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Lily Trumpet
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Lily Trumpet

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Mid-America Regional Lily Society

March 2001

March Educational Meeting

Sunday, March 18, 2001
2:00 p.m.
Missouri Botanical Garden

"Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Lilies"

Horticulture—Growing Lilies in St. Louis

Design—Arranging Lilies to Enjoy Them as Cut Flowers

Grooming—Preparing Your Lilies for a Show

Bulbs and materials will be available for members and visitors to plant a potted lily! Bring it to the Show in June!

General Meeting will also be held. Come and have all your Lily Questions answered by our Panel of Experts!

Spring Bulb Sale

April 6-8, 2001

Our Spring Bulb Sale will be held April 6 - 8 at Missouri Botanical Garden in Monsanto Hall. The Bulb Packaging Party, at the Garden in the Beaumont Room, will be Friday, April 6, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

We have a lot of fun packaging the bulbs! Please come and support our Society. This is our money making activity and our way of promoting lilies in our area. Members will be able to choose and purchase their bulbs on Friday evening after all the business is completed.

Help is needed on both Saturday and Sunday also. The sale will run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on both days or until sold out. We will have sign up sheets on Friday evening, so please plan on giving your time for an hour or two.

We hope to have a wide range of Asiatics, Orientals, some Trumpets and L.A.'s and the wonderful Orienpets available—some never offered at our sales before! Come see the great selection!

Calendar of Events

MARCH EDUCATIONAL MEETING March 18, 2001
Missouri Botanical Garden 2:00 p.m.

SPRING BULB SALE
Missouri Botanical Garden April 6 - 8, 2001

MARLS ANNUAL LILY SHOW
Missouri Botanical Garden June 15 - 17, 2001

SUMMER MEETING AND MINI-SHOW
Sharon and Ralph Bishop's Home July 7, 2001

NALS ANNUAL MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM
Hamilton, Ontario July 11 - 15, 2001

FALL BULB SALE
Missouri Botanical Garden October 26 - 28, 2001

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- Emotional Impact of Flowers Study
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From the President . . . Kathleen Rice

We have all probably received numerous garden catalogs by now. Dreaming of our gardening from our armchairs, it will soon be time to put our imaginings into reality. Stepping into my back garden, I realized I had better dream really big. Having completely gutted the area last year, and I mean every twig, it is now of nightmare proportions.

But gardening and dreaming go hand in glove and separate out with backaches and blisters. The dream returns in early summer when we take time to look around at what we have achieved—the color, fragrance and over all beauty of a creation simply called a Garden. Gardeners are truly blessed that He gave us so many beautiful plants to work with and please our senses.

Our Spring Educational Meeting, March 18th, will provide us with information to help us make our dreams part of our gardens with our lilies. This will be followed by our Spring Bulb Sale on April 7th and 8th. There will be some very choice bulbs available to members at the packaging on Friday evening, April 6th. Come and join the fun.

At a recent Board Meeting it was decided to rename our Sweepstakes Award the **Jack Gagnon Memorial Sweepstakes Award**. No one ever won the award more often than Jack and renaming it is a fitting way of remembrance. I know it would make him smile. We will miss Jack, but we can remember him by entering a few more lilies in the show in June. It will be a challenge to catch up with his number of entries.

Not to be overlooked are what a fine group of members we have. Join in enjoying each other and our shared enthusiasm for the genus *Lilium*.

Now back to dreaming a new garden. I may not realize all my plans this season, but that's okay. It will leave space for winter catalog dreaming for another year.

Vice President's Report . . . Diane Engelsdorfer

Greetings to all of you after the first "real" winter in years! I hope you've all spent your time productively planning your lily beds and deciding what varieties you will be bringing to the show.

We have planned a fine educational meeting this year. It will be Sunday, March 18, at 2:00 p.m. at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The topic will be "Everything You Always Wanted To Know About Lilies." There will be a segment on growing lilies in St. Louis—one on arranging lilies to

enjoy them as cut flowers, and one on preparing your lilies for a show. There will be bulbs and materials available for new members and visitors to plant a potted lily to bring to the show in June.

