



# Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

Volume 29, Issue 1

*Affiliated with the North American Lily Society*

March, 2012

## President's Message

Happy New Year everyone! Time has turned the corner on 2012 and we are all looking forward to this year's premier event, the 65th Annual North American Lily Society's Show and Conference "MANITOBA MOMENTS". This is our chance to show other members and visitors all the wonderful lily moments Manitoba can offer!

We have had some strange weather this year but I am optimistic things will work out well for a great crop of lilies for you to enter into the show.

If you haven't cut and shown lilies before, don't despair. John Rempel will be teaching us all the ins and outs of showing great stems at this year's Spring Seminar, and for you designers out there, our own Susan LeBlanc is going to unravel the mysteries of designing with lilies. So come out to the seminar to get prepared for the best NALS show ever and share in the unique and exciting Manitoba Moments to come.

Featured presentations at the Spring Seminar will be given by current NALS president Ieuan Evans. Ieuan developed the Evans Cherry many of us grow and has hybridized lilies for more than eleven years, focusing most of his efforts on martagons. Knowing Ieuan, his time at the mike will be both informative and entertaining.

2012 will also see the MRLS at the Friends of Gardens Manitoba's "Gardening Saturday" on March 31st. A panel presentation will be followed by a question and answer period for the audience. So come out and support both the MRLS and the Friends of Gardens Manitoba and don't forget to bring your questions! We are also providing an information, membership and sale table at the event. Volunteers are needed for the sale booth so if you have the time

to help out contact Deborah Petrie at [petrie@mymts.net](mailto:petrie@mymts.net). More information can be found at [www.gardensmanitoba.com/](http://www.gardensmanitoba.com/).

It promises to be a very busy season to come, and I hope to meet many new members at all of these upcoming events.



## Inside:

<i>Spring Seminar</i> .....	2 & 3
<i>Library News</i> .....	4
<i>MHA's Victorian Garden Party</i> .....	5 & 6
<i>Notices</i> .....	7
<i>Officers &amp; Directors Listing</i> .....	8
<i>NALS Pamphlet</i> .....	Enclosed
<i>NALS Registration Form</i> .....	Enclosed
<i>Seminar Registration Form</i> .....	Enclosed

# Spring Seminar 2012

The 2012 Manitoba Regional Lily Society Spring Seminar will be held at the Canad Inn in Portage la Prairie on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (see full program on page 3 and registration form included with this newsletter).

Our keynote guest speaker will be Dr. Ieuan Evans from Spruce Grove, Alberta, who is a noted hybridizer, both of martagon and asiatic lilies (see extended bio below). He will give 2 talks – the first in the morning will be on asiatic lilies and hybridizing, and the second, which will take place after lunch, will be about martagon lilies and hybridizing.

Susan LeBlanc from St. Francois Xavier will give a demonstration about making designs for all lily shows, and John Rempel from Winnipeg will let us know about showing lilies for both regional and national shows, and how there is no difference in the way they are groomed for display.

Lunch will be served at noon sharp with a bulb sale to be held right after. This will be followed by the Annual General Meeting wherein nominations for officers and directors will be taken and a by-laws amendment will be considered.

A silent auction will be held, and draws will be made after the afternoon coffee break.

We hope that you will attend, as this Spring Seminar promises to be both entertaining and instructional.



This year, our guest speaker is Dr. Ieuan Evan. He will speak about his lily hybridizing with Asiatic martagon lilies. Dr. Evan now lives in Spruce Grove, AB, but he started his life on a farm in a Welsh speaking, fishing and mining village in South West Wales.

With an interest in various sports during high school and university, Ieuan graduated from university with honours in Chemistry and Agriculture. He continued his education at the University of Florida, graduating with a PhD in Plant Pathology and Medical Biochemistry. His work experience included potato picker, turkey killer, demolition labourer and scaffolder's assistant on high rises, before becoming an assistant Professor at the University of Guelph. Then he worked as the Provincial Plant Disease Specialist for Albert Agriculture, until he retired in 2002.

