



Midwest Daffodil Society

midwestdaffodil.org

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American Daffodil Society convention coming to the Garden April 24-27

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By Jill Griesse, Convention Chairman

As I write this on January 14, Chicago in winter is one beautiful town. Paul and I have come here with show co-chair Betty Kealiher to work out final arrangements for our 2009 Convention. The temperature is 10 degrees and going lower. There's been a near-record 40 inches of snow this winter. Weather forecasters have decided that today will be only a snowstorm, not the blizzard originally predicted. By April 24, though, Chicagoans have been promised warmer weather, and we're hoping many American Daffodil Society members will join us for a fantastic convention and show.

Those who want to begin the road to certification as an ADS judge should come on Friday prepared for Judging School I. Others may apply for credit as a refresher. Scott Bally has made the arrangements for this school.

The National Show will be held Saturday and Sunday in the beautiful Regenstein Center of the Chicago

Botanic Garden. By April, the snow will be gone, and many Chicagoans will be eager to come to the Garden to see our show. In the horticulture division we've added a special class this year, "Best



Vase of Three, Hybridized in the Midwest Region or Central Region." There will also be Design and Photography divisions.

Check out ADS2009Convention.org for all the details and schedules for all three divisions.

Those entering blooms in the horticulture division will be able to begin

preparations at noon on Friday. Stay all night if you like. We will bring in pizza for those who are there late-night Friday.

Speaker sessions will be held both on Saturday and on Sunday. Most presentations will be held in the auditorium at the Regenstein Center, which will be able to accommodate all of us. The complete speaker schedule will be available on the website. Check it out and plan to hear all of the speakers.

There will be a Members Lounge in the Regenstein Center. Come there to relax and meet your fellow conventioners. We're trying something new that we hope you will like. Posters will be presented in this room. Consider submitting one. This feature is not a competition but a way of sharing information about any daffodil or gardening topic that interests you. Put some pictures and a bit of narrative on a piece of posterboard. Add a title and your name. Optionally, add a time when you'll
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Go "Behind the Scenes" at the Regenstein Center Attend the March 29 meeting

After a short business meeting at 2 p.m., Stephanie Lindemann, Manager of Flower Shows at the Chicago Botanic Garden, will give us a tour of the site of our upcoming expanded show.

We will have available the show schedule, which gives details of how to enter blooms, floral displays, and photographs, and there will be informal discussion of how to use this information. Entry cards will also be available.

Light refreshments will be served.

Please note this change from previously-announced plans: we will meet in

the Design Studio of the Regenstein Center, which is across from the Linnaeus Room.

You'd be mistaken if you thought there wouldn't be much going on at the Regenstein Center in March. Why not come for our meeting, then check out some of the other activities scheduled for that day.

The Northshore Iris & Daylily Society is presenting three lectures as part of the American Flower Show Lecture Series. According to society
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President's Message

No, you needn't be a member of the American Daffodil Society – or even registered for the convention to:

- exhibit blooms, designs, or photographs at the ADS National Show
- attend the show
- attend the gardening presentations at the convention
- register for the convention.

Of course the ADS, which is headed by our MDS member (and my husband), George Dorner, would love to have you join, but as MDS members, these events and activities are open to you. Check out the article above and come join some or all of the fun!

MDS upcoming events

- March 29: Midwest Daffodil Society meeting in the Design Studio of the Garden's Regenstein Center. 2 p.m.
- April, 25 and 26: Combined American Daffodil Society/MDS national show at the at the Regenstein Center of the Garden.
- October 17 and 18: annual bulb sale in Burnstein Hall, Regenstein Center, Chicago Botanic Garden. 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ADS Convention continued

appear in the Members Lounge to discuss your poster with others. When you arrive, leave your poster at the convention registration desk. We'll get it where it needs to go.

Transportation between the Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel and the Botanic Garden, a distance of about two miles, will be by your private car or by shuttle bus. Those who are driving please note that parking is free and uncomplicated at both the Garden and the hotel. For free parking at the Garden, show your convention badge at the entrance.

Those who will not have a private car will use the shuttle bus, which will be scheduled every 20 minutes between the Garden and the hotel. Anyone who needs special accommodations should notify the convention registration desk upon arrival and we'll make the necessary arrangements.