Your ideas and input are appreciated for future meetings; if you know someone you would like to hear speak please let me know.

We also have a GREAT Bulb Sale and an even GREATER Show planned for the Spring and Summer.

The Lily Garden at the Kemper Home Gardening Center

Diane Engelsdorfer

This year we have a larger bed at the Kemper Center in the Missouri Botanical Garden. It is 20 by 40 feet. **Pam Hardy, Diane Engelsdorfer, and Jason Delaney** have been busy replanting bulbs from last year's garden plot and planning new additions. We will be able to keep this bed in lily bloom for the next three years, until after the 2004 NALS Show which we are hosting. We will be writing lily breeders to ask that they donate some examples of new trends in lily breeding as well as maintaining our current population of bulbs. Please come by and see our Lily Bed whenever you can. It is a real honor to have a display bed at the Botanical Garden.



News Briefs, Notes, Etc.

January 23, 2001

To friends at MARLS,

Thanks so much for your cards and prayers following my heart attack. Recovery is slow but I'm hoping to be well enough for gardening come spring. I have some lily bulbs that need planting. I'm sure gardening will be good therapy.

With loving thoughts,

Janet Smither

- Our prayers and best wishes to Jan for her continued recovery.
- The former Sweepstakes Award at our show will be designated the **Jack Gagnon Memorial Sweepstakes Award**. No one ever won this award more often than Jack and renaming is a fitting way of remembrance. **Mary Lee Gagnon** has graciously indicated she would like to furnish the award.
- **Kathleen Rice** has volunteered to be the MOBOT liaison, Show Chairperson for the June Lily Show and also Bulb Chairperson for the Spring Bulb Sale. All these positions were previously held by **Jack Gagnon**. Good luck, Kathleen!
- Treasurer **Dorothy Schrei** reported a profit of \$1423,22 from our Fall Bulb Sale, with an additional \$40.00 from the sale of *Let's Grow Lilies*. It was a very successful bulb sale even though we had some bulbs left over. They are being stored in the cooler at *Winterowd Florist* and will be used in connection with the March Educational Meeting.
- Do you know the **Hall of Fame** lilies? 'Black Beauty,' 'White Henryi,' 'Casa Blanca,' 'Enchantment,' 'Connecticut King,' 'Journey's End,' 'Scheherazade,' and 'Red Velvet.'
- Are there any lilies you would like to see available at our bulb sales and/or auctions? Please list your preferences in space on Membership Renewal Form included with this newsletter. Our Bulb Chairman will make every attempt to obtain them.
- **HELP WANTED:** Bulb Chairman needed for Fall Bulb Sale. Knowledge of lilies helpful, but guidance could be provided. A real learning experience.
Membership Chairman No experience necessary, will train. Jean has held this position for many years and would like to give someone else this opportunity.

Secretary Position open—become a member of the Board. Pam would like to resign from this office.

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From the Editor . . .

Carol Appelbaum

We are looking forward to SPRING! The snowdrops have been blooming for a while and really indicate hope. The days are getting longer and a few warm days really top it off! This issue contains information on the many upcoming events scheduled by MARLS. Hope you can attend some, if not all of them.

We have received some notes regarding the newsletter which I would like to share parts of with you:

. . . the best newsletter I have read to date . . . look forward to the next issues . . .

. . . very reader friendly . . . will be my main source of keeping up with what is going on in MARLS. . .

. . . many thanks for another "super edition" of the Trumpet . . . interesting format . . . you have really covered the bases!

. . . read with great interest and pleasure . . . "Happenings at Missouri Botanical Garden" is a good idea, will pass on idea to our editor in Ontario . . . newsletter layout looks great!

. . . keep up the good work!

It is really encouraging to receive feedback. Thank you! Please let us hear from you regarding what you would like to see in your Newsletter. Any articles, information, trivia, etc. is appreciated and really helps us put together an interesting newsletter. Our intent is to publish the *Lily Trumpet* in March, June, September, and possibly December. However, there may be times when the newsletter may be later or even earlier than indicated. It will depend on the type of information that we need to get to members.