He has published extensively on diseases of field crops, horticultural crops and turf grasses. He has had highly successful research inputs on Bacterial Ring Rot of Potatoes, Fire Blight of fruits, Blackleg of Canola, Dutch Elm Disease, Ergot and Melanosis of cereals, Fusarium of Cereals and other diseases. He has written chapters in textbooks and numerous published fact sheets and booklets. After all this, Ieuan still had time to take up serious lily growing in the early 1990's, mainly with martagons! He has almost 100 martagons that could potentially be registered as new varieties! All were selected from tens of thousands of seedlings planted from seed of named varieties. Despite his career, publications, and his success with lilies, he is still best know for the Evans Cherry, that grows in the millions across Canada and the US.

**MANITOBA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY**  
**SPRING SEMINAR AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2012**

Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012

CanadInn

2401 Saskatchewan Ave W, Portage la Prairie, MB,  
Registration - \$30.00 - Includes coffee breaks and lunch.

**PROGRAM**

8:30 - Registration / Coffee / Socializing

9:00 - Welcome by President – *Deborah Petrie*

9:15 – Lilies; Asiatics and Hybridizing– *Dr. Ieuan Evans*

10:15 - COFFEE BREAK & SOCIALIZING

10:30 - Showing Lilies, Local and International (there is really no difference) – *John Rempel*

11:15 - Designing for all Lily Shows – *Susan Leblanc*

12:00 – LUNCH, SOCIALIZING, FOLLOWED BY SPRING BULB SALE

1:30 - MRLS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Nominations for Officers & Directors and Amendment to By-laws (see Notice below)

2:00 – Martagons and Martagon Hybrtidizing – *Dr Ieuan Evans*

3:00 - COFFEE BREAK & SOCIALIZING

3:15 – Pick-a-Prize Draws

4:00 - Closing

**Proposed Amendment to By-laws**  
**Article 6 - Officers**

The Manitoba Regional Lily Society is proposing a change to the duties of the Vice President. This requires an amendment to our bylaws.

Historically it has been informally accepted that the VP will coordinate the Spring Seminar and now that we have added to our annual schedule of events the “Awards Pot Luck and Windup” event the BOD would like to clarify and add this to the VP’s duties.

**Motion to be presented to AGM**

Amendment to Article 6, #2 Vice President

Existing Bylaw: The Vice-President shall take the place of the President in his (her) absence.

Proposed Bylaw: The Vice-President shall;

- a) take the place of the President in his (her) absence
- b) coordinate all aspects of the Spring Seminar and Awards Windup, delegating tasks as deemed appropriate.



# MRLS Library News!

*(By: Len Giesbrecht)*

I have a few words on the Library for you. In the last issue, I featured many of the assorted and different Lilium books we have available in our Library. Below is a picture of some of them. In that issue, I also promised some further information on the Lily Yearbooks we have. These include the North American Lily Society Yearbooks going back to the 1940s and the Royal Horticultural Society Lily Group Yearbooks back to the 1930s.

It is a wonder just how relevant some of these old articles still are. The propagating practices of the 50s and 60s are still much the same as now. They had deer and rabbit problems then, too, and there are quite a few ideas on how to deal with these and other Lily problems we still have today.

Our own John Rempel has a great article on "The Red Menace" as he so aptly refers to the Red Lily Beetle. There are items on the latest embryo rescue and tissue culture techniques, as well as articles on our rich history of Canadian hybridizers, and news on the latest creations, the OTs, Asiapets and the newest advances in crossing Martagons and Asiatic Lilies (Martasians).

Writers from all over the world including Europe, Japan, Australia with as many different views concerning the same Lilies we grow in our gardens.

I will be bringing all these books to the upcoming Spring Seminar and invite you to stop by and take a look. A reminder to those with outstanding books, please bring them to the Seminar so we can bring our records up to date.



# Manitoba's Horticultural Association's Victorian Garden Party

*By: Brenda Newton*

*(Editor's Note: Our newest Board of Directors member is also a delegate to the MHA and I thought our members might be interested in reading this report she submitted)*

I had the privilege of attending the Manitoba Horticultural Association annual convention in Selkirk, Manitoba from January 26-28, 2012 as one of the delegates from our garden club, the Westman Gardeners. We sat in on all the business meetings as well as all the special speakers throughout the three day event. The theme this year was a Victorian Garden Party.

