



# Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

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Affiliated with the North American Lily Society

September 2007

## President's Message

Dear fellow lily enthusiasts;

As the 2007 lily season comes to an end I hope you all have had great successes with your lilies this year. It was a busy lily season which started off with the martagon exhibition show held at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory on July 1<sup>st</sup>, Canada day. It was great to see all the different martagon cultivars, 93 stems were on display. A beautiful explosion of color that in my mind (being a martagon fanatic), rivaled the fireworks that evening. The martagon show will be a new venue of the MRLS held every year and will defiantly add to the excitement of growing lilies.

In July the North American Lily Society annual show & convention was well attended by MRLS members. Some that brought many stems to enter into the show. Make sure you check out the article in this newsletter from Barbara-Jean to get all the details. Our regional lily society will be well represented on the NALS board with Ed Czarnecki being elected to the board, Sandy Venton staying on as recording secretary, and myself now taking on the position of NALS Canadian vice-president.

A week after the NALS show our Annual Lily show was held in conjunction with the Neepawa and Area Lily Festival. There was a good showing of the different divisions with even a few martagon stems amongst the 300+ stems. Of course, I hope you all were also able to get around to the various open gardens this year as the lilies were putting on quite a show even under the extreme heat conditions we had.

As Fall is now fast approaching it will soon be time to look at your gardens and see what varieties will need to be divided and if you have any of the Manitoba heritage lilies that you could donate or sell to MRLS

for their new heritage beds that will be set up. For you hybridizers it will be time to start checking your seed pods to see what exciting crosses you have done have taken. While you are surveying your gardens, take a look for that little space you can still find for I am sure you will need another bulb or two that you can pick up at one of the MRLS fall bulb sales. It is looking like a great selection of bulbs, maybe you will find that rare one you have been looking for. There will be a good Martagon selection, some for beginners and some for the collectors so make sure pick up one or two so you will be able to exhibit at the next Martagon show! Remember, you as a Manitoba Regional Lily Society member are entitled to 10% discount with your coupon included or membership card at the MRLS sponsored sales.

Last, a big THANK YOU! for all the members that volunteered, judged, participated or just attended our MRLS events to help make them all a success.

President, and your lily friend;  
Nigel Strohman

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## Martagon Exhibition Show

### First ever in Manitoba

By: Deb Petrie

Well folks, it has happened! Our first ever Martagon Exhibition Show was held at the Assiniboine Park Conservatory in Winnipeg on Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. As it was an exhibition only, no judging took place but there could have been judging as a lot of the stems brought in were of definite show quality.

There were a total of 93 stems on exhibit and they made a real impression in the space provided for our purpose. The sheer number of stems for a first time exhibition goes to show how many people actually grow and love martagons in our Society.

The stems were grouped by colour and every colour possible in a martagon was represented, from white to orange to pink and red and everything in between. There were species, named varieties, a few unknowns, and even seedlings represented.

The public also seemed to appreciate the display. Many who wandered through took a break from the Canada Day events to enjoy them. A lot of people asked questions and the society members present answered them with enthusiasm and a lot of knowledge. A membership table was there as well and while no new memberships were sold, I answered many questions on our society.

The accomplishment of this event in my opinion shows that our proposed judged Martagon show next season should be a resounding success.

### ***Did you Know???***

- \* *Feng Shui believers hold the lily as an emblem of summer and abundance;*
- \* *to the Chinese, lily means "Forever in love";*
- \* *Roman soldiers would take *L. candidum* with them on campaigns, as not only food, but also for making a salve for wounds and an ointment for burns from the bulbs.*
- \* *The presence of lilies at funerals symbolizes that the soul of the departed has received restored innocence after death.*

## NALS 2007 Diamond Jubilee

Edmonton, Alberta CANADA

July 11 to 15, 2007

By: B. J. Jackson

*(To be printed in the fall 2007 NALS Quarterly Bulletin)*

Where to begin? NALS 2007 has to be one of the best I have ever attended. The Alberta Regional Lily Society put on one heck of a convention and show for the 60<sup>th</sup> birthday of the North American Lily Society!

### **What will I remember about this event?**

#### **I will remember the speakers.**

- Crystal Ernst with her excellent information about the lily beetle. The beetle is in Manitoba as well as Alberta now and causing great concern among lily lovers. The presentation provided us with a great deal of information we can all use in our battle.

- Bill Doreen with his information about growing lilies for the florist trade "down under" in New Zealand. Having had the pleasure of visiting Bill's enterprise previously prior to his retirement, his talk gave us some insight into the growing of lilies we can never hope to have in our northern Canadian gardens but can enjoy just the same.

- Internationally known and talented flower arranger Ardith Beveridge on Creative Design with Lilies. A hands on presentation with the 'how to' of flower arranging. She is so talented and is able to present her knowledge clearly and understandably to her audience. I am not talented in any way in flower arranging and she made me feel that I could do it. Her creations were outstanding.

- Terry Willoughby on the history of Alberta grown lilies and the people behind them.