Our next issue will be in June with information about the Lily Show and other summer activities. Please send articles to be included by the middle of May. Thanks!

Sharing Our Gardens! . . . Fred Winterowd

May I drop in for a moment, to converse with you, on the many attributes of our gardens? Let's look a bit closer than we often do, in considering the fantastic 'Palette' of plants available. From this base, may we plan with DIVERSITY in mind. One of the Principles of Landscape Design is CONTRAST. Diversity is also the ecologist's plea to this end.

There are many selections to be made. Here is a partial list for you to ponder; to plan toward:

1. DWARFS—We find them neatly displayed in evergreens, in perennials, in shrubs; in bulbs! (Enter **Lilium**, and others!)

2. FOLIAGE!—Here one selects from a myriad of plant types. Some of the small trees, such as *Parrotia persica*, known for its lustrous foliage!

3. BARK—Outstanding here is the 'Lacebark Pine.' (*Pinus Bungeana*, And many more!)

4. FLOWERS!!!!!!—Think "Succession of Bloom," as you plan thru the seasons.

5. FRUIT—Of course *hollies*, but move on! Go for blueberries (excellent FOILAGE also!)

6. ACCENT PLANTS—You name them!!! Give these beauties S-P-A-C-E! With **Lilium**, you will recall that we recommend a *cluster planting*, again relating to an *accent* of 'Colorscaping.'

From this view of GARDENING, may we turn toward the sharing of its beauty. Our members are great here! Let us grant tours, community awareness programs, and may we especially move in the direction of our youth! Therein lies much of the success of a garden. May our LILY TOURS continue!



Moving more closely to **Lilium**, we sometimes hear that a particular cultivar was beautiful, but it died out in two or three years. So . . . if its beauty dies young, you always have at least alternatives:

1. Do your simple ASEXUAL PROPAGATION!
2. Repurchase the beauty! Replant!
3. Check sources for a hardier type! Like the new, wonderful ORIENPETS! Or, these:

Oriental Trumpets
Trumpet-Longiflorums
Aurelian-Asiatics
Trumpet-Asiatics
Longiflorum-Asiatics

Always consider the well proven **Hall of Fame** standbys! You know them, don't you? Quiz time!

So let us assume the broadened perspective, i.e., DIVERSITY. Its CATALOG time! Seek out these beauties! Visit your more complete Garden Center! In so doing, we become plant collectors with a valued purpose.

As we approach our landscapes, may we also consider more of the 'Natural' rather than some prescribed 'Landscape' design. May your careful selection include more DIVERSITY. A sharing of your interesting garden will then become a "Welcome Mat" to the living!

Remembering Julius Wadekamper

Julius will be pleasantly remembered for many reasons. We at Mid-America Regional, recall his splendid assistance in the formation of our Regional. This guidance was cheerfully followed up with several visits. He wanted us to be off to a good start!

As we walked his fields, he gave generously of his time and expertise. Although often busy, he paused to relate the keen experiences he had realized. Julius was a caring individual, always a good listener, and ready to make a particular motion for the Society's betterment.

In judges' training, he was exemplar. Again, his unselfish approach was to be clearly noted. We all learned a lot from his instructional support.

We were very proud of him—at last year's convention. His dedication was most obvious, as he spoke to us. We had learned of his weakness, physically, yet we saw so clearly, the strength of his love for **Lilium**.

Julius carried a continuing quality concern for our Mid-America Lily Society. He, along with Dorothy Schaefer, contributed a great deal to the establishment, and ongoing success of the Society. Fine memories now prevail, as we reflect upon our friend, Julius.

Respectfully,

Fred Winterowd . . . for the Society

*(Julius Wadekamper passed away on January 10, 2001. He was a grower and hybridizer, and introduced many lilies for other hybridizers—through **Borbeleta Gardens** and also **Willowwood**. He was a past president of NALS and the recipient of many awards.)*

Emotional Impact of Flowers Study

The November, 2000, issue of *Greenhouse Product News* magazine reported that a recent study was conducted by the Society of American Florists (SAF) along with researcher, Jeannette Haviland-Jones, Ph.D., of Rutgers University, to examine the effects of flowers on human emotion and well being. After ten months of study, Haviland-Jones revealed that the presence of flowers triggers happy emotions, heightens feelings of life satisfaction and affects future behavior in a positive manner far beyond what is normally believed. Flowers prove to be a natural and healthful moderator of moods.

