



Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

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Affiliated with the North American Lily Society

June 2005

President's Message

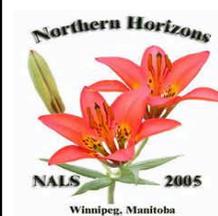
The seminar held on April 2nd was very well attended. Barrie Strohman spoke to us about how to prepare our lily stems to show, John Rempel told us why we should show our lily stems, Wilbert Ronald talked about the importance of judging lily stems and Susan LeBlanc and Fran Partridge did a wonderful design demonstration using lily stems. I am sure you are seeing a pattern here. The seminar was all about the North American Lily Society 38th Annual Lily Show and Symposium 'Northern Horizons' which takes place at the Canada Inn, July 13th to 17th.

The NALS 2005 Committee has been working very hard for the last 2 to 3 years to insure that our show will be the best ever. We will be hosting four international speakers who will be speaking to us about their work with various aspects of lilies. The dinners have all been arranged and the tour buses are arranged for Saturday morning to take us out to Jefferies Nurseries and The Lily Nook. Dr. Ronald will be giving a presentation on Saturday night at the Awards Banquet on his work with the orienpets and his time at Morden Research Station.

I encourage everyone to participate in this event in some way. You can take in the entire event or just the parts that interest you. You can show stems, create a design, attend the seminars, go on one or both of the tours, attend one or all the dinners. Whatever your interest in lilies is, there is something for you. There is show and registration information included with this newsletter or you can go to www.manitobalilies.ca and get it there. We still require volunteers for a number of areas

including the Lily Boutique and the Registration desk, for set up and/or take down and to be on the Show floor once it is open to public to help direct people and generally help out. If you can volunteer your time please contact myself or any other member of the Board. Contact information for board members is included in this newsletter (see page 8).

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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

If you are interested in volunteering and helping out contact John Rempel at 204-895-2212

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Presidents Message Cont.

Even as we are getting ready for the show in July the Bulb Sale Committee has already been meeting. The bulb sales will take place in Brandon on October 1st, Winnipeg on October 1st and 2nd and Dauphin on October 8th. The committee is asking for bulb selection suggestions. If you have a suggestion(s) for named varieties you would like to see at the bulbs sales please contact Len Giesbrecht (his contact information appears further on in this newsletter).

2005 is a busy year for our Society and because of this, we will be having the 'We Survived 2005' Fall Mix and Mingle for the entire membership on October 15th. This will be an opportunity for the membership to have a chance to chat and visit without having any work to do. There will be display tables and lily articles and bulbs for sale, food will be served. There will also be a swap table of bulbs and seeds for those who have not gotten everything planted yet or want to try something new. It will be an exciting and fun time for everyone. More information about this event will be in the next newsletter but I wanted to mention it now so that everyone can mark their calendars.

I look forward to seeing all of you at NALS 2005 'Northern Horizons'. I have met many of you in person and would very much like to meet all the members in person, so please find me at the show and introduce yourself to me and all the other members of board as well.

Now, if the rain would stop and the sun would come out I will a lovely crop of lily stems this year. We still want 1000 stems at the show. We can do it too. We are a large and strong membership, and you don't have to be a member attend the event or show your stems, so if you have friends who grow lilies, have them bring a stem or two to show (maybe they will become members as well).

May all your lilies bloom for you this season.

I remain,
Yours truly,
Jennifer A. Bishop

How to Grow Lilies for Exhibition

By: Barrie Strohmman

Entering and exhibiting lilies in shows add zest to the enjoyment of growing them. It is fun to exhibit fine specimens to show what can be done and to encourage others to take up this challenging and rewarding hobby. There is also the joy of receiving an award ribbon or even a trophy and the satisfaction of comparing ones own successes with those of other lily growers. Lily culture is the very pinnacle and forms the basis of a lily show. Besides serving as an entertaining, educational and a social activity, the lily show competition evaluates the horticultural skill of the exhibitors. You can not really tell or demonstrate just how good a grower you are until some of your specimens are compared with those of your friends and judged by an accredited lily judge. There for if you are to reap rewards at a lily show it is very important to provide the best cultural conditions for your lilies and potential show stems. There are eight major concerns to accomplish this.