Being a history buff, I found Terry's presentation just too good for words. The background behind the lilies and the people was fascinating. Fred Tarlton, Fred Fellner, Eugene Fox, Dan Dale, Robert Simonet and others. These people were highlighted and their accomplishments in the lily world showcased. Terry is also a young and upcoming hybridizer himself and I know great things will be coming from him in future. Truly 'Diamonds in the North'.

**I will remember the show and all the wonderful lilies on display.**

I can truthfully say that I have never seen as many martagon lilies as were on display at this show at any other NALS show. It was amazing! Row after row and table after table of my favorite lilies. Fully one third of the stems on display were martagons, a total of 208 stems judged. Some people I talked to had only read about martagon lilies in books and it was a real treat for them to see them in real life, up close and personal. With a total of 604 stems, and 51 exhibitors, the exhibition hall at the Mayfield was truly a sight to behold for the 131 conference registrants not to mention all the members of the public who came out to view them. In the design division, 104 designs were judged and there were some amazing interpretations. Many of the designers were locally trained by ARLS's own designer extraordinaire, Marie Wenger. She is amazing!

**I will remember the tour gardens.**

An evening stroll through the Devonian Botanical Gardens with lily friends will not soon be forgotten. Seeing the featured the lily beds carefully tended by ARLS members with lilies in bloom and about to bloom was a highlight of this Thursday event.

The Saturday tours saw us visiting four gardens, three of private individuals and one commercial garden. Ieuan Evans, Wilf Maul and Shauna and Terry Willoughby's home gardens were wonderful and as different as night and day. Each prominently featured lilies in a variety of different settings. Each had its own individual character and all had what we wanted to see..... lilies. Lilies of every size, shape and description. Lilies hybridized by the owners or displayed in beautiful settings. It was a perfect day for a lily lover. And, Wilf Maul's strategically placed sprinkler made the heat and sunburn much easier to bear. The commercial garden, Kevin Frey's Estate Perennials, gave us a chance to see not only how the lilies are grown in a commercial garden, but also where a lot of hard earned lily dollars have been going in recent years.

**I will remember the banquets and dinners.**

The food at the Mayfield was amazing. Kudos to the banquets department for keeping our stomachs filled as we enjoyed the lilies!

The Research Auction raised what I am told is close to a record amount, more than \$8,000 Canadian funds. For the good cause it is, the items on offer were bid to heights not normally seen. I'm sure Doc Gilman and Kathy Strawsom (President of the ARLS) had something to do with getting the numbers that high. And at the awards banquet, the big treat outside of the awards was the performance by the Cheremosh dancers. Such energy, such vitality and such wonderful stories from Ukrainian history told through the magic of dance.

**I will remember the people.**

The lily friendships that were made at previous shows were renewed and new lily friends were made. My dear friend Norgart Martschinke from Germany whom I was sure I would never see again after NALS 2005 in Winnipeg surprised me by showing up with her companion Otto Beutnagel. I really do have to make the trip to see her in Germany. My best friends in the whole world, Shauna and Terry Willoughby. Lily friends Dolores Nelson, Frans and Sandy Officer, Diann Putland, Barbara Adams Eichendorf and others. My new lily friends Francine Nelson, Marianne Casey, Darm Crook, Joseph Nemmer and others too numerous to mention. Then, of course, there are the Manitoba people (we actually had enough of our board of directors there to hold an impromptu board meeting).

And finally, the people to whom this 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary show was dedicated who are no longer with us, Eugene Fox, Marv Joslin and Russell Bennett. They, too, will be remembered.

So, in closing, I just wanted to say, once again, thank you to the Alberta Regional Lily Society for putting on such a great anniversary show and convention. It was great and now it is time to look forward to British Columbia for next year!

*Asiatic  
Lily  
Lavender  
Ballerina  
Photo:  
B. J. Jackson*



**Manitoba Regional Lily Society**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Show Report**  
**Neepawa MB, July 20 – 22, 2007**

It was another great year for the Show under the big tent as a major part of the Neepawa and Area Lily Festival. Below are listed the stats and winners and thanks to all who made it such a great success:

Show Stems – 270  
Commercial Display Stems – 51  
Arrangements – 16

**Awards**

**Criddle Award - *Best Stem of a Cultivated lily Species***  
L. wilsonii – Brent Hunter

**Directors Award - *Best Stem in the Show***  
L. wilsonii – Brent Hunter

**Prairie Pride Award - *Best Stem in the Show***  
*Developed by a Prairie Breeder*  
Centuria – Diann Putland

**Ed Robinson Award - *Best Martagon in the Show***  
Rosalinda – Diann Putland

**William Silversides Award - *Best Named Asiatic Lily in the Show***  
Centuria – Diann Putland

**Dr. F. L. Skinner Award - *Best Stem Grown from Seed and Exhibited by the Breeder***  
Seedling – Richard Kulbacki

**Thomas and Lynn Smith Award - *Best Trumpet/Aurelian Lily in the Show***  
Unknown Aurelian – John Rempel

**Jean Ericksen Award - *Best Interspecific Hybrid (Div. VIII) in the Show (excluding L.A. Hybrids)***  
Easter Morn – John Rempel

