



# Manitoba Lily Connection

## Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

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*Affiliated with the North American Lily Society*

September, 2012

### President's Message

As the lily season winds down in my garden I can't help but reflect on what a strange, busy and exciting season it has been. The strange part is this year's bloom times. My asiatics, martagons and OT's all bloomed and finished at least three weeks early leaving me with plenty of time to clean up the garden and plan for next year.

Speaking of planning, this year's bulb sale committee is getting together a wonderful list for us at the bulb sales in Winnipeg, Brandon and Dauphin. From martagons to OT's there will be something for every lily lover, so look for further information in this newsletter on dates and times in your area. Come on out to support our sales and find that absolutely essential lily bulb you have been searching for.

The highlight of my lily season this year was the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual NALS Show and Conference, "Manitoba Moments", hosted by the MRLS in July. It was a great success with many positive comments from both new and returning participants. The hospitality committee did a great job accommodating our guests at all the lunches and dinners. My thanks go out to Rita and Len Giesbrecht for a job both well done.

Although Nigel Strohman was unable to give his presentation due to illness, we were fortunate to have MRLS member Margaret Driver step into the breach and help out. She did an excellent job! Our thanks go out to her for stepping in at short notice and getting the job done in great style. Our other speakers Terry Willoughby, David Herbergs, Hugh Skinner and Sara Williams, were entertaining, and informative.

The show room itself featured 319 stems and 19 designs for our guests and the public to enjoy. A local member, BJ Jackson won the Harold F. Comber Award for the best lily species. Another local, Joel Penner a U of M student doing a fascinating project involving lilies and technology collected many unclaimed stems after the show and will be donating back to the MRLS, posters and other digital media he is able to produce with them. I don't know how he does it but I have seen a preview of the posters and a clip of his previous digital presentations and they are

simply fascinating to watch. I look forward to seeing the final results which I will include as far as possible in future newsletters.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Conference Co-Chairs Ted Sobkowich and Fran Wershler as well as Show Chair Sandra Venton and Design Chair Susan LeBlanc for all their time and effort given to this endeavour. Further thanks go out to Marlene Puls, Gwen Jamieson, Val Deniseiuk, Ramona Crowther, Thelma and Ed Czarnecki and John Rempel for their contributions.

On behalf of MRLS and the NALS 2012 Committee, too, I would like to thank all our members and others who showed a stem, volunteered to help or otherwise contributed to our "Manitoba Moments" Show and Conference. As a former MRLS president has said, "MRLS ROCKS"! We couldn't have done it without you all.

So it is on to the windup for which we are planning something a little different this year. Read further in this newsletter for the date, time and particulars of this year's event.

Deborah Petrie, Fellow Lily Lover

### *Inside:*

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<b>NALS 2012 .....</b>	<b>P. 2 - 6</b>
<b>Fall Bulb Sales.....</b>	<b>P. 7</b>
<b>Neepawa Lily Festival Show.....</b>	<b>P. 8</b>
<b>Windup &amp; Appreciation Event .....</b>	<b>P. 9</b>
<b>Notices .....</b>	<b>P. 9</b>
<b>Officers and Directors .....</b>	<b>P. 10</b>
<b>Mail Order Listing and Coupon (attached)</b>	

# Show Report – NALS 2012

July 11th – 15th, Canad Inn, Polo Park, Winnipeg MB

(By: Sandy Venton, Show Chair)

As Show Chair of the 2012 North American Lily Society Convention and Show, it is my pleasure to report that even though MRLS didn't have an awful lot of time to prepare for the convention and show, it went off without too many hitches, and not a lot of complaints. As one who has attended many of these conventions and shows, I know that it is difficult at best and divisive at worst, and even though there were a number of people on the show committee, we all remain friends. And believe me, that is a HUGE achievement!

We had 87 people registered for the convention and 86 people attended with 12 guests. There were 25 exhibitors, and 319 stems exhibited. Taking into consideration the difficult growing season for lilies, however, I was pleasantly surprised to see as many Manitoba entries as I did. There were 6 exhibitors in the Design section displaying 19 entries, and I wish to thank all of these exhibitors for their wonderful interpretation of the design classes.

