



Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

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Affiliated with the North American Lily Society

June, 2008

President's Message

With another growing season upon us, I am eagerly awaiting the first lilies to bloom this year.

Congratulations to all the new student judges who took the judges training school and to those already NALS accredited Judges who had a refresher. Thanks to Dr. Wilbert Ronald and Barrie Strohman for updating and presenting such a fine course that was enjoyed by all attendees.

The MRLS Spring seminar in Winnipeg was enjoyed by all who were able to attend despite the unspringlike weather. Our guest speaker Dr. Jim Ault from Chicago gave a couple of excellent talks on growing species and his breeding work. With the Annual board meeting there were no changes to the executive board.

The Martagon lilies are all looking healthy and some are over two feet now. Be sure to attend our annual Martagon show to be held at the Winnipeg conservatory, June 28th. Bring in a couple of Martagon stems if you can to make help make this show a success and maybe even win one of the fine awards. Please check out the Martagon show schedule included in your newsletter.

Next on a lily enthusiast agenda will be the North American Lily Society show and conference in Sidney, BC July 2-6th. With informative talks, lots of fellowship with other lily enthusiast from around the world and some exciting garden tours.

This year the MRLS summer show will be separate from the Neepawa Lily Festival show. First you can mark on your calendar the Neepawa & Area Lily Festival July 18-20th as well as make sure you pop in for a visit to the Lily Nook growing fields.

The 24th Annual Manitoba Regional Lily Show is the weekend after on July 26th in the Kildonan Park Shopping Centre so save some of your best stems for showing!

Best wishes for a great lily growing year and look forward to seeing you at some if not all of the summer events.

Nigel Strohman



An unknown martagon in the editor's garden.. Perhaps it will be identified at the martagon show! (BJ)

Inside:

<i>Open Gardens</i>	<i>p. 2</i>
<i>Heritage Garden Project</i>	<i>p. 3</i>
<i>Judging School Report</i>	<i>p. 4</i>
<i>MB Hybridizer, Phyllis Pierrepont</i>	<i>p. 4</i>
<i>Spring Seminar Report</i>	<i>p. 5</i>
<i>Notices/Events</i>	<i>p. 6</i>
<i>Officers & Directors</i>	<i>p. 7</i>

2008 Open Gardens

Ed. Note: The following MRLS members have agreed to have their gardens listed this year. If you have a chance, please drop by to see them this summer

Diann Putland, Hillcrest Harmony Flowers, Churchbridge SK

Dates: July 20 to August 5

Open from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM Tuesday to Saturday; 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM on Sundays. ALL OTHER TIMES by appointment only. Phone 306-896-2992 We invite you to visit us during the blooming season and tour our lily fields and flower beds. We have picnic facilities. If your hours do not coincide with ours we ask that you call ahead so we may be available to assist you.

Directions: If you are coming via highway number 16 turn south at the Liscard Road sign which is 3 km west of Churchbridge. Go south 7 km on the Liscard Road then turn west at the small Hillcrest sign and travel 1/4 km and you are there!.

Sylvia Grantham, 1025 Lockport Road, St. Andrews MB Village of Dreams Garden Tour

Dates: Saturday & Sunday, July 19 & 20

Admission: Donation to The Children's Wish Foundation

Please call Sylvia at 482 4932 to make alternate viewing arrangements if you can't make it on the dates above.

Directions: travel north from the Perimeter Highway down provincial highway #8 past St. Andrews Airport. Stay on #8 and go another 4 miles until you see a U-pic strawberry sign and a large white and blue sign that reads Manitoba's Interlake Inland Oceans. Turn left at the next road which is Lockport road. The 3rd house on the north side is 1025.

Description: Once solid prairie bush land, this garden features a large backyard lily garden as well as rose and clematis gardens, daylilies, peonies and hosta, a variety of garden accents, statuary and lawn ornaments. Features include the Fairy Woodland, Frying Pan Alley, Cannery Row, Gargoyle Gulch, Parrot Park, the Nautical Nook, Toad and Tupperware Trail and the Pet Cemetery.