**Gordon Danzinger Award - *Best L.A. Hybrid from Division VIII***  
Kentucky – Len Giesbrecht

**Junior Design Award - *Best Design in Section J***  
Down by the Old Mill Stream – Shelby Gillies

**Design Award - *Best Design in Section K***  
Seven Spanish Angels - Barb Witherspoon

**Orange Lodge Award - *Best Orange Lily in the Show***  
Unknown Asiatic – Brent Hunter

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**Radiant Glow...Where Are You?**

**By: Joan Svenson**

Radiant Glow is an upfacing asiatic lily that was raised and named by Ed Robinson at Wawanesa in 1956. In the classification book it is described as mauve red, centre paler; lightly spotted. Stems 1.0 m. July,

Now, after 51 years, do we know where it is? This lily was used extensively by Ed Robinson to produce other well-known lilies.

It was the mother of:  
Burgundy Rose (72)  
Copper Gold (71)  
Ivy Helen (69)  
Lightface (71)  
Radiant Pink (71)  
Tourmaline (72)

It was also the pollen parent of:  
Prairie Gold (62)  
Prairie Harvest (73)  
Prairie Treasure (69)  
Ribbon Bows (69)

Every one of the above offspring of Radiant Glow are important heritage lilies. Do you know where they are? We would like to put them into the MRLS Heritage Garden if we can find them.

**REMEMBER:** As you are cleaning up for fall and winter, have a look at your lilies and/or your neighbour's and see if you can share a couple bulbs of heritage lilies for the Heritage Garden.

Please call John or Joan Svenson at (204) 728 9036 or Barrie or Nigel Strohmman at (204) 476 3225 if you can help!

## **BULB SALE 2007**

*By: Ramona Crowther  
Bulb Sale Committee chair*

Bulb sale time is almost upon us! It is time to take stock of your bulbs and come prepared to look for that new 'must have' bulb in the exciting selection the Bulb Sale Committee has gathered together for you. They will be all in one place, with locations Winnipeg, Brandon and Dauphin. There will also be a crew of lily "people" with whom to share information and ask questions.

A featured "Special" this year is Burnett's Beauty, a newly registered, out-facing, black red asiatic lily by Alex Burnett from Alberta. This lily, formerly sold as Alex 8, will be available for \$8.00.

Another featured "Special" is Black Beauty, an orienpet with downfacing deep crimson flowers with white margins that reflex with a dark green star in the center for \$9.00.

Back by popular demand is the bulk bulb area that will have asiatics at amazing prices. And, bulk trumpet lilies at \$3.00 a piece.

We were able to secure martagon seedlings in a variety of colours. Some from Terry Willoughby who is an up and coming hybridizer from Alberta of martagons as well as asiatic lilies. This is a perfect way to start or expand your martagon collection for only \$10.00. What a way to start 2008 with a spring blooming martagon! We also secured an orienpet mix in a variety of colours for only \$8.00. Both are a great deal and you can try them without breaking the bank.

We will have a special raffle this year with proceeds going to the Cancer Care Manitoba for the asiatic lily Tobin hybridized by Terry Willoughby. This new asiatic hybrid has fade-resistant pink and ivory bicolored petals with a very intense pink nectary, large out-facing blooms, and stands 3.5' tall. The tickets will be \$1.00 each. The lucky winner will be drawn from the entries at all three sales locations and announced in the next newsletter. This bulb was donated by Estate Perennials Kevin Frey. Kevin is the exclusive distributor of this new lily.

Mail order is again available for those unable to visit the sale locations, however, not all varieties will be on the mail order list. Again this year we are offering 10% off to all MRLS members both on mail order and personal shopping (see coupon attached to newsletter). Please present your coupon to the cashier when paying for your purchases.

I look forward to seeing you all there!

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## **MRLS 2007**

### **Fall Bulb Sales** (9 a.m. to 4 p.m. all locations)

### **Winnipeg, Assiniboine Park Conservatory, September 29 and 30**

### **Brandon, The Town Center, September 29**

### **Dauphin, Marketplace Mall, October 6**

**Volunteers are needed to help dig  
bulbs at the Lily Nook  
on September 22nd.**

**If you can help,  
contact Ramona Crowther ,  
Bulb Sale Committee Chair  
at [rambo4546@shaw.ca](mailto:rambo4546@shaw.ca)**

## Notices:

### Judging School Up-date

The NALS judging school is a go for late winter, 2008. Location will be announced in the December newsletter so watch for it then!

If you are interested in the full or refresher program but haven't let anyone know yet, please contact Barrie Strohman at 476-3225. Accurate numbers are required to ensure availability of sufficient materials for all.

NALS has recommended that all accredited judges should take a refresher program to remain current in their status.

### Lily Trading Post

Looking for that special lily! Just drop me a note or email and we will publish your lily desires - jacksonb@mts.net or call 727 7409.

### NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

Please consider getting your newsletter by e-mail! All you need is a computer, an e-mail account and Adobe Acrobat Reader to receive it in pdf format. The trees we save will thank you, too!"

Sign up to get your newsletter by e-mail by sending a message to :

**nigel@lilynook.mb.ca**

### OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS – 2007

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