A list of the winners of the various awards appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that there were 30 judges, 2 student judges and 13 clerks who toiled over the judging of the various stems and designs, and I would like to thank Kathy Andersen and Ron Chiabotta for looking after the thankless task of appointing judges to the various sections and classes.

As well, Art Evans, Larry Diehl, Brian Bergman, Ed Czarnecki and Wilbert Ronald looked after classification – another thankless and tiring task.

At this time, I would like to thank a number of individuals, without whom this convention and show would have been possible.

Deb Petrie, President of MRLS who has guided us through some rocky shoals and arranged the transportation;  
Ted Sobkowich, Vice-President of MRLS and Co-Chair of the Show Committee;  
Fran Wershler, untiring worker and member of MRLS as well as Co-Chair of the Show Committee;

The Committee itself, comprised of:

Rita and Len Giesbrecht, who looked after hospitality;  
Ramona Crowther and Valerie Denesiuk for publicity;  
Thelma and Ed Czarnecki for their help and input;  
Susan LeBlanc for looking after the design section;  
Joyce and Nigel Strohman for their continued support and the tour of the Lily Nook;  
John Rempel for trouble-shooting the Audio-Visual department,  
Marlene Puls, MRLS Treasurer and Registrar of the Convention.  
Gwen Jamieson for getting the photography contest off the ground;  
Frans Officer who not only put the Photography contest together, but brought the necessary stands from the North Star Lily Society, and who spent a great deal of time with Gwen setting up the table and getting organized.  
Sandy Eggertson, who welcomed us to her home and gardens at Merlebleu;  
Margaret Driver, who stepped up to the plate on Thursday to give Nigel's presentation on the Ed Robinson lilies;  
Hugh Skinner and Debbie Arnaz who cleaned up the show room prior to judging;  
Our guest speakers, David Hercbergs Sara Williams, Terry Willoughby, Hugh Skinner and Margaret Driver, for their presentations

And last, but definitely not least, Terry Willoughby, Ieuan Evans, Brian Bergman, Reg Gallop and Diann Putland for bringing in their many stems, without which our show would have been very skimpy indeed!

In closing, I wish to say a big thank-you to all of the members of MRLS who volunteered freely of their time, making the show a success. And you can just bet that it will be a good 10 years hence before MRLS puts on another!

## 2012 NALS Show AWARDS

<b>Best Lily in Show - Isabella Preston Trophy</b>	<b>Diann Putland (Karen North)</b>
<b>David Griffiths Award (Columbia-Platte Lilies)</b> Best stem of unnamed hybrid seedling grown from seed by exhibitor	<b>PeterSchieman/Sandra-Pat Willis (SFB-36)</b>
<b>Emerson Hickling Award</b> Lily seedling in Section C showing the most breeding advance	<b>leuan Evans (Seedling)</b>
<b>Jan de Graaff Award (Potomac Lily Society)</b> Best stem in Section D	<b>Diann Putland (Karen North)</b>
<b>Michigan Regional Lily Society Award - Best stem in Section E</b>	<b>Brian Bergman (ER-02 Johan Mak)</b>
<b>Harold F. Comber Award (Species Lily Preservation Group)</b> Best Lily species	<b>Barbara-Jean Jackson (L. davidii)</b>
<b>Mears-Mersereau Award (Ohio Lily Society)</b> Best three stems of the same species, variety or cultivar	<b>Diann Putland (Willowwood)</b>
<b>Hod Hoepner Award (Wisconsin Regional Lily Society)</b> Best pot Lily or cut stem forced or grown with protection	<b>Ted Sobkowich (Spot On)</b>
<b>Iowa Regional Lily Society Award - Best Asiatic hybrid</b>	<b>Diann Putland (Karen North)</b>
<b>Claude Shride Award (Wisconsin-Illinois Lily Society)</b> Best hybrid Lily of Martagon derivation	<b>Terry and Shauna Willoughby (9103)</b>
<b>Ozark Regional Lily Society Award</b> Best Division VI hybrid Lily in the show	<b>Peter Schieman/Sandra-Pat Willis (SFB-36)</b>
<b>Leslie Woodriff Award (Mak-Leek, Inc.)</b> Best Division VIII hybrid Lily in the show	<b>Brian Bergman (Belladonna)</b>
<b>Fred Tarlton Award (Alberta Regional Lily Society)</b> First place stem with highest bud count (55)	<b>leuan Evans (Seedling)</b>
<b>Ontario Regional Lily Society Award (In honour of George E. Holland)</b> Best stem of a registered hybrid Lily originated and named by a Canadian	<b>Diann Putland (Rosalinda)</b>
<b>Tesca-Koehler Award (North Star Lily Society)</b> Best stem of named Lily of Minnesota origin	<b>Diann Putland (Willowwood)</b>
<b>Barrie Strohman Award (Manitoba Regional Lily Society)</b> Collection of six different Lilies from any Division(s), one stem each, identified:	<b>Diann Putland (Royal Sunset, Angel's Touch, Black Velvet, L. davidii var. willmottiae, Karen North, and Rosalinda)</b>
<b>Ed Robinson Award (The Lily Nook)</b> Collection of three different Martagon hybrid Lilies, one stem each, identified by name or seedling number or code	<b>Terry and Shauna Willoughby (9401, 9103 and 92104)</b>
<b>Mid America Lily Society Award</b> Collection of three Asiatic hybrid Lilies with different orientations, one stem each from Divisions 1a, 1b and 1c, identified: Burnished Rose, Red Duchess and Bold Knight	<b>Diann Putland (Burnished Rose, Red Duchess and Bold Knight)</b>
<b>Brian Bergman Sweepstakes Award</b> Most first place ribbons (minimum of 15)	<b>leuan Evans (23)</b>
<b>The Garden Club of Virginia Award (in honour of Violet Niles Walker) Best Design in Show</b>	<b>Donna Cheung Prairie Night Sky/Shooting Stars</b>
<b>Photography Contest – People's Choice</b>	<b>Frans Officer</b>