1. Grow lilies in the best location in your garden. Find a place, which is mainly in full sun. They can stand a bit of shade but enjoy full sun and like to go into the evening with the plant in a dry condition. The exceptions to full sun are the Martagons, which do enjoy dappled sun or part shade.
2. Plant your lilies where you have good air circulation A location that has good air movement tends to eliminate lily diseases and insects that carry and transmit disease. Plant your lilies where you have good drainage. This is essential. Lilies do not like to have their feet in water so to speak. Plant on slopes or in raised beds not where water tends to lie.
3. Lilies grow well in a variety of soils from heavy clay to light sandy soils, from acidity soils to chalky limestone type soils They do however love a good humus friable soil of medium density. Adding peat moss and sand to make it more porous and drainable and friable can amend heavy soils. Real light sandy soils can be helped by the addition of well rotted manure or organic fertilizer like a green crop plowed back in and also compost added in liberal quantities.

4. Lilies are heavy feeders and so a good feeding program is important. A good balanced fertilizer of equal numbers i. e. 10-10-10, 14-14-14 or 20-20-20 can be used to grow exceptional stems. A slow release fertilizer with these numbers is ideal as it releases nutrients over a period of time. Lilies can be fertilized when the flower head starts to show and again after the plant has finished blooming.
5. Good cultural practices means keeping the lily patch clean of weeds. Keep the weeds to a minimum so they do not rob your lily plants of needed food. One way is of course to hoe and pull them. You can use weed control sprays such as pre-emergent. Care needs to be used though. Mulching your lilies with grass clippings, chopped straw or bark helps to keep the weeds down. It also keeps the lily roots in a cooler environment, which they enjoy.
6. If you need to water your lilies because of prolonged dry spells, then really soak the ground the plant and leave it. Putting the sprinkler on does not do the job and can damage the foliage and encourages botrytis.
7. Disease control is also a part of good cultural practices Keep a good watch for disease like botrytis which is a fungal disease that lives in the soil and cause brown spots to appear on the leaves and flowers eventually browning them off. This usually occurs in warm damp conditions and can be controlled by several sprayings of a copper sulfate solution. Another remedy is a solution of a tablespoon of baking soda in a gallon of water.
8. Using one of the various insecticides on the market can control insect damage. Keep the aphid population a standstill for they transmit viruses. The old lily tigrinum is a virus carrier and should be planted in an isolated area so as not to infect your other lilies.

To recognize a show potential stem just take note of the lilies when they are emerging. When you see a nose pushing through that is as big as a horse, keep your eye on it. At this time you may want to talk to it if you are so inclined, encouraging it as much as possible. Come on you can do it. What a handsome spike you are going to make. As it grows watch to see that it becomes a uniform balanced spike with a good number of flowers. Check the

placement of flowers on the stem. Check the vigor and the condition, as you are wanting as near a perfect stem as possible.

Now you are ready to cut it and transport it to the show.

Showing your lily

All of you have the wonderful satisfaction of growing all of our favorite flower. We all have a sense of pride and accomplishment when we see them bud out and the first bloom appears. There is another high that you can experience in the lily saga and that is to show a stem or two in competition. What a thrill awaits you when you enter into this phase of the lily world. Here you find out how good a grower you are in comparison to like lily lovers and you can experience the excitement first hand when one of your entries receives a ribbon. However there is more to the game of showing lilies than just growing excellent specimens. Now the lilies have to be cut and transported safely to the show. Then at the show the final grooming and the placing them on the show bench takes place.

I have a show basket that I carry for grooming and getting the stems ready which I will share with you. Let's see what is in it. Here is my list.

- 1st secateurs
- 2nd wedges rhubarb or peanuts
- 3rd Razor blade or utility knife
- 4th scissors
- 5th Q-tips (cotton swabs)
- 6th Tweezers
- 7th Green marking pen
- 8th Entry tags
- 9th Pen
- 10th Stamp
- 11th Show schedule
- 12th Lily registry

There you have it a dozen items and if you want to have a baker's dozen the you might find a box of elastics and a box of pins.

