



Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

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Affiliated with the North American Lily Society

March 2005

President's Message

Happy New Year to One and All, in this Grand and Wonderful year 2005 A.D.

The year of Importance! The year of Excitement! The year of Lily Gardening! "This Year", The Manitoba Regional Lily Society hosts the North American Lily Society Show and Conference. Our theme is 'Northern Horizons', where all of us show the many lily varieties we can grow beautifully in our Zone 2 & 3 gardens.

I believe, the show will be remembered as Northern Horizons, the Show of a Thousand Stems! And, a Hundred arrangements? Is this a possibility? Yes! We will all bring stems. Bring extra, for an arrangement. Some of mine will have some transportation damage, when I get to the show. I will use them in a small arrangement(s). A snip and a cut, here and there, and some greenery or not, a vase, a dish, a bowl, or a container, and I will have an arrangement. Is it that easy? Yes and No. Will I win? Probably not, but I will enter it and it will look pleasing to my eye.

Just as important as seeing all the lilies is getting the chance to meet and talk to other lily enthusiasts, the wonderful opportunity to see and listen to international Lily People talk on their favourite subject-Lilies and the chance to pick up a few hints at growing lilies better, also of seeing what is happening in our 'Lily World'.

As the lilies sleep comfortably under the snow, my mind is wondering, which ones will be open for the show? As well as, how I can possibly cut one of my lily stems. I have always had problems cutting any flower stems, for my own use, to bring inside my home. I have no problem cutting 'most' flower stems to give away. So, this summer, when the show is here, I will pretend that I am cutting the lily stems, not for me, but for everyone else to enjoy.

Our Spring Seminar is on April 2, 2005. Remember, there will be a Lily Bulb Sale. :) MRLS will be at the Mothers' Day Plant sale on May 8, 2005. And then, our Society hosts the NALS Show and Conference on July 13th to 17th. More lilies, the following weekend at the Neepawa Lily Festival. Check our web site for links to our neighbouring societies and their lily show dates. In

fall, our Fall Bulb Sale - watch future newsletters for more information.

Happy Anniversary to Saskatchewan and Alberta, upon their 100th year as provinces in our great country, Canada!

See you all at the North American Lily Show and Conference, this summer in Winnipeg!

Ted J.M. Sobkowich



**N.A.L.S. 58th Annual
Lily Show**
'Northern Horizons'
Hosted by Manitoba
Regional Lily Society
July 13th - 17th 2005
Canad Inn Polo Park, Winnipeg, MB

We need YOU!! If you are interested in volunteering and helping out contact John Rempel at 204-895-2212
E-mail: jrempel@mb.sympatico.ca

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Division VIII - New Varieties

By: Barrie Strohman

As the cold days of winter start to recede there is a predominating feeling that spring is just around the corner. Wondering thoughts of what new lilies will be available are front and center in the minds of lily enthusiasts. Excitement grows and grows as the new cultivars that are available is revealed.

Remember the lilies that your grandmother grew. They were only some of the hardiest of the species or wild lilies. Of course there was the one you called the tiger lily, the down facing orange with heavy black spots and little black bulbils in the leaf axils. Maybe it was the fire lily the orange yellow *L. bulbiferum* from Europe or it could have been the sealing wax red dainty turks capped one with a bit of a smell, *L. pumilium*. Then with the interest in lily breeding coming into its own your mother may have grown one of Isobel Preston's stenographer lilies Edna Kean, or maybe one of Dr Patterson's beauties like Edith Cecilia the fore runner of the pink asiatics. More than likely she grew one of Dr. Skinner's creations, Black Prince or Ed Robinson's Asiatic or martagon crosses like Ivy Helen or Hantsing.

Since that time there has been a terrific increase in new material in the Asiatic field that you can easily obtain in all sizes heights and color combinations. The short border or pot lilies in solid colors like Blackbird or bicolors such as Fullspeed. The influx of lilies in the cut flower trade has given us some big bold and beautiful ones that have brightened ones garden the yellow Sole Mio the glistening white Navona the delicate pink Paola or the dark red Blackjack and the stunning new combination of Dot Com. Of course there is the tall down-facing ones that suit the back of the border or that special island bed of which George Slate is an example.

