



Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

Volume 29, Issue 2

Affiliated with the North American Lily Society

June, 2012

President's Message

The Lily season started this year with the MRLS hosting a table at the Friends of Garden Manitoba's "Gardening Saturday". The event was a successful promotional day for both the MRLS and the upcoming MRLS sponsored North American Lily Society's Show and Conference July 11 to 15. See the event report further on in this newsletter for details.

The Spring Seminar this year was partially dedicated to preparing for the upcoming NALS 2012 show and conference, "Manitoba Moments" in July. Past Presidents John Rempel and Susan Leblanc presented on preparing lilies for show and designing with lilies respectively. I expect to see some of their tricks and tips on the display floor of the show. Iuean Evans gave two entertaining and informative talks about growing and hybridizing both Asiatics and Martagon lilies. His always entertaining and sometimes unconventional opinions still have me chuckling and also thinking about my own lily culture practices.

The NALS 2012 Show Committee has been planning and executing these plans for the last two years and things are coming together now for an entertaining and informative event. There will be speakers from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Latvia as well as tours to The Lily Nook, The Leo Moll Gardens at Assiniboine Park and Merlebleu, an MRLS member's garden that is also an iris display garden for the AIS. There will be many ways to participate in the show, from showing lily stems and designs to taking in the seminars and tours offered. It promises to be an unforgettable event.

2012 promises to be a busy year with MRLS judges assisting with the judging at the Neepawa Lily Festival, July 20th to 22nd as the next lily related event after the convention.

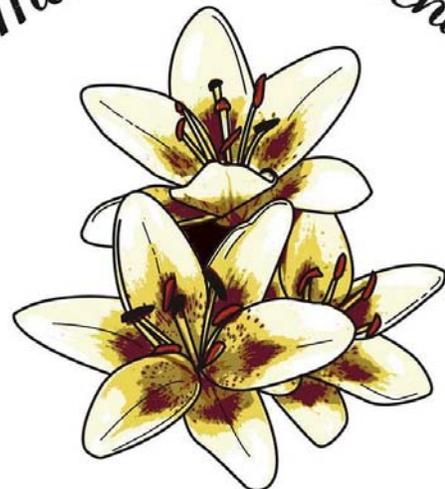
Then it is on to the fall bulb sales in Winnipeg, Brandon and Dauphin, see www.manitobalilies.ca for further details as the time approaches.

The Lily Windup this year will be a very informal evening with a different format. Stay tuned to the newsletter for further details on this event.

With the weather so confused and unusual this spring, it will be a challenge to Manitoba lily growers to have great stems to show in July but I know our members will come through and put on a fine display for our visitors. I hope to meet members both new and old at this our "Manitoba Moment"! See you all there!

Deborah Petrie

Manitoba Moments



NALS 2012
Manitoba Regional Lily Society
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Spring Seminar Report 2012

(By: Ted Sobkowich, MRLS Vice-President)

We gathered in Portage la Prairie this year on April 14th to hear Dr Ieuan Evans. Dr Evans discussed his Asiatic lily breeding and his martagon lily breeding and culture. He gave us some great hints on growing martagons and lilies in general. From his hundreds and hundreds of martagon, brought open pollinated seed, to share with anyone who wanted to try martagons from seed.

Our past-president, John Remple, spoke on showing lilies. John shared his knowledge and secrets on how to groom a lily stem for a lily show, which we can try at the NALS Show, this summer in Winnipeg. Showing a stem at a NALS show is not that different from our own shows and at the Neepawa Lily Festival show.

The third speaker was Susan LeBlanc, a former past-president. Susan showed us how to put together a floral arrangement for a lily show. Everyone's interpretation of the various design themes makes it very interesting. You don't have to be a floral designer to enter the NALS floral Design section. Give it a try!

After lunch and the looked-forward-to Bulb sale, the business part of the spring seminar was held. With MRLS hosting NALS 2012 this year, all were encouraged to attend and enter some lilies in the stem and design sections, making it a Manitoba Moment!

MRLS 2012 Spring seminar concluded with a silent auction and many happy faces.



*Top: Wilbert Ronald and keynote speaker Ieuan Evans
Left: Silent Auction Table
Right: Susan Leblanc explains the art of artistic design*

Mother's Day Sale

by Ramona Crowther (Bulb Sale Chair)

The weather outside was...well we didn't care this year, as we had a great display set up indoors for the Mother's Day Sale with our host the Friends of Gardens Manitoba. We had a great selection of bulbs from the Lily Nook and just a few potted lilies. The crew of Sandy Venton, Gwen Jamieson, Len Giesbrecht and I promoted the upcoming hosting of NALS, the fall sales and answered all the queries about lilies, especially controlling the dreaded beetle. We had only a few bulbs left and some very nice smiling customers who know much more about lilies now. Thank you to our host and we hope all have a great growing summer – see you at NALS.

The next bulb sales will be in the fall. Stay tuned for further information in the September newsletter!



