



Manitoba Lily Connection

Manitoba Regional Lily Society Newsletter

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President's Message

Hello everyone.

How has the summer been for all the lily gardeners? Even with the 'late start', 'too much rain' and then the 'heat' and now again 'rain' with coolness. Well for me, that nasty invader has come to my yard and landed on my lilies! Although, not as bad as some of your gardens, the multitude of red beetles and larvae, eating and eating. So far, I've only killed about 25 adult beetles. I know, I know, its not that many...wait, wait! We can all hope, right?

Fall is just around the corner and my thoughts are turning to the Fall Bulb Sales. What delights has the Sale Committee been ordering? Hopefully, there will be something for everyone. My ears have heard that there will be some species, more than last year, but they are hard to find or are in short supply. There will be some interesting doubles, asiatics, etc. and of course, my favorite, the Martagons (I like the species too). Watch for the sales in Winnipeg, Brandon and Dauphin.

Then, after the sales, there will be the Fall Awards Wind-up. Hope to see you there, with its great food, and lily talk. I want to hear all about how you are battling that invader and winning!

See you soon,
Ted Sobkowich
President (2013-2015)

MRLS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL MAKE IT YOUR PREFERRED METHOD OF DELIVERY

Save a tree! Change your newsletter delivery method to email and help the MRLS go "GREEN". Some of the benefits to you are:

- * Bonus pictures pages not included in the printed newsletter.
- * Full colour all the time and every time.
- * Less mess, less clutter, less fuss. No more trying to figure out where to put all those paper copies .
- * Faster delivery to your inbox! Get all the information faster and more efficiently. No more waiting for the Mail-order bulb list to come to your door. No more waiting to find out when and where MRLS events are going to be. Email Marlene Puls at mmp99m@mymts.net



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Enclosed - Mail Order List and MRLS 10% off membership discount coupon

Manitoba Regional Lily Society
2014 Show Awards

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Entry</u>
Barrie Strohman Award <i>Best Stem in the Show</i>	John Rempel	Karen North
Lillian Luky Award <i>Best Stem in Show developed by a Prairie Breeder</i>	John Rempel	Morden Butterfly
Ed Robinson Award <i>Best Martagon in the Show</i>	Gwen Jamieson	Rosalinda
William Silversides Award <i>Best named Asiatic Lily in the Show</i>	John Rempel	Karen North
Dr. F.L. Skinner Award <i>Best Stem grown from Seed and exhibited by the Breeder</i>	John Rempel	2006-20
Design Award <i>Best Design in Section K</i>	Jennifer Bishop	"Medical"

AWARDS NOT PRESENTED

CRIDDLE AWARD - Best stem of a Cultivated Lily Species

REG GALLOP AWARD - Best Martagon seedling hybridized and grown by exhibitor

DR. F.L. SKINNER AWARD - Best Stem grown from Seed and exhibited by the Breeder

JEAN ERICKSON AWARD - Best Interspecific Hybrid in the Show (not LAs)

GORDON DANZINGER AWARD - Best L.A. Hybrid from Division VIII

JUNIOR DESIGN AWARD - Best Design in Section J

NALS E.H. Wilson Award - 2014
Award to our own Lynn Collicutt



On August 13th, ten Manitoba Regional Lily Society members gathered at the Prairie Ink restaurant to honour Lynn Collicutt's receipt of the E.H. Wilson Award. Lynn had been unable to attend the Minneapolis NALS meeting but was able to receive the Award among her friends in Manitoba.

In 1993, Lynn Collicutt's position was eliminated at Morden. Fortunately there was now a strong Manitoba Regional Lily Society and keen commercial lily growers in the name of Barrie Strohman's The Lily Nook and my own Jeffries Nurseries. With support from these three entities and Lynn's foresight, the Morden lilies were turned over to a partnership charged with continuing the work and getting the new types out to lily world. The introduction of several good interdivisional lilies was followed up by further crossing between the groups which is ongoing in Manitoba and elsewhere. We now have hybrids between Easter Morn and Orienpets, Easter Morn X Tetraploid Griesbach trumpets and backcrosses of these to Easter Morn, Easter Morn X Firey Belles, and (Easter Morn X Firey Belles) X Orienpet, thus opening up the pathway to fertility and ready exchange of genetic material between Asiatics, Aurelian trumpets, Orientals and Easter lily. The day is not far off when one lily plant will combine the best characteristics of these divisions and be fertile in crossing. This will be based on the pioneering backcross breeding completed by Lynn Collicutt.

The individual we honour with the 2014 NALS E.H. Wilson Award has a unique position in the world of interdivisional lily breeding and her work will continue to drive forward a dream to combine several of the main groups of lilies we grow today. Lynn Collicutt worked with horticultural plant breeders at the Morden Research Centre and completed her M.Sc. in horticulture in the late 1970's. She was a capable plants person and while she had numerous interests with monarda, roses and hosta, it was her accomplishments with lilies that we recognize. Lynn carried on the interspecific hybridization that I started first at the University of Minnesota Horticultural Sciences Department with Dr. Peter Ascher and his graduate students, then continued at Morden Research Centre from 1974-1982, and which had produced some good first generation Aurelian x Oriental (Starburst Sensation), Aurelian X Easter lily (Easter Dawn) and Aurelian X Asiatic hybrids (Silky Belles, Blushing Belles etc.). These F1 plants were bonafide intermediate plants with a high degree of infertility. Lynn carried on crossing work and successfully produced backcrosses in each of the groups. These backcrosses proved to be natural triploids and possessed more fertility than the F1 generation. We know these plants as the award winning Northern Carillon, Easter Morn and Firey Belles. These are good garden plants but are much more significant to breeders as their better fertility makes them useful for further recombination. It was a confirmation of Lynn's breeding work when we saw her Easter Morn introduction win Best in Show as well as 3 other major awards at the 2014 NALS show and also saw her Silky Belles win a first place. We have also seen her lilies in various gardens and we know they do well in a large area of North America.