Today I want to tell you specifically about two different breeding lines of interdivisional hybrids in division eight. They are firstly the L.A's, the longiflorum x asiatic crosses or the Easter lily x asiatic cross and secondly that of the OT's, the oriental x trumpet marriage. We have made tremendous strides in lily breeding in these past few years.

The advancement in lily breeding has produced many interesting color combinations expanded the bloom time and expanded the range of hardiness. It was about 20 years ago that my interest was heightened with the appearance of viable growable clones of the Easter lily and Asiatic hybrid the first being 'Longistar', a longiflorum by Sterling Star followed by the pink form Casa Rosa of the Easter lily. Then came one that has survived up to this day. The melon colored EE8 or Evening Star is practically indestructible and turns up on the show bench even today. Then followed rapidly the pastel forms in solid colors bi-colors and even tricolors of My Fair Lady and Kiss Me Kate. The Aladdin series and the Royal series gave us a more diversified range in color stature and hardiness. Now there has been a deepening of colors till we have glistening deep yellows vibrant lipstick reds and glowing mouth watering plums. There is now a semi-double, Double Whiskey.

It was about twenty years ago that my interest in lilies came to a fever pitch. Oh I said that did I not however it bears repeating for the marriage of the orientals and the trumpets the OT's appeared. Now my dream of growing oriental type lilies on the prairies began to be realized for from the combination of these two tender groups came lilies that could stand the rigors of our climate. What a bonus it was to have exotic huge bloomers many with perfume to tantalize the senses.

These came about through the work of Dr. Wilbert Ronald and Lynn Collicutt at Morden and we are indebted to them for the birth of these beauties for these first fruits have taken the lily world by storm. When material from the first crosses of OT's and of Asiatic trumpet crosses were placed in test plots around Manitoba at the University of Manitoba, Jefferies Nursery, Phyllis Pierrpont and at the Lily Nook and we saw the results of hardiness and exotic coloration I was in a state of euphoria! After five years of testing it became apparent that there were cultivars that needed to be increased and named and released to the gardening public. Northern Beauty, Starburst Sensation, Northern Sensation, Northern Carillon were the first to take the world stage and to take the lily world by storm. These were bred and developed here in Manitoba. Yes! Since then many more combinations of color, flower form and heights yearly are being marketed. Besides these we now have crosses between orientals and longiflorums, Orientals and asiatics and trumpets and longiflorums. These latter ones just making there appearance will need to be tested for extended hardiness but never the less are giving us new horizons that continue to keep ones excitement at a fever pitch.

New LA's that are available are;

Algarve, Brindisi, Cavalese, Kelso, Lacorno, Manhattan, Original Love, Red Planet, Serrada and Vera Cruz

New OT's that are available are;

American Bandstand, American Spirit, American Original, American West, Boogie Woogie, Conca d Or, Red Hot, Shocking, Satisfaction, Starbright, Elegant Lady, Queen's Promise, Sea Treasure, Triumphant, Easter Charm, Fancy Crown and First Crown. Pictures of all these can be found on the Lily Nook web site at www.lilynook.mb.ca

Lily Royalties

By: Dr. Wilbert Ronald

MRLS, Jeffries Nurseries Ltd. (JNL) and the Morden Research Centre entered into an agreement to complete the evaluation and introduction of lily germplasm from the Morden lily program. Royalties from the first 2 Morden introductions, Starburst Sensation and Northern Beauty, are collected by the Canadian Ornamental Plant Foundation as these were introduced prior to the consortium agreement. Royalties of the remaining introductions were covered by the agreement. Royalties have been collected by Jeffries Nurseries Ltd since first sales in year 2000 and these are reported in the attached sheet. Royalties are to be split equally between the 3 consortium members.

This royalty payment has been delayed as we needed an agreement with COPF to split the royalties. To move forward in good faith and to clear up the delay, JNL proposes to pay out to MRLS and Morden 1/3 each of the royalties in hand (\$1367.15) for a payment of \$455.72 each.

The royalties have not been as large as we once hoped. Some lilies have been slow to increase and these new cultivars have remained specialty items in lily catalogues. The following are totals for the years 2000-2004.