Len Giesbrecht is surrounded by blooming lilies at the Mother's Day Plant Sale May 13th

MRLS at Gardening Saturday

(By: Deborah Petrie)

The Manitoba Regional Lily Society hosted an information and sale table in this year's Friends of Gardens Manitoba's "Gardening Saturday" on March 31st. The event was a promotional success for our group with many visitors stopping by to learn about lilies or to purchase either the potted or bagged lily bulbs that were offered. I personally met and spoke to many individuals about lilies and gardening in general. It was a great way to make connections in the local gardening community as well. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out, your time and talent is greatly appreciated.

The MRLS's NALS 2012 Committee also gave a presentation on lilies and the upcoming NALS show at the event. Over 50 people attended the presentation which was well received. Many questions were asked and answered afterward.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow presenters Sandra Venton and John Rempel for their knowledgeable and enthusiastic participation in the presentation.

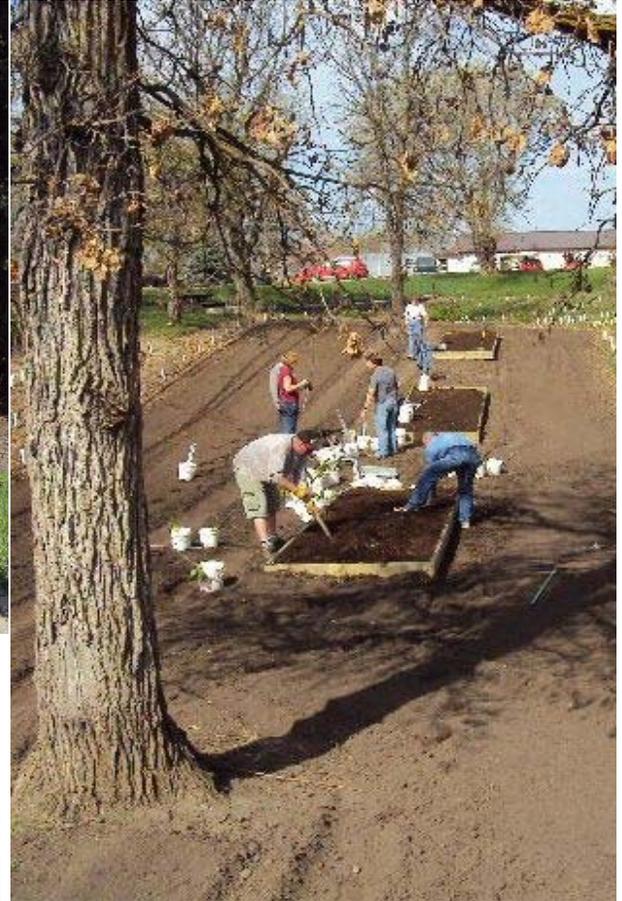
MRLS Heritage Garden Moved

(By: B. J. Jackson)

On Thursday, May 10th, several MRLS members gathered at the Lily Nook to assist in the moving of the heritage garden material to a new location. The lilies had not been performing well in their current location so Nigel Strohmman built them a new home in raised beds as part of the Lily Nook display gardens. We dug from the old garden and replanted them in the new garden. Many hands made short work and we finished just in time for lunch!



Ramona Crowther (left) and Tanis Taylor (right) move lily bulbs from the old garden location.



The whole gang replanting various divisions in their individual beds



Brenda Newton (left) and Lauren Wilken (right) replanting lilies in the new beds.



Nigel Strohmman Carries replacement bulbs to the new garden area. .

Member Passings

Since the last newsletter in March, we were saddened to hear of the passing of two long time members of the Manitoba Regional Lily Society.



Rose Lacey, long time MRLS Historian, passed away on March 27th at the age of 92. Rose was a fixture at MRLS events, even when she could no longer keep a garden of her own. In recent years, she had resided at The Convalescent Home of Winnipeg and her grandson brought her to the events. This photo shows Rose at the last MRLS Spring Seminar she attended.

Cecil McCullough passed away on April 28th at age 84 at Third Crossing Manor in Gladstone. Catherine Isbister remembers that she met Cecil when she and Ray moved to Austin many years ago and became interested in lilies. “He introduced me to the Lily Nook, the Strohmans as well as the MRLS. Cecil was a very generous person and I came home with a handful of Pink Champagne bulbils along with instructions on how to care for them. I treasure them greatly and there will always be a place here for them.”, she writes.

John Rempel remembers first meeting Cecil in the early days of the Neepawa Lily Festival. “I was impressed with how he was able to show OT's in the middle of July. I visited with him several times while he was in good health and still in his home (in Austin, my home town). He was a gracious host and showed me how he grew his OT's”.

MRLS extends its sincere sympathy to both families.