Now that we have all our equipment ready it is time to cut the stem. Where to cut it is a problem when you are in the garden. Cut it so that you leave at least a third of the stem and foliage to feed the bulb for next year. I like to transport my stems in a soft drink case in bottles with water in

Flower Arranging for NALS 2005

them. Some use pails with chicken wire over the top to hold the stems. Another way is Styrofoam seedling starters wedged into a pail to hold the stems. Care must be taken so that the flowers are not bruised or damaged so spacing is important. Now lets get our show stem ready.

1st take the stem and look at it. Look for blemishes and damage. Strip off the bottom leaves. Take your cutters and cut off one half an inch from the bottom and place it in the holder.

2nd take your plastic peanuts and wedge the stem so that it stands strait.

3rd use the razor blade or knife to trim off aborted bud.

4th Use the scissors to trim ends of leaves that are brown or insect bites even a damaged flower

5th take the Q tip and clean any pollen that has dusted on the flower. A dampened Q tip can also be used to clean off bird droppings. Also spider webs and insect spray residue.

6th tweezers are used to remove spent leaves or other plant debris that may have gathered in the leaf axils.

7th use the green marking pen to color over where you cut off something or where there may be a spot of botrytis.

8th Now pick up your entry tag for you are now ready to fill it out. Here is where you need your pen and your stamp.

Consult your registry to find out what division your lily stem fits into. Now check the show schedule to find out where and what class it would be placed. Take your show tag and a elastic and place it on your entry. Now you are ready to place it on the show bench in the proper place.

For further information the booklet Showing Lilies a handbook for judges and exhibitors is an ideal reference.

Have you ever picked a Pansy, Rosebud or Lily that caught your eye outdoors and brought it inside to enjoy? Well if so, then you have arranged flowers in my book!

Granted you may not feel up to offering your services to the local F.T.D. florist, but I am certain that your arrangement brought pleasure to you and those in your household.

We arrange flowers many times without giving it a second thought-for a sick friend, an elderly shut-in, for Church, dinner parties , birthdays and sad times like funerals.

Flowers have always " spoken " to me and I can sympathize with those of you who cannot bear to cut or change the form of your beautiful lilies however, to me flower arranging is an extension of their beauty and a pleasing way to appreciate them when I cannot be outdoors.

We hope you join us in the Design portion of our N.A.L.S. presentation in July.

Believe me , you have the ability, here is the opportunity to participate. Looking forward to seeing you and your design entries at the Show .

Happy gardening, Susan LeBlanc.



LAST CALL FOR NORTHERN HORIZONS

By now, each of you will be in the daily ritual of inspecting your lily patch. We check for color, insect damage and of course we can already see which stems are going to produce the best flowers.

As I write this, I am on my way to Ontario to visit family. My last break before the NALS show this summer. The lilies are looking well. I would invite each member to seriously consider taking in a good part of the symposium. This is your chance to attend a NALS symposium at a very reasonable cost as for many of us, there are no travel or lodging costs.

Planning is going well. All committees are on schedule. We have a good number of volunteers but we may need more. If you would like to place your name on the list, contact me at 204-895-2212 or jrempel@mts.net.

To whet your appetite, I want to highlight the symposium events.

Speakers: On Thursday and Friday we have Jaap van Tuyl, Antra Balode, David Sims and Norgart Martschinke giving their presentations. Wilbert Ronald will be speaking at the awards banquet on Saturday.

Lily Show: If the weather co-operates I am looking forward to a great show. Keep an eye on your best stems and bring them to the show. If you are not too sure of what to do, there will be people available to help you. It is a great feeling to be able to pickup a ribbon or two, especially if it is the first time that you have entered a national show. If your passion is flower arranging, there is a place for you as well. Susan Leblanc and her committee are ready to assist you.

Tours: Spend time with fellow lily enthusiasts by visiting the English garden on Thursday evening

and then joining us for the tour of Jeffries Nurseries at Portage and the Lily Nook at Neepawa on Saturday.

Lily Boutique: We are planning on have a good variety of items for sale during the symposium. Of special interest will be some beautiful art posters, some imported as well as some beautiful ones created right here in Manitoba.

Banquets: there are two banquets that you can attend as well. The Research auction on Friday well and the awards banquet on Saturday when all of the major show awards are presented.