Look in your registration packet for vouchers for tram rides at the Garden. The Grand Tram Tour covers the perimeter of the Garden, providing an overview of all areas. The Bright Encounters Tour offers a close-up look at the Gardens on the main island. Trams are wheelchair accessible. Each tour is about 35 minutes. Allow time in your schedule to take both of them.

The Garden comprises 385 acres. You can enjoy its website at ChicagoBotanic.org. The Chicago Botanic Garden is one of the official ADS Display Gardens.

Using the vouchers provided in your registration packet, you will be able to have Saturday and Sunday lunches either at the Garden Café at the Garden or at the Rooks Corner Restaurant at the hotel. Eat wherever and whenever you like. I do encourage you to make new friends

Websites of interest

- www.midwestdaffodil.org (Midwest Daffodil Society website; George Dorner, webmaster)
- www.ADS2009convention.org (the Chicago ADS convention website; George Dorner, webmaster)
- www.daffseek.org (for information about specific daffodils)
- www.daffodilusa.org (American Daffodil Society website)

by sitting down with someone else wearing the ADS convention badge.

We'll have the Saturday evening banquet at the beautiful McGinley Pavilion of the Garden. We've scheduled a prize-winning barbershop quartet to entertain us, and the show awards will be presented. We will also hold the Annual Meeting on this evening.

The bulb auction and the Sunday evening banquet will be at the hotel. Following the Chicago theme, a blues band will provide background music for the cocktail hour. Nail Watson, of Ringhaddy Daffodils, Northern Ireland, will be the speaker.

Like to shop? Find time to stop by The Garden Shop at the Garden. You'll find many books and other items of interest to gardeners. The hotel offers shuttle service to certain nearby shopping areas. Check at the desk for further information.

Monday morning we will head for Niles, Michigan, where we'll visit John and Sandy Reed's Oakwood Daffodils. There we'll view acres of John's terrific daffodils and will hear from other Midwestern hybridizers.

On the registration form we've provided one price for those of you who will be joining us on the bus (this one won't be a shuttle bus!) and returning to the hotel by way of Chicago's new Millennium Park, which is a must-see for tourists. There is a different price for those who will take private transportation to Niles, perhaps on their way home.

We convention planners are expecting to provide a great opportunity to see your fellow daffodil enthusiasts, hear some interesting speakers and participate in a fantastic show which will be seen by a record number of visitors. Yes, by April 24-27, Chicago will be "My Kind of Town." See you there!

Have you paid your dues?

Club records indicate that your dues have been paid through the year _____. Members wishing to pay 2009 dues of \$5 may do so to Alan Champ, treasurer, at the March 29 meeting or by sending a check made out to the Midwest Daffodil Society to Alan Champ, Treasurer, 1546 Willow Street, Lake Forest, IL 60045.

Include your address, phone number and, if applicable, your e-mail address.

No doubt you've noticed what a bargain this club is! Your club is able to keep dues to a minimum by holding successful bulb sales each fall. Please consider paying dues for more than one year.

New members are always welcome. Bring a friend to the next meeting.

Report any recent changes of your address, telephone number or e-mail address to Al at the next meeting, by mail at the above address, or by e-mail at a_champ@yahoo.com.

March 29 meeting continued

President Alice Simon, the lectures will cover iris culture, daylily culture, and flower arranging.

The Ikenobo Ikebana Society Show is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and there is a Midwest Fruit Explorers Grafting Workshop from 1 to 4 p.m. that day.

"Lost & Found: Remnants of Savannas & Old Growth Forest" is the name of a black-and-white photograph exhibit by Miles Lowry on view at the Joutras Gallery daily through April 5.

All these events will be held at the Regenstein Center.

Visit the Japanese Garden to enjoy activities, demonstrations and performances exploring Japanese culture at the Malott Japanese Garden Spring Weekend, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This festival focuses on spring celebrations in Japan.

Come, make a full afternoon of very-early-spring gardening activities.

2009 Board of Directors

President: Mary Dorner

Vice President: Nancy Pilipuf

Secretary: Carol Champ

Treasurer: Alan Champ

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Directors:

Stephanie Lindemann (3 years)

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