"Common sense tells us that flowers make us happy," said Haviland-Jones. "Now, science shows that not only do flowers make us happier than we know, they have strong positive effects on our emotional well being." Her research reveals the following:

- Flowers have an immediate impact on happiness
- Flowers have a long-term positive effect on moods
- Flowers make intimate connections
- Flowers are a symbol for sharing
- People who buy more flowers are happier

MARLS Board Meeting—January 21, 2001

Meeting was held at President **Kathleen Rice's** home; present were Kathleen, **Carol Appelbaum**, **Ralph Bishop**, **Mary Lee Gagnon**, **Hal and Dorothy Schrei**, and **Fred and Jean Winterowd**. (Minutes submitted by Carol Appelbaum, Acting Secretary for **Pam Hardy**.)

Hal Schrei reported that **Gene Fox** wants to include a memorial to **Jack Gagnon** in this year's *NALS Yearbook*. Hal asked that each member, who would like to, write a short paragraph of his/her special memories of Jack. Send to Hal by the first week in February. This will also be included in the next newsletter. The Sweepstakes Award at our shows will be designated as the **Jack Gagnon Memorial Sweepstakes Award**. (He has been the perennial winner of this award.) **MaryLee** graciously indicated that she would like to furnish the award.

At the time of the meeting Kathleen had not received details of Educational Meeting scheduled for March 18, 2001. It was assumed that V-P **Diane Engelsdorfer** was arranging for speakers and other details of the program. Carol to contact Diane for information for newsletter.

Kathleen agreed to take over as bulb chairman, with **Ralph Bishop's** help,

for the Spring Bulb Sale to be held April 6-8, 2001, as ordering, etc. has to be done NOW! She volunteered to be the MOBOT liaison and also the Show Chairperson for the Lily Show on June 16-17, 2001. She would like to experience all that is involved before the 2004 NALS Show in St. Louis. (All these positions were previously held by **Jack Gagnon**.)

After much discussion it was decided to set a minimum price of \$2.00 per bulb, keeping starter packages at 6 bulbs for \$10.00. Of course, bulbs will be priced according to what we have to pay. The rationale for this is that our main goal is to have members and others grow and enjoy lilies in their gardens. Following this premise, Kathleen will also order a quantity of Oriempets, which we will sell without much of a mark-up to our members, so all can experience the pleasure of growing these. A budget of \$1500.00 was set for bulbs to be ordered. Fred is going to check out nicer bags for the starter packs. At this point, there will not be an auction at the Spring Bulb Sale.

Jean Winterowd, Membership Chairperson, reminded all that dues are now payable for 2001. A form will be included in newsletter. **Dorothy Schrei**, Treasurer, reported a balance

of \$5,975.67. MARLS will again furnish an award for the 2001 National Show, cost approximately \$50.00.

It was passed that **Hal Schrei** will pursue looking into a web site for MARLS, to be in place long before the 2004 NALS Show and Meeting. Hal suggested we ask **Gene Fox** to be Chairman of Judges for 2004 Show.

Committee for the 2001 Show:
Chairperson—**Kathleen Rice**;
Staging—**Fred Winterowd**; *Ribbons, Bulletins, Entry Tags, Schedule*—**Hal Schrei**; *Judging*—**Linda Smith**; *Classification*—**Ralph Bishop**; *Clerks*—**MaryLee Gagnon**; *Award letters*—**MaryLee Gagnon**; *Design*—Chairman needed (Carol's daughter being married that day.) Fred suggested inviting a guest judge for our 2001 Lily Show. He will contact **Linda Smith**, *Judge Chairman*. He also suggested having an artist drawing or painting lilies at the show. Fred will pursue this.