We in the northern cold zones now take for granted that we can grow a range of wonderful showy and fragrant interdivisional hybrid lilies in our gardens. The progress we have seen has been beyond anything that we would have imagined 25 years ago. The best is yet to come and will keep lily breeders working for a long time as they explore further crosses and restore fertility. It is a timely event to see Lynn Collicutt recognized for the work she did with the genus *Lilium* and to see this honour passed to her among some of her friends and fellow lily enthusiasts in Manitoba.

The E. H. Wilson award is given to a person who has made major breeding advances and contributed in a substantial way to the genus *Lilium*.

Manitoba Regional Lily Society
Fall Lily Bulb Sales
Winnipeg - September 27th, Assiniboine Park Conservatory
Brandon - October 4th, Central Community Centre
Dauphin – October 11th, Dauphin Marketplace Mall
All sales run from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Fall is approaching and preparations for the MRLS bulb sales are in full swing. The committee has put in order to six suppliers this year including Valley K lily Ranch, S-W Gardens and our local Manitoba suppliers The Lily Nook and Jefferies Nursery. This year all bulb sales will feature more species than are usually available to us including *Lilium pardalinum*, *Lilium pumilum*, *Lilium lechtlinii* and *Lilium regale* to mention only a few. Other feature bulbs will be some new doubles varieties like Orange Twin and Red Twin as well as some older favorites like Fata Morgana. A selection of new pot and border lilies will also be featured. Our sales and mail order list will also have a great variety of new Asiatics, LAs and OTs. As always there will be a number of tried and true older varieties that have stood the test of time in our Manitoba gardens. I hope to see you all at one of our three sales. The Mail order list is attached to this newsletter for those of you who can not join us in person.

Deborah Petrie
MRLS Bulb Sale Chair

Featured Lilies



SPECIES LILY

← **L. pardalinum**

DOUBLE LILY

Red Twin →



POT/BORDER LILY
Keynote →



**SEE ENCLOSED
MAIL ORDER LIST
FOR JUST A TASTE OF OTHER
LILIES BEING
OFFERED**

**MRLS FALL POTLUCK SUPPER AND
AWARDS PRESENTATION**

Date: Saturday October 18th 2014

**Place: Bourkevale Community Centre
100 Ferry Road, Winnipeg, MB**

Time: Doors open at 4:00 p.m.

Pot luck supper at 4:30 p.m.

Awards Presentation to follow

The remaining bulbs from the fall sales will be offered at a discount prices

**Please bring a hot or cold dish or desert
MRLS will supply plates, utensils and beverages**

Spouses and friends are always welcome

To RSVP or for further information contact:

Ed Czarnecki

email: eczarnecki@shaw.ca

Telephone: 204-889-5730

A Short Note about Species – American Section

In the American Section, there are about 23 species. We seem to be able to grow about 5 of these species.

L. canadense, from eastern Canada, usually has yellow flowers, but there is a red flowered form L. canadense editorum. The one to 20 flowers are down facing/pendant. Spots vary from none to many. It can grow 2 to 5 or 6 feet tall. The leaves are in whorls. Its bulbs are stoloniferous. It grows in acid soils (it dislikes lime), which are moist and really well drained.

L. michiganese is from the eastern states to Wisconsin. The 1 to 8 flowers are pendant Turk's caps of red-orange. The flowers have many red-brown spots. The whorls of leaves occur along stem of 2 to 5 feet. Bulbs are also stoloniferous, growing in moist acid soils, in full sun.

L. pardalinum one of the hardiest and easiest to grow of the American species. It grows in the western states, along the Pacific coast. The stems can be 4 to 7 feet tall, having whorled leaves and carry 9 to 10 flowers. The brilliant red/orange red/carmine flowers are pendant Turk's caps, with many large, red-brown spots, surrounded with big, yellow halos. The lime tolerant bulbs are rhizomatous and grow best in a moisture retentive soil, but can be found growing in earth, gravel and sand mixture. There is a variety, L. pardalinum v. giganteum, which can grow to 10 ft and may have up to 50 flowers.

The whorled leaved stems of L. superbum can be 4 to 8 ft and can carry up to 40 nodding, brown spotted, Turk's caps flowers of orange-yellow. The flower colour can vary from yellow gold to orange merging with crimson at the tips. The flowers also have a characteristic green star at the centre of the flowers. The stoloniferous bulbs of this eastern US lily are large and grow in rich humus, moist acid (lime free) soils, on slopes (read as well drained).

Lastly, L. philadelphicum,, our Prairie Lily, seems to grow in many places, except our gardens. The orange red, spotted, in varying amounts, clawed flowers are in umbels of 1 to 6. Height is 1 to 3 or 3.5 ft. It grows in light shade to full sun. McRae recommends that the short stoloned bulbs be grown in well-drained, sandy loam, with leaf mold and peat and covered for protection against wet winters. The form L. p. v. andinum has red flowers and scattered leaves. The yellow form of andinum is forma immaculatum. The yellow form of L. p. v. philadelphicum. is flaviflorum. For much more info about this lily, please read the excellent book 'Prairie Phoenix', by Bonnie Lawrence and Anna Leighton. If you have the prairie lily growing in you r yard , congratulations. If you have it growing in your fields or along the ditches, near your country home, do some pollinating, so that there is more seed, to be scattered by the wind!

Ted Sobkowich



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