The Lily Nook Open Gardens

The Lily Nook is open for visitors from July 2nd to 31st, 2012. During the annual Neepawa and Area Lily Festival (July 20th to 22nd), the Lily Nook will be open to the public for visiting not just the on-site show gardens but also the growing fields just down the road. That full week the growing fields are open to the public to walk through and enjoy the vast color range of the lilies and over 2,000 different varieties.

The Lily Nook is located 4 km south of Neepawa on highway #5. Drop by on your way to or from the Lily Festival activities. It is worth it and you WILL remember the beauty of the lilies.

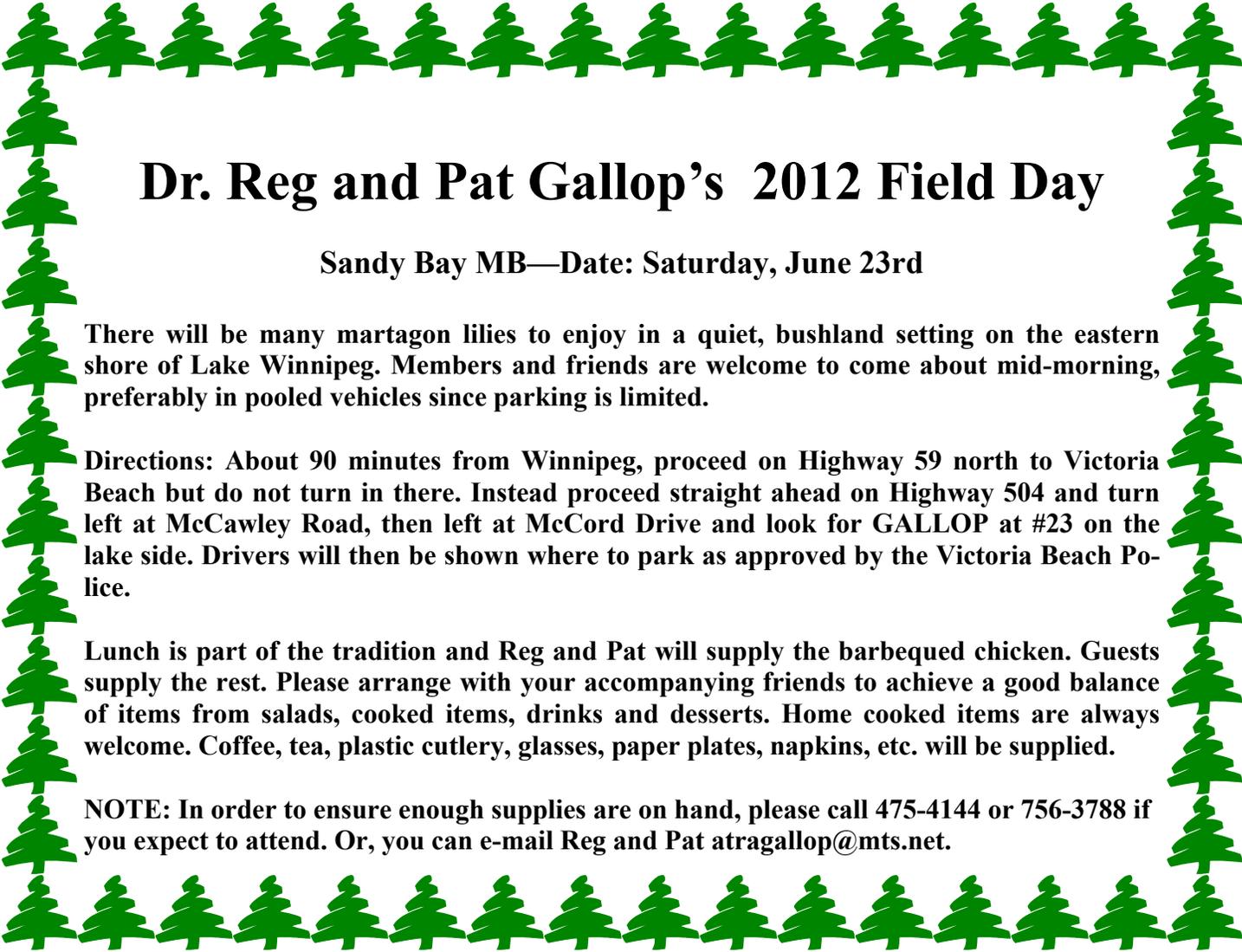
NOTICES

NALS 2012 Last Call for Volunteers!!!

We could still use additional volunteers to help out at the 2012 NALS Show and Convention. If you can spare a few hours of your time to help out feel free to contact anyone of the committee members listed on our website at http://www.manitobalilies.ca/NALS2012/NALS2012_Contacts.html.

Looking for....

Alberta's Adam Yakabuskie is looking for the lily 'Green Goddess'. Please contact him at martagon@shaw.ca if you have or know of a source for this lily.



Dr. Reg and Pat Gallop's 2012 Field Day

Sandy Bay MB—Date: Saturday, June 23rd

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 atragallop@mts.net.

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