Brandon University Lily Display Garden, 270-18th Street, Brandon MB

Open House Dates: Anytime in bloom season. Call 761 3972 if you would like a guide.

Directions: From No. 1 highway, turn south on 18th street (2nd set of lights coming from Winnipeg). Continue down 18th Street over the two bridges to Princess Avenue (the university will be on your right just ahead). A bit further south is the university entrance. Park in front of Clark Hall/Original Building and follow the sidewalk to the Brandon University sign.

Description: In its fifth full year, this garden contains a variety of asiatic, LA, orientpet, martagon and species lilies donated by the MRLS and university staff. The garden is accented with a hedge planting of alpine currant with 5 specimen weeping caragana marking the garden boundaries. Companion plantings of daylilies are interspersed throughout. A large bed of annuals surround the garden.

John Rempel, 590 Municipal Road, Winnipeg MB

Open House Dates: No formal dates, please call 895 2212 to make arrangements to view.

Directions: Municipal Road runs off Roblin Boulevard in Charleswood (West Winnipeg), about 2 kms east of the perimeter highway overpass.

Description: The garden features a large open area with in excess of 200 varieties of lilies. There are also plantings of gladiolus, dahlias and New Zealand delphiniums. Other flower beds showcasing hardy Morden roses as well as an assortment of fruit trees.

Beausejour Daylily Gardens, Beausejour MB

Open House Dates: No formal dates, please call Carol Bender at 268 3950 for information.

Directions: Located just 30 minutes from Winnipeg, drive 20 kms north on Highway 59 and 24 kms east on highway 44. Turn south into Beausejour. **Description:** Operated by the Friends of the Beausejour Daylily Park, the gardens feature 200 lily varieties, 300 daylily varieties as well as extensive iris plantings and dozens of peonies as well as other perennials, ornamental shrubs and prairie hardy fruit trees. Refreshments are available nearby.

Chris Kydon, 656 Academy Road, Winnipeg, MB

Open Garden Dates: No formal dates, please call Chris at 488 6178 to make arrangements to visit.

Description: The garden features a large number of lilies of various classifications that can be viewed throughout the season as well as significant companion plantings throughout.

2008 Open Gardens (continued)

John and Joan Svenson, 194 Clark Drive,
Brandon MB

Open House Dates: No formal dates, just drop in and have a look around if no one is home.

Directions: From No. 1 highway, turn south on 18th street (2nd set of lights coming from Winnipeg). Continue down 18th Street over the two bridges to Victoria Avenue. Turn west and proceed to Clark Drive. Turn north and 194 is on your left.

Description: The garden includes a top notch collection of labeled historic Patterson lilies as well as other lilies including some of John's seedlings.

Dr. Reg and Pat Gallop's Annual Field Day,
Sandy Bay MB

Date: Sunday, June 29, 2008

This year's event takes place at Dr Reg and Pat Gallop's cottage and gardens in Sandy Bay. There will be many martagon lilies to enjoy in a quiet, bushland setting on the eastern shore of Lake Winnipeg. Members and friends are welcome to come about mid-morning, preferably in pooled vehicles since parking is limited.

Directions: About 90 minutes from Winnipeg, proceed on Highway 59 north to Victoria Beach but do not turn in there. Instead proceed straight ahead on Highway 504 and turn left at McCawley Road, then left at McCord Drive and look for GALLOP at #23 on the lake side. Drivers will then be shown where to park as approved by the Victoria Beach Police. Lunch is part of the tradition and Reg and Pat will supply the barbequed chicken. Guests supply the rest. Please arrange with your accompanying friends to achieve a good balance of items from salads, cooked items, drinks and desserts. Home cooked items are always welcome. Coffee, tea, plastic cutlery, glasses, paper plates, napkins, etc. will be supplied.