**Barbara Ronningen and Forrest Peiper of Minnesota look over the exhibits on the show floor.**



*(All photos this page courtesy of Gwen Jamieson)*

**Diann Putland's award winning threesome of Willowood. The award is sponsored by the North Star Lily Society for the best stem of Minnesota origin.**



**The Durand sisters from Alberta, Katharina and Suzanna, flank conference speaker Sara Williams. Suzanna is seen holding three of Sara's books!**





*B. J. Jackson's stem of L. davidii, winner of the Harold F. Comber Award (sponsored by the Species Lily Preservation Group), for the Best Lily Species in the show. The stem, unopened when it was staged and placed on Thursday, decided to open just in time for judging on Friday morning!*

*Donna Cheung stands beside her design Prairie Night Sky/Shooting Stars, winner of the The Garden Club of Virginia Award for the Best Design in Show.*

## **N.A.L. S. 2012 - Design Division**

N.A.L.S. 2012 was my second involvement in the presentation of a North American Lily conference. I believe as a group, we hosted a successful and well attended show.

The design division had a very simple 6 categories from which our entrants could choose. The competition was open to all and we had designers who had entered shows previously and a couple for the first time. I was proud of all the designers putting such thought and energy into their interpretations of the show's theme "Manitoba Moments". The design area was enjoyed and discussed by the show participants and the public alike.

Our show judge came to us from the Manitoba Horticultural Association, Ms. Dorcas Brown. Dorcas judged each piece on its interpretation of theme and follow through of the required design forms. She left each design a note explaining her decisions, a helpful tool for the experienced and beginners alike.

Ramona Crowther and I enjoyed making the tablecentre pieces for the two major dinners. We decided early on that they would be party-like and festive to celebrate the 65<sup>th</sup> year of N.A.L. S. What could be better than chocolate and flowers for during and after the excellent meals we were served.

Susan LeBlanc / Ramona Crowther

# NALS 2012 Highlights

*(By Fran Wershler)*

The North American Lily Society Show and Convention hosted in Winnipeg July 11 to 17<sup>th</sup> by the MRLS was a well received event and a credit to members and the organizing committee. We received numerous accolades from people attending. The committees for the next two events were busy taking notes to assist their plans to host shows in 2013 and 2014. Our venue at the Canad Inn, Polo Park, turned out well for all aspects of both show and convention. Publicity for the event was handled cooperatively by such people as Ramona Crowther and Valerie Denesiuk. Articles appeared in newspapers. Handouts and short presentations were given at several horticultural events and President Deborah Petrie appeared on radio.