Orienpets 2758 @ .25 = \$689.50

Easterpets 1265 @ .25 = \$316.25

**Canadian Belles (Asiapets)
3614 @ .10 = \$361.40**

\$1367.15

\$455.72 to each consortium member.

NALS 2005 Update

NALS Mania

By: John Rempel

Spring is rapidly approaching and soon our lilies will be poking their heads out of the frozen ground. Our spring seminar on April 2 will be a time to re-new friendships and talk lilies.

As you all know by now, MRLS is hosting the 2005 NALS national show this year at the 'Canad Inn', Winnipeg (details else where in this newsletter). We will feature guest speakers from Latvia, Germany, Holland, Idaho as well as Dr. Wilbert Ronald from Jeffries Nurseries.

There will also be a great lily show for individual stems as well as floral arrangements.

This will be your opportunity to attend this national show with minimal travel costs. For only \$60 you can attend all of the seminars and with additional fees take in the tours and banquets. It is your opportunity to get to know lily growers from different countries. I have found lily people to be very friendly and easy to talk to. We have also decided to allow day passes at \$30 if you wish to only attend the seminars on either Thursday or Friday.

Our committees have been hard at work to make this show a great one. At the spring seminar, or you can contact us, Susan Le Blanc and I will be looking for some volunteers to assist us during show week. We can use people to assist as clerks during the show judging, help at the registration desk and boutique as well as things I can't even think of.

I threw out a challenge last year that I would like to see 1000 stems in the show. (no charge to exhibit or view). Maybe wishful thinking, but how about everyone in a 50 mile radius bringing in 5 – 10 stems or a nice arrangement. Make my day eh!

So, baby those lilies have a great spring and see you at the show. I hope to meet many of you in person.

John Rempel

NALS 2005 — Open Gardens Needed for Self-Guided Tours

By: B. J. Jackson

Time is running out to have your garden included in the post-conference self-guided gardening tours scheduled for Sunday, 17 July 2005 following the NALS 58th Annual Show and Conference in Winnipeg. To all those who have already responded to the call, thank you. There is going to be a nice variety of very different gardens to view. So come on folks, we want to WOW the lily world with our gardens and show them that we really can grow beautiful lilies and other plants on the prairies! For everyone who wishes to have their gardens included, the information that I need includes your name, your address and accurate, simple directions to your property. As well, a short (200 words or less) description of what your garden has to offer visitors would be appreciated. Other information to include is the times you will be accepting garden guests that day and whether you would be willing to have guests visit at other times, either before or after the conference.

Please e-mail me at jacksonb@mb.sympatico.ca with the subject line Open Gardens NALS 2005. If you do not have access to a computer, please call 204 761 3973 and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Question & Answer

Q: Catalogs show lilies available for spring planting. Is this a good time to plant lilies rather than the fall and will they bloom this year if planted this spring?

A: Yes they will most certainly bloom this year. Because of better cold storage and quality control of bulbs dug in the fall more varieties are now being offered in spring as well. Orientals and trumpets are best planted in the spring here on the prairies. Because of the early emergence of martagons they should be planted in the fall.

Keep Your Garden Chemical Free

All gardens can be beautiful and lush without the use of pesticides (herbicides and insecticides) or chemical fertilizers. These products cost money; can harm children, pets, and beneficial wildlife; and ultimately affect the quality of our water, air and soil. It's much easier to prevent problems in the first place by encouraging a healthy soil and plants.

For a Healthy Garden

Choose native plants — co-evolution with local wildlife create natural defenses.

Grow a diversity of plants to minimize your garden's susceptibility to any one pest and to confuse passing pests.

Match plants to the conditions of your garden (soil, moisture, light, etc.) to help plants thrive. A stressed plant is more vulnerable to pests.

Provide adequate spacing between plants for good air circulation.

Keep the soil and soil organisms healthy. Add compost or well-rotted manure each year. Where appropriate let fallen leaves remain in place.

Water plants deeply to promote strong roots. Morning watering at soil level helps prevent disease.

Check your garden regularly to catch problems early.

Attract beneficial insects. Flowering herbs (coriander, dill, fennel, parsley, etc.) and flowers of the composite family (goldenrod, coneflower, sunflower etc.) are good food sources when prey is limited. A shallow dish with stones in it provides a water source. Minimize soil disturbance to protect soil-dwelling insects.