NOTE: In order to ensure enough supplies are on hand, please call 475-4144 or 756-3788 if you expect to attend. Or, you can e-mail Reg and Pat at ragallop@mts.net.

The Birchwood Motor Hotel, on Highway 59, at Traverse Bay, (Ph: 204 756 2596), has rooms at \$69, \$79, and \$99 per night should any of our country members coming in for the Martagon Show on the 28th wish to stay over.

HERITAGE LILY GARDEN REPORT

Now is a good time to be watching for the "old" lilies in your garden or community. These beauties will be blooming in July and need your attention.

Maybe it is an "old" lily that came from your parents' garden or it is still at the "old" place and proudly blooms every year, but you don't know its name. Let us know and we can have someone visit you and try to get it identified.

Considering the location of some of our early hybridizers, we should be especially vigilant around the Wawanesa area because Ed Robinson developed and sold over 100 different varieties.

Further north, there will be over 40 varieties of "old" lilies which were hybridized and sold by Frank Skinner at Dropmore. Some of these lilies are still at "old" farmsteads and need to be noted for future reference and hopefully shared with the heritage garden.

We have planted about 40 varieties in the Heritage Lily Garden, but that is only a small number out of a potential of at least 200 varieties. We need everyone's help to keep this project expanding. We have a wonderful location beside the lane into the Lily Nook and there will be signage for everyone's convenience. Each variety will have a named stake beside it.

If you find yourself in the area this summer, check out the MRLS Heritage Lily Garden and leave any information about other varieties that we are looking for.

Please contact John and Joan Svenson (728-9036) or Nigel and Barry Strohmman (476-3225) for further information.



Manitoba Hybridizer Phyllis Pierrepon
(By Joan Svenson)

Phyllis lives at Bowsman, Manitoba and was instrumental hybridizing an Asiatic lily that has since been named 'Phyllis Irene'. She has been active and very involved in many aspects of Horticulture. She will long be known as a lady of versatility in the garden and field. She was born and raised in the Swan River Valley and married Ernie in 1945 but was widowed 17 years later. Phyllis continued farming and raised her two daughters. She continues to live on the same farm and gardening has been her passion.

Phyllis has always kept immaculate records of her gardening experiences and has contributed to scientific knowledge of annual and perennial flowers, trees, shrubs and vegetables. She has worked with hundreds of varieties, tracking resistance to disease and insects, days to maturity and even flavor and freezing quality of her product. For several years, Phyllis grew, maintained and evaluated test plots for the University of Manitoba.

In 1947, she planted her first lily bulb and was soon hooked on lilies and her patch grew to over a thousand stems. She moved on to hybridizing which resulted in growing lilies from her own seed. Phyllis showed her lovely and unique lilies at local fairs and horticulture shows as well as regional lily shows and the North American Lily Show. To share her beautiful lilies, Phyllis has hosted open house at her farm on numerous occasions.

Phyllis has freely shared her knowledge by writing articles for various Lily Society newsletters, Grain News, The Prairie Garden and the 1998 North American Lily Society yearbook. In 2000, Phyllis Pierrepon was the first recipient of the Prairie Garden Award of Excellence.

The lily 'Phyllis Irene' was hybridized by Phyllis Pierrepon. It was named, introduced and registered by Hillcrest Harmony Flowers in 1998. It has large yellow blooms with small dark purple-red brush marks and elongated reddish spots. It is 1a in orientation (upfacing) and is 1m (3 feet) tall.

Judges School Report

Judges school proved to be really successful. Held in Portage la Prairie's CanadInn and under the able direction and teaching of the dynamic duo, Dr Wilbert Ronald and Barrie Strohman, course one and course two was covered and reviewed.

Seventeen participants paid close attention with several N.A.L.S. judges taking it as a refresher course and several taking it to start them on the road to becoming accredited lily judges. Fourteen responded by taking the exam with all receiving passing marks. Congratulations to all!