Tours to Sandy Eggertson's 'Merlebleu' garden, The Lily Nook and Assiniboine Park's English Garden and Leo Mol Sculpture Garden were well attended and received. Our thanks to Sandy Eggertson, Nigel and Joyce at The Lily Nook, Gerald Deilman and Maurice Larson at the Assiniboine park for their welcome. A small shower dampened us at Merlebleu, but even that was not a problem. Our American visitors were actually delighted with the weather, which, to many of them, was cooler than home. On Sunday two gardens were opened by Ramona Crowther and John Rempel for self-guided tours.

We received many gracious and complementary remarks from people who attended. Tricia Kincheloe from Virginia, NALS Recording Secretary wrote; "Fabulous show, fabulous job. Both John and I had a great time in Winnipeg. You all did a fabulous job! Tell all of your members that we thought they were so kind, knowledgeable and helpful and we enjoyed meeting them all!" And in another note she wrote: "First of all, great job on the show and convention. John's still telling everyone about going to the mint, the museum, the Living Prairie Museum and the Mill. He's also showing people pictures of the new civil rights museum that you're building. It was great that he found so many things to do in Winnipeg. We returned to 100 degree temps and slap you in your face humidity. I miss the nice breeze that we had in Winnipeg. Makes it more bearable."

Marianne Casey from Virginia, US Vice President of NALS sent this: "I really enjoyed your designs at the NALS conference and appreciate the effort you and other MRLS members put towards the show. I look forward to coming to Winnipeg again, you are all fortunate for the prairie vistas and good lily growing conditions. Thanks again."

David Hercbergs guest speaker from Latvia sent this note: "I'm back to the cool and rainy Latvia. Our last (the third) main lily show will close tomorrow and I will be able finally to resort to my delayed garden work. I wish to thank you and the MRLS sincerely for the opportunity to see the wonderful lily show, the Lily Nook, carefully manicured gardens, to meet all these wonderful people. They were a really unforgettable days. Thanks a lot for your hospitality."

And finally, an excerpt from the September NALS Quarterly Bulletin from President Ieuan Evans: "Many thanks to Manitoba for doing an excellent job of running this year's NALS events. What's more remarkable is that it was done on relatively short notice."

Our speakers brought us inspiring stories of Prairie hybridizers such as Ed Robinson and his years of work, Cecil Patterson, Percy Wright, Bert Porter, Frank Skinner, each with a legacy of horticultural work. David Hercbergs of Latvia talked about his lily hybrid work and highlighted techniques with which many were not familiar. He worked with lilies under three different governing regimes with very different ideas and he maintained his lily interest even when it was illegal to do so. Terry Willoughby discussed his work in hybridizing martagons and his efforts to produce interspecies crosses including *L. martagon*, *L. hansonii* and *L. tsingtauense*. His pictures showed amazing variations in results.

Meeting with Marianne Casey from Virginia at the close of the convention was interesting because she said that she had seen so many positive things happen, noting that the hard work involved in producing a NALS event could inspire or break a society. In her opinion it is very important that the local groups see through international conventions all the positive things that happen in the regions, nationally and around the world to save rare species, find ways to produce new exciting hybrids, prevent disease and destruction of the genus *Lilium*. She felt that MRLS was a strong regional group, one of the best, with much to its credit.

# FALL BULB SALE 2012 -

*(Ramona Crowther, Bulb Sale Committee Chair)*

Fall is fast arriving and as busy as we have been with NALS and tending to our flowers despite all types of weather conditions, we will move on. The Bulb Sale Committee have selected some great bulbs for the sales in Winnipeg, Brandon and Dauphin.

We have NEW asiatics Arsenal, Little Kiss, Purple Eye, Red Latin and Red Twin; NEW LA Hybrids Amateras and Spot On – great names and wait until you see the lilies! We have a great selection of shorter lilies and one new in the “Tiny” series – Tiny Spider. Also, NEW Orienpets (OTs) Garden Affaire and Time Zone plus many others varieties to help expand your garden.