After we registered on Thursday evening we listened to the guest speaker for the evening, Shirley Froehlich, the owner of Prairie Originals Native Plant Nursery from East Selkirk. Shirley talked about a variety of creatures that we will find in our gardens as well as many wildflowers that grow in Manitoba.

The highlight of the evening for me was the MHA print competition results. The winners from each of the 18 categories had taken some amazing photos this year. Friday's speakers started off with Gwen Beam demonstrating how to make a 'Living Picture'. As Gwen filled the window box with various succulents she talked about what kind of soil to use, how often to fertilize and water, and the winter care of the succulents used in the window box.

Jennifer Bisch and Barb McEwan represented the Dalnavert Museum in Winnipeg. Jennifer gave an interesting talk on the history of the house while Barb talked about how they researched and chose the plant material that they will be using in the various flowerbeds around the house. Lyndon Penner, a CBC Radio Gardening Columnist from Calgary, was a very entertaining speaker. His perspective on container gardening was very non-traditional. Absolutely no dracaena spikes or petunias should be used, rather we were told to find various unique grasses for the center of the container and to use perennials, tropicals and even shrubs as well.

Brent Hunter, from Beyond the Garden Gate, a floral shop in Neepawa (and an MRLS director), showed us various types of Victorian flower arrangements. Victorian flowers he used included roses, ferns, daisies, lilies, and chrysanthemums. These arrangements were later auctioned off. The mid-afternoon costume contest had lots of entries. Ladies in Victorian dresses from practical everyday wear to evening gowns as well as the men in their formal wear were modeled for all to see, judged and then photographed in a group picture.

Lew and Tammy Wallace, of Honker Flats Designer Glads from northern Minnesota, spoke on the gladiolas. Lew talked about glads, from their classifications, planting, growing, harvesting and winter storage, and then amazed us with pictures of the glads in floral arrangements that

they have made for weddings, glad shows and other events.

Friday's evening started with a banquet with the tables decorated with dried floral arrangements, lace doilies and china cups (which we were to take home later). After the banquet we were entertained by a band, the Old Thyme Friends. The Great Gardener's Auction took place, auctioning off items previously donated by the various gardening clubs and the monies raised will offset expenses of this year's convention.

Saturday morning's first session was a Q & A session with some of the speakers as the experts. Then, Hugh Skinner gave an hour promo about his new book that he co-wrote with Sara Williams, called Gardening Naturally. In the presentation he talked about methods of disease control and also controlling insects, for example...using row covers, mulching, composting, and removing diseased plant material.

Sandy Venton and Fran Wershler gave a presentation about the upcoming North American Lily Society Annual conference from July 11-15 in Winnipeg, encouraging us to all attend as there will be special speakers, tours and other events taking place with the conference.

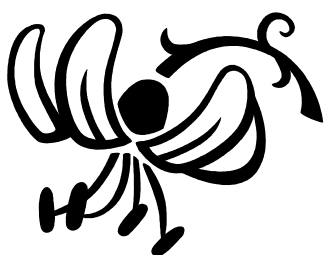
Miles Duncan from St. Mary's Nursery showed us the annuals, perennials, trees and shrubs that will be new to their nursery this year. One perennial I am interested in getting, that he showed, was Cherry Cola from the Soda Pop series of Heuchera.

Lyndon Penner once again spoke to the group, but this time on Colour in the Garden. He felt that all gardens needed to look like they were planned. He felt that it was important to know how to use color in the garden during the different times of the year. He then showed us various plants (foliage and flowers) for each color.

The final presenter was Mandy Botincan from Mandy's Greenhouses in Garson. Mandy has a love of alpine plants and showed us many of the beautiful miniature alpine plants that she grows and sells from her place.

The MHA Company Store was a very popular place to shop as they sold various gardening items such as hats, plants, glad bulbs, lily bulbs, magazines and books, seeds as well as gardening gloves and greeting cards. Everyone went home with something from the Store that week.

I really enjoyed this conference. I am sure that next year's MHA conference in Brandon with its Out of Africa theme will be just as worthwhile.