To those that wish to continue and become student judges, course three will be held at the Neepawa lily show July 18 at 8 a.m. at the lily show tent. For those that cannot make that show, course three will be offered once more at the annual MRLS show at the Kildonan Place mall on Regent Avenue on July 26 at 8:30 a.m.

Please notify Barrie Strohman at 204 476 3225 if you plan on taking course three and which location you will be attending. There is no charge for this final course.

Spring Seminar 2008

Spring seminar 2008 has come and gone and as I write this, the martagons are up and the asiatics are having their first peek at the world. The seminar is our official kickoff for the lily season as long time friends and newcomers mingle to enjoy each others company as well as listen to the program presenters.

The seminar was held on March 29 at the Holiday Inn Airport West in Winnipeg. The day started with a forecast of bad weather, heavy snowfall warnings etc. Fortunately we escaped the brunt of the storm and everyone got home safely.

Our feature speaker this year was Dr. Jim Ault from the Chicago Botanical Garden. He gave several interesting and entertaining presentations on the use of species lilies in breeding as well as how he uses them in his own breeding work. Jim is one of those lily people who go all out when they get started in lilies. In a time of 7 years he went from no lilies to pollen dabbling and a collection of over a 1000 lilies in his personal garden.

Our other presenter was myself. I spoke on growing lilies in Manitoba using my own experiences of successfully growing many types of lilies in our zone 3 climate.

An important part of each seminar is eating. Two coffee breaks and a fine lunch provided plenty of time to catch up on friendships that had laid dormant over the winter months.

The spring bulb sale is always an exciting part of the meeting as members scour the tables for “must have” additions to their collections. As usual, Barrie and Nigel did a great job on supplying lily bulbs.

Thank you to all who helped make the day a success. It was my first time in coordinating a spring seminar so I appreciated the help I received. Have a great summer and I’ll see you at the Martagon show in June.

John Rempel



Asiatic ‘Creamy Bells’ in Brandon University Display Garden (Photo: B. J. Jackson)



L. philadelphicum in Riding Mountain National Park

2006 Popularity Poll Winners

(2007 currently being tabulated)

1. Anastasia
2. Iowa Rose
3. Pizazz
4. Landini
5. Citronella
6. Easter Morn & Starburst Sensation (tie)
7. Claude Shride
8. Arabesque & Conca d'Or (tie)
9. Triumphator
10. Angela North

Notices:

Lily Trading Post

An out-of-province member is currently seeking Raspberry Butterflies (1b) asiatic. Please contact the editor at jacksonb@mts.net if you can put me in touch with a source for this lily.

NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

Increasingly people want color in their newsletters. In order to see that color, because of the high cost of color printing, receiving your newsletter by e-mail will allow you to see any pictures, etc. in color. 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! Sign up to get your newsletter by e-mail by sending a message to :
nigel@lilynook.mb.ca

Upcoming Events

MARTAGON SHOW - Saturday, June 28, 2008

Assiniboine Park Conservatory, Show Chair Sandy Venton

Show Schedule will be available on the website (www.manitobalilies.ca)

(See show schedule insert in this newsletter)

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NALS 2008 CONFERENCE AND SHOW

Wednesday, July 2 to Sunday, July 6, 2008

Location: Sidney, British Columbia at the Mary Winspear Centre

For more information see www.nals2008.org

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24th ANNUAL MRLS SHOW

July 26th, 2008

Kildonan Place Shopping Centre,

1555 Regent Avenue West, Winnipeg

Show Schedule will be available on the website (www.manitobalilies.ca)

(See show schedule insert in this newsletter)

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FALL BULB SALES

Saturday, September 27, 2008 - Winnipeg

Saturday, October 4, 2008 - Brandon

Saturday, October 11, 2008 - Dauphin

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS – 2007

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