There is an excellent selection of named martagons and species for those who want to grow something different and some beautiful unnamed bulbs from Canadian hybridizers.

All bulbs are from suppliers who know our weather conditions, so you are assured of prairie hardy lilies. As usual, each sale will have a crew of lily “people” with whom to share information and “ask questions”.

The mail order is available for those unable to visit; however, not all varieties will be on the list. Again this year, all MRLS members, both mail order & personal shopping, will receive 10% off (see coupon attached to newsletter). Please present your coupon to the cashier when paying for your purchases.

This is the major fundraising event of the year for the MRLS and we hope you show us your support. Sale locations are:

Winnipeg, St. James Civic Center, 2055 Ness Avenue – September 22nd  
Brandon, Community Centre, 529 – 4<sup>th</sup> Street (off Victoria Avenue) – September 29th  
Dauphin, the Marketplace Mall – October 6th



***Just a few of the temptations that will be at the upcoming bulb sales, from left: Asiatic Arsenal, OT Time Zone and LA hybrid Spot On.***

*(Photos courtesy of The Lily Nook)*

# 2012 Neepawa and Area Lily Festival Show

It was a smaller show, but that did not stop the exhibitors from showing their stems this year. In addition to the asiatics which are the staples of the show, there were also some exciting seedlings from Manitoba hybridizers on display as well as several more than usual trumpets and orienpets (OTs). Congratulations to all the winners. Here's to 2013 and a much better lily growing season!



Best stem of a Cultivated Lily Species	L. wilsonii var. flavum	B. J. Jackson	Brandon University
Best Stem in the Show	First Crown	Tannis Brown	Neepawa
Best Stem developed by Prairie Breeder	Easter Morn	J. Rempel	Winnipeg
Best Martagon	Not awarded	no entries	
Best Named Asiatic	Red Velvet	John & Joan Svenson	Brandon
Best Stem grown from	TT003	J. Rempel	Winnipeg
Best Trumpet/Aurelian	66-423	J. Rempel	Winnipeg
Best Interspecific Hybrid	First Crown	Tannis Brown	Neepawa
Best Design in Section J	Garden Flowers	Cordelia Smith	Neepawa
Best Design in Section K	Congo Squash	Julie Barilla	Neepawa



**Photos from top:  
John Rempel's Easter  
Morn, trumpet seedling  
TT003, visitors viewing  
the lily show tables,  
Cordelia Smith's Junior  
Design winner and  
B. J. Jackson's  
L. wilsonii var. flavum.**

*(Photos courtesy of B. J. Jackson)*



## NOTICES

### **Bulb Sales 2012 - Volunteers Needed**

**We Need you!!! Volunteers are needed to help out at the bulb sales in Winnipeg, Brandon and Dauphin. If you can spare a couple hours at any location, please contact the following sale coordinators to offer your services:**

**Ramona Crowther (Winnipeg) at [rambo454@shaw.ca](mailto:rambo454@shaw.ca) or on her cell phone at 204-782-1123,**

**Deborah Petrie (Brandon) at [petrie@mymts.net](mailto:petrie@mymts.net)**

**B. J. Jackson (Dauphin) at [jacksonb@mts.net](mailto:jacksonb@mts.net)**

### **2012 MRLS Wind-up & Appreciation Dinner**

**Victoria Heritage Community Centre  
950 Sturgeon Rd, Winnipeg MB  
Saturday, October 13, 2012  
4:00 to 8:00 pm.  
(Dinner at 4:30)**

**All MRLS members are welcome!!!**

**This year we are hoping that we will be joined by all those friends and colleagues who volunteered their time and energy or gave us their support throughout the organizing, planning and implementation of the 2012 NALS Show and Conference held this past July in Winnipeg.**

**In order to demonstrate our appreciation to all, this year's Dinner will be catered. So come one, come all and join us for some "Danny's Whole Hog BBQ".**

**It is sure to be yet another memorable "Manitoba Moment".**

**If you plan to attend, please RSVP by October 1st to Deborah Petrie by email at [petrie@mymts.net](mailto:petrie@mymts.net) or Call (204)726-0245. Please include the number of people attending.**

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS – 2012

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### 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>