award (Best Miniature).

Other offered Local Awards, sponsored by members or interested persons (see Show Schedule for names and details), include: the Berma Abercrombie Award (best Intermediate); the John Yonski Award (best split-corona); the Dan Tau Award (best white with pink cup, or pink rimmed); the Rowles Family Award (best yellow with pink cup); the Gary Ball Award (best white); the Linda Herhold Award (best vase of 3 from Sections B, G, or H); the Best Historic Bloom; the Best Youth Bloom; the New Zealand Award (best NZ bred); the Anna Mae Cavitt Memorial Award (best yellow); the Reginald D. Plato Memorial Award (best double).

We are in most need of sponsors for the awards listed below which were sponsored last year, 2018, but we have no sponsors for this year:

1. Design Award (Section O)
2. \* the Wells Knierim Ribbon (best photograph, Section Q)
3. \* the Amateur, or "The Deer Ate My Name Tags!" for un-named flowers
4. the Novice Collection Award (Sections I or J)
5. \* the Small Grower Ribbon
6. the Best Container Grown Daffodil (Section K)
7. the Best Seedling By Originator
8. \* the Best Classic Daffodil (Section P, or anywhere in Show)
9. the Youth Photography Award (Class 268)

PLEASE CONSIDER IT! Local Awards are fun to receive and therefore encourage exhibitors to enter some different Classes they may not normally. Most importantly, some of these—starred (\*)—specifically target and encourage New Exhibitors to participate, becoming enthusiastic, involved contributors!

Other Ideas for Local Awards: "the Best.....in show...."

1. Trumpet (Div 1)
2. Large Cup (Div.2)
3. Small Cup (Div. 3)
4. Tiandrus (Div.5)
5. Jonquil (Div. 7)
6. Tazetta (Div. 8)
7. Poeticus (Div 9)
8. Bulbocodium (Div 10)
9. Other Daffodils (Div 12)
10. Daffodils by Botanical Name only (Div. 13 - species)
11. Best green
12. Best white with red or orange cup
13. Best yellow with red or orange cup
14. Brooke Challenge Class (annual youth)
15. Daffodil Grown in a Trough
16. Reverse Bicolor

Anything you can come up with!

Thank you for considering sponsoring one or two Awards! We're trying to make our Show bigger and better each year! This is just one important way to become involved in supporting the Show. Please contact Steve Plato ASAP! at [sjplato46@gmail.com](mailto:sjplato46@gmail.com) and become a sponsor today!

## April 2019 Daffodil Day trip 1st spur of the moment activity!

You may recall on the January newsletter Jim (Kalka) mentioned that we will be doing some impromptu kind of activities. Well this is the first one: a Car Pool Daffodil trip...And Karen has a couple of carpool trips pending depending on weather & the plants so, be on alert!...



The day trip will be planned for a weekday, probably in the second half of April. We need to see when the daffodils are blooming. We will probably only have a few day warning. Please let me know, Karen— E-Mail: [karensmg@aol.com](mailto:karensmg@aol.com) or phone 724-679-3818—if you are interested and provide me with your phone number. I will make every effort to contact those that are interested by email or phone when we decide the date.

Please let me know if you are willing to drive and who will be riding with you and how many extra spaces you have in your vehicle. If people are not willing to carpool, then the trip will not work. Gary and Susan have graciously agreed to lead the group in their yellow pickup truck, so they should be easy to follow. It would be best if you still had a GPS whether your phone or Garmin, just in case. We will also be traveling on the PA and OH turnpikes, so bring your EZ Pass.

We will meet at the Target on Route 228 in Cranberry Twp. at 7 a.m. travel approx. 45 minutes to rest stop on turnpike (Quick stop for bathroom/coffee). Between Cleveland and Strongville, we will do a quick stop at a gas station/convenience store for drinks/snacks/sandwich to eat on the way or at the park. There is no time to stop for a sit down meal until dinner. We will eat at The Tavern, if all goes well we should be there by 6 p.m. I am not setting times at each stop, but see how it goes since we will be a small group. We should be back at Target by 9 p.m.

We plan to visit:

### **Daffodil Hill**

Lake View Cemetery – Section 3  
12316 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, OH

### **Gardenview Horticultural Park**

\$5 Admission  
16711 Pearl Road  
Strongville, OH  
[www.gardenviewhp.org](http://www.gardenviewhp.org)

### **DJ's Greenhouse**

1004 East Lake Road  
Transfer, PA

### **The Tavern**

108 N Market Street  
New Wilmington, PA

### **Joann & Herb Altman's**

300 N Market Street  
New Wilmington, PA

Optional after Gardenview, time permitting.

### **Fellows Riverside Gardens**

123 McKinley Avenue  
Youngstown, OH



## UPCOMING EVENTS!

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**Northland Library<sup>1</sup> on Saturday, May 11 & Nov 16 at 1:00 PM**

Saturday, April 13	1:00 PM	<b>Daffodil Grooming Clinic</b> , church across from Library <sup>2</sup> Fellowship Hall
Saturday, April 27		<b>Daffodil Show</b> , joint with the Penn State Master Gardener's Symposium & Marketplace. Ice Rink at Shady Side Academy, Fox Chapel
Thu – Sun, May 2 – 5		ADS National Daffodil Convention, Minneapolis/Bloomington, MN
May	Pending	<b>Hosta Grooming Clinic</b> with Jim Kalka, joint with Rock Garden Society Show & sale at Soergels
Saturday, May 11	1:00 PM	<b>STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING</b>
Fri - Sat, May 17 – 18		<b>Indiana Garden Club May Mart, Hosta Sale</b>
Saturday, May 25	1:00 PM	<b>Regular meeting</b>
Saturday, June 1		<b>Hosta Show &amp; Sales</b> at Soergels. Sales start at 10 AM, Show opens to the public around 1:30 PM (after judging)
Wed – Sat, June 12 – 15		AHS National Hosta Convention, Green Bay, WI
Sat – Sun, June 15 – 16		<b>Whispering Pines Hosta Sale</b>
Fri – Sun, June 21 – 23		Great Lakes Region Hosta Tailgate, Bay Village, OH
Saturday, July 13	11:00 AM	<b>Picnic &amp; Hosta Auction</b> at DJ's Greenhouse
Saturday, August 17		Garden in the Parks Field Day
Saturday, August 24	1:00 PM	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
Fri – Sat, Sept 13 - 14		Fall Hosta & Garden Forum, Edinboro PA
September 21	1:00 PM	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
Saturday, October 26	1:00 PM	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
Saturday, Nov 2	12:00 Noon	<b>End of Season Luncheon</b>
Saturday, November 16	1:00 PM	<b>STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING</b>
<b>DECEMBER</b>	Pending	

<sup>1</sup> Northland Public Library, 300 Cumberland Rd, Pittsburgh PA 15237, 412-366-8100