Practice crop rotation in non-perennial beds to keep pests to a minimum.

Tips for Managing Insect Pests

Lawn grubs tend to prefer soft, weak roots — a sign you've over fertilized. Use natural fertilizer for slower, steadier growth all year (the fall is best).

Grubs in your lawn can be controlled naturally through the use of nematodes — microscopic worms that kill grubs and other pests. Be sure to follow the directions.

Mix 100 ml of crushed hot peppers with 400 ml of water. Strain and spray on bug infested plants. (Note that hot peppers can irritate eyes and skin.) Do not spray when it is windy or during strong midday sun.

Finely chop 10 to 15 cloves of garlic and soak them in 500 ml of mineral oil for 24 hours. Strain the solution and spray as is, or dilute it with water before applying. Use selectively as it also affects beneficial insects.

Deter cutworms by placing collars around stems of plants (toilet paper rolls, tin cans with ends air removed, etc.). Place 1 cm above the soil and 3 cm below the soil.

Hose down plants and shrubs with water to rid them of aphids, whiteflies, and spider mites, being careful not to damage flowers or buds.

Keep slugs away by finely grinding eggshells and sprinkling them in a ring around each plant.

Make a spray for aphids, Black Spot and fungus diseases by steeping 6 rhubarb leaves in 2-3 quarts of boiling water. Apply to affected plants when water has cooled.

Make a tantalizing trap for slugs and earwigs by pouring two or three centimeters of beer into a shallow dish (empty tuna fish cans work well) In a shaded spot, place the dish in the soil so the rim is just a bit above ground level. Every few days, empty out the trap and refill. Use this method only when necessary as it can also drown beneficial creatures.

For more information visit Wild About Gardening at www.wildaboutgardening.org, a Web site of the Canadian Wildlife Federation.
E-mail: info@cwf-fcf.org

SPRING SEMINAR 2005

By: Jennifer Bishop

April 2nd, 2005 will be the day that my spring starts. It is the day that MRLS presents the Annual Spring Seminar at the Canad Inn - Polo Park in Winnipeg. I always look forward to the spring seminar because I get the opportunity to see all the friends I have missed over the winter or have not seen since the Fall Bulb Sale. I get the opportunity to hear great speakers, buy some new bulbs for spring planting, a great lunch and I get to participate in a wonderful auction on beautiful lily related items.

This year is all about NALS 2005. Barrie Strohmman will be demonstrating how to pick and prepare our lily stems for the show table. John Rempel will be talking about the NALS preparations, how they are proceeding, what we can expect from the show and how we can participate in the show and why we should. Wilbert Ronald will be giving a presentation on judging stems, clerking for the judges and how important it is. Susan LeBlanc and her team will do a flower arrangement demonstration from reading the show schedule to the show table. Susan tells me this will include how to decide what blooms to pick in your garden, what supplies are required, how to place them into the arrangement and finally get them to the show table.

Nigel Strohmman will be bringing in a wonderful selection of bulbs and MRLS has made a special one time purchase of bulbs from The Lily Garden which includes such bulbs as 'Karen North' and 'Angela North', plus some new and exclusive sneak preview bulbs such a 'Black Heart', 'Kaleidoscope', 'The Vamp' plus many, many more. These special

purchase bulbs will be available at reduced prices for the seminar attendees only. The bulbs that do not get sold at the seminar will be planted out, grown on and sold at a higher price at the Fall Bulb Sale. I for one will be getting mine at the seminar and so should you. You have to be there to buy them!

As if all this isn't enough, there will also be a Silent Auction with an assortment of great prizes available to be won. Deb Petrie did such a great job last year in this role, she is back again this year.

This will be the best \$15.00 you will spend this year. The MRLS Board passed a motion to subsidize \$10.00 of the cost of this years' seminar so that everyone can attend. The Prairie Garden 2005 featuring Lilies will also be available for sale at the sign in desk. This is a beautiful book with 16 pages of color pictures with the largest percentage of the lily pictures taken by members of MRLS.

I look forward to seeing you all there!!!

NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

If you wish to receive your future newsletters by e-mail, sign up by e-mailing the Newsletter editor, nigel@lilynook.mb.ca

Your newsletter will be sent to you in Adobe .PDF format.