All of the information should be included in your newsletter. So look it over, send in your registration and have the time of your life.

Ps: don't forget, I need your help to have a 1000 lily stems on the show table by Friday morning.

John Rempel

Did you know?

"Fata Morgana" is the Italian name for Morgan le Fay (meaning "Morgan the Fairy"), the fairy sorceress of medieval legends. This half-sister of the legendary King Arthur is sometimes portrayed as living in a palace under water and is said to have had a number of magical powers, with which she caused a great deal of trouble. Among her powers, say some versions of the legends, was the ability to create mirages. She has been blamed for causing complex mirages over bodies of water, especially in the Strait of Messina. Today we know that such optical illusions are really caused by atmospheric conditions, but we still sometimes use "fata morgana" as a synonym of "mirage."

Based on Merriam Webster's Collegiate(R) Dictionary, 10th Edition.

Notices:

Rose Lacey Receives Award

Rose Lacey, a founding member of the Manitoba Lily Society was presented with the North American Lily Society regional medal by Barrie Strohman at the MRLS Spring Seminar. This medal is given for service to a regional society. Rose has served with many committees of the Manitoba Regional Lily Society and as served as the MRLS historian up to last year. At all the MRLS functions you could always see the smiling face of Rose behind the desk helping out. Thanks Rose, from all of the Society!!

Neepawa & Area Lily Show

For those interested in a show schedule for the Neepawa Lily Show on July 22nd -24th please contact Brent Hunter at 204-476-2108 and one will be mailed to you. Neepawa Lily Festival Web Site: www.lilyfestival.com

NALS 2005 — Open Gardens for Self-Guided Tours

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.

Please e-mail me at jacksonb@mts.net 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.

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 Questions?

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. All ideas are welcomed!

E-mail: nigel@lilynook.mb.ca or Phone: 476-3225

Question & Answer

Q: As a person new to lilies, what wild lilies or species would you recommend to start with?

A: One of the easiest species to grow is *L. pumilum* and *L. davidii*. Both of these lilies have been used extensively in hybridizing. *L. pumilum* is also easy to grow from seed. Both of these species have grassy style foliage.



Lily Trading Post



Looking for 'Startling', a Ed Robinson lily. Any one with a bulb or two please contact Barrie Strohman 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

Coming Events

North American Lily Society
58th Annual Lily Show

'Northern Horizons'

Hosted by Manitoba Regional Lily Society

July 13th - 17th 2005

Canad Inn - Polo Park

1405 St Matthews Ave, Winnipeg, MB

Info: www.manitobalilies.mb.ca

Neepawa & Area Lily Festival

Neepawa, MB - Lily Capital of the World

July 22nd - 24th, 2005

For festival details, To pre-book tours and events, please call us at (204) 476-8811 or toll-free 1-877-633-7292

Web Site: www.lilyfestival.com

MRLS Fall Bulb Sales

Location 1

Assiniboine Park

Conservatory Lobby

October 1st & 2nd, 2005

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Location 2

Town Centre Mall

Brandon, Manitoba

October 1st, 2005

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location 3

Dauphin Marketplace Mall

Dauphin, Manitoba

October 8th, 2005

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Fall Windup

Date: Oct 15th, 2005

Place: To Be Announced

Info: Details to follow in next newsletter

Canadian Prairie Lily Society Show

Date: July 22nd & 23rd

Place: Lawson Heights Mall,
134 Primrose Drive,
Saskatoon, SK

Info: Barbara Adams-Eichendorf
(306) 947-2830

South Saskatchewan Lily Society

Date: July 21st - 23rd

Place: Golden Mile Shopping Center,
Regina, SK.

Info: Phyllis Mueller (306) 545-1762

Alberta Regional Lily Society

Annual Martagon Lily Show

Date: July 9th & 10th

Place: Devonian Botanical Gardens,
west on the Yellowhead, then south
on Hwy #60. Devon, AB

A.R.L.S. 20th Annual Lily Show

Date: July 23rd & 24th

Place: Westmount Centre
111 Ave & Groat Rd,
Edmonton, AB

Info: Lil McLean (780) 467-2660

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS – 2005

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