# NOTICES

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Manitoba Regional Lily Society is hosting an information and sale table with the Can-West Iris Society at the Friends of Gardens Manitoba's "Gardening Saturday" on March the 31<sup>st</sup> 2012. We need volunteers to help man this table from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. We require at least two more people for the time period from 2:30 until 4:00. If you can help out for even an hour or two please contact Deborah Petrie at [petrie@mymts.net](mailto:petrie@mymts.net) or 726-0245.

## MRLS Membership Renewals Are Now Due

If you received a renewal notice with the December issue of the newsletter and have not renewed yet, your membership has expired and this will be your last newsletter. Please contact Marlene Puls to renew (204 269 3499). For those who receive the newsletter electronically, Marlene will be able to let you know when you are due for renewal. If you would like to be added to or removed from the electronic mailing, please contact Nigel Strohman at [info@lilynook.mb.ca](mailto:info@lilynook.mb.ca).

## Post NALS Conference and Show Self-Guided Tours

Would you be willing to have our NALS Conference and Show guests visit your garden? We are looking for members to open their gardens for self-guided tours Sunday, July 15th.

For everyone who wishes to have their gardens included, the information that is 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 your information to Sandy Venton ([felix1@mts.net](mailto:felix1@mts.net)) with the subject line of Open Gardens NALS 2012.

If you do not have access to a computer, please call Sandy at 204 888 2837.

Let's show our visitors a wonderful time visiting our members private gardens following the major festivities!

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS – 2012

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Deborah Petrie	SECRETARY	Sandy Venton
VICE-PRESIDENT	Ted Sobkowich	TREASURER	Marlene Puls
NEWSLETTER	Barbara Jean Jackson	PAST PRESIDENT	John Rempel

DIRECTORS

Brenda Newton	Ed Czarnecki
Gwen Jamieson	Len Giesbrecht
Brent Hunter	Nigel Strohman

HONORARY DIRECTORS

Dr. Wilbert Ronald, Lynn Collicutt

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

John Rempel, Chair: Dr. Wilbert Ronald, Nigel Strohman, Sandy Venton, Ed Czarnecki

LIBRARY

Len Giesbrecht

SEMINAR

Ted Sobkowich

HISTORIAN

Gwen Jamieson

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

CZARNECKI, Ed	889-5730 Home e-mail: <a href="mailto:eczarnecki@shaw.ca">eczarnecki@shaw.ca</a>
GIESBRECHT, Len	257-6666 ext. 280 Business 261-9832 Home e-mail: <a href="mailto:lengiesb@hotmail.com">lengiesb@hotmail.com</a>
HUNTER, Brent	(204) 368-2346 e-mail: <a href="mailto:brenthunter@mts.net">brenthunter@mts.net</a>
JAMIESON, Gwen	888-2150 Home e-mail: <a href="mailto:bowhill21@shaw.ca">bowhill21@shaw.ca</a>
JACKSON, Barbara Jean	(204) 725-4696 Home e-mail: <a href="mailto:jacksonb@mtmts.net">jacksonb@mtmts.net</a>
NEWTON, Brenda	(204) 725-2883 Home (204) 761-6501 Cell e-mail: <a href="mailto:valleyrimgirl@inetlinkwireless.ca">valleyrimgirl@inetlinkwireless.ca</a>
PETRIE, Deborah	(204) 726-0245 e-mail: <a href="mailto:petrie@mymts.net">petrie@mymts.net</a>
PULS, Marlene	(204) 269-3499 Home e-mail: <a href="mailto:mmp99m@mymts.net">mmp99m@mymts.net</a>
REMPEL, John	(204) 895-2212 e-mail: <a href="mailto:jrempel@mymts.net">jrempel@mymts.net</a>
RONALD, Wilbert	(204) 857-5288 Business (204) 239-1818 Home e-mail: <a href="mailto:wilbert.ronald@jeffriesnurseries.com">wilbert.ronald@jeffriesnurseries.com</a>
SOBKOWICH, Ted	<a href="mailto:ts23@mymts.net">ts23@mymts.net</a>
STROHMAN, Nigel	(204) 476-2536 Home e-mail: <a href="mailto:info@lilynook.mb.ca">info@lilynook.mb.ca</a>
VENTON, Sandy	888-2837 Home e-mail: <a href="mailto:felix1@mts.net">felix1@mts.net</a>