Lily Trading Post



Looking for 'Startling', a Ed Robinson lily. Any one with a bulb or two please contact Barrie Strohmman at 204-476-3225.

Looking for that special lily! Just drop me (the Editor) a note or email and we will publish your lily desires. Ph:204-476-3225 E-mail: nigel@lilynook.mb.ca

**MANITOBA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY
SPRING SEMINAR AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2005**

Saturday April 2, 2005

Canad Inn - Polo Park - Phone (204)775-8791

1405 St Matthews Ave, Winnipeg, MB

If you wish to stay over, Book early at hotel as rooms fill fast

Registration - \$15.00 - Includes coffee breaks and lunch

PROGRAM

8:30 - Registration / Coffee / Socializing

9:00 - Welcome by President -

Ted Sobkowich

9:15 - How to Clerk for a Lily Show -

Dr. Wilbert Ronald

10:00 - COFFEE BREAK & SOCIALIZING

10:15 - NALS Report -

John Rempel

10:45 - Showing your lily Stems -

Barrie Strohmaan

11:30 - Question & Answer Panel - (All your questions answered)

12:00 - LUNCH FOLLOWED BY SPRING BULB SALE

1:30 - MRLS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - (Nominations for Officers & Directors)

2:00 - Lily Designs – Step by Step -

Susan Leblanc, Fran Partridge, Brent Hunter

3:00 - COFFEE BREAK & SOCIALIZING

3:15 - Live Auction/Silent Auction

4:00 - Closing

There will be a raffle draw for many wonderful items including, gift certificates, hard to find bulbs

MRLS Seminar Registration Form

Please pre-register by March 21st

Registration - \$15.00 ea. - Includes coffee breaks and noon meal.

Name: _____ Ph: _____

Address: _____

City/Town: _____ Prov _____ Postal Code: _____

Number Attending _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

**Send To: MRLS c/o Marlene Puls - 99 Macalester Bay, Winnipeg, MB R3T 2X6
Make Cheques Payable to MRLS**

Notices:	Coming Events
<p>President's message cont'd.,</p> <p>These are my last words as President. My two-year term expires on April 2, 2005. A new President will be elected. I retire to the position of Past President. Retirement, now that sounds good! It's been a great experience. I've learnt a lot. It's been fun. I look forward to a few years rest, but only after NALS 2005! I wish all the best to the new President, the Executive and the Directors in the coming years.</p> <p>Respectfully, Ted J. M. Sobkowich</p>	<p>Manitoba Regional Lily Society 2005 Spring Seminar</p> <p>Date: Saturday, April 2nd 2005 Place: Canad Inn Polo Park 1405 St Matthews Ave Winnipeg, MB</p> <p>Details on page 6&7!!</p>
<p>We welcome you to host a NALS Garden Tour in 2005. If you feel you would like to open up your gardens for our visitors to view, please contact:</p> <p>Barbara Jean Jackson (B.J.) at 204-725-4696 E-mail: jacksonb@mb.sympatico.ca</p>	<p>North American Lily Society 58th Annual Lily Show</p> <p>'Northern Horizons' Hosted by Manitoba Regional Lily Society</p> <p>July 13th - 17th 2005 Canad Inn - Polo Park 1405 St Matthews Ave, Winnipeg, MB</p>
<p>Lily Questions?</p> <p>If you have a question or thought on lilies just contact me, 'the editor' and I will publish it on a question and answer spot in the newsletters. Let me know what else you would like to see published in your newsletter</p> <p>E-mail: strohman@mb.sympatico.ca or Phone: 476-2536 Mail: Nigel Strohman, Box 846, Neepawa, MB R0J 1H0</p>	

**THE TIME HAS COME FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS!
LAST NOTICE!!**

(Membership expiry date can be found on the Address label after surname) i.e. Dec 04

M.R.L.S. Membership Renewal Form - Deadline

\$7.50 Year — Single Membership \$10.00 Year — Family/Society Membership

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTAL CODE _____ **PHONE#** _____

SEND TO: MARLENE PULS
99 MACALESTER BAY, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2X6
Make Cheques Payable to MRLS