The Summer Meeting and Mini Show will be held July 7, 2001, at **Ralph and Sharon Bishop's** as previously decided. The dates for the Fall Bulb Sale will be October 26-28, 2001, chairmen needed.

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN (JACK) GAGNON

1926-2000

Jack grew up in Springfield, Ill. After returning from the armed forces in 1946 he went to work for Western Auto Co. In 1961 Western Auto transferred Jack to St. Louis to manage one of their stores in the St. Louis area. In 1984, Jack took early retirement from Western Auto and after several years went to work for K-Mart as Garden Dept. Mgr. at one of the St. Louis area stores. Shortly after starting at K-Mart, Jack and MaryLee joined the Mid America Regional Lily Society and a short time after that they joined NALS. Jack and Mary Lee were already friends of the Winterowds and Schreis as they all belonged to the same church.

When Jack became interested in lilies he started to build raised beds for them and brought in top soil to fill the beds. The Gagnon backyard is now a series of lily beds, separated by small lawn pathways and a few places for Mary Lee's perennials.

Jack did only a smidgen of hybridizing. As most of us with small city gardens, he had very little space to plant the seeds.

Jack served as vice-president of MARLS for four years and as president for four years. As vice president he was responsible for the education program of MARLS. He arranged for educational meetings every Spring, and prepared the educational exhibit at the NALS show in St. Louis.

Jack was a tireless worker for both the annual MARLS lily shows and bulb sales. He used his van to transport material from the MARLS storage shed to the Missouri Botanical Garden where the shows and bulb sales are held. He became the liaison between MARLS and the Missouri Botanical Garden to coordinate dates

and space for bulb sales, lily shows, and educational meetings.

Jack was a fierce competitor at the MARLS annual lily shows. He would start cutting lily stems three weeks before the show and store them in the Winterowd Florist flower cooler. He wanted the public to see as many lilies as possible at our shows.

In addition to taking care of his own garden, Jack would help other people prepare lily gardens and plant lily bulbs for them. He also served as a volunteer at the Missouri Botanical Garden to help Jason Delaney take care of the bulb gardens there. He also volunteered as a reading tutor at a local elementary school and as a transporter at St. Luke's Hospital.

Jack was an accredited NALS judge and served as a judge at several NALS shows including Portland, Oregon in 2000.

Jack was not well in the autumn of 2000. On the last weekend in October he loaded his van with bulbs that had been purchased for the MARLS bulb sale and transported them to the Missouri Botanical Garden. He worked hard on Friday evening helping to get the bulbs packaged for the bulb sale on Saturday and Sunday, and was at Missouri Botanical Garden early on Saturday morning to get the bulb sale organized and ready for the public. He worked at the sale until after 2 p.m. and said he would be back at 9 a.m. on Sunday to open up the sale. At 6:30 a.m. Sunday we received a telephone call telling us that Jack was on the way to the hospital in an ambulance. He died the following evening.

Jack will be missed greatly by all of us in MARLS and those that knew him at NALS. As the minister said at his memorial service, "He was my friend."

Following are comments from several of Jack's friends from MARLS:

Jack was president of MARLS during the four years I served as secretary so I was fortunate to have worked with him on a regular basis. He was a good leader, very conscientious and reliable, always followed through, took on any job, but most of all, he loved and was extremely knowledgeable about lilies. He had answers to just about any question, and there were many. There is definitely an enormous gap and sadness in our group. I feel fortunate to be able to add my sentiments to the many that said "He was my friend." May he rest in peace.

... Carol Appelbaum

Friends of Mid America Regional Lily Society, and many beyond, deeply regret the passing of Jack Gagnon. He was truly an endearing friend, always happy to convey his gardening skills to others.

Jack was a consistent winner in our Annual Show! His expertise was clearly evident, as he developed very beautiful landscapes. Moreover, Jack instilled in us a genuine feeling of friendship. He and Mary Lee carried forth a friendly, competitive spirit. His lilies competing for garden space with Mary Lee's perennials. Their garden visitors were blessed with the best of both worlds!

Jack's gardening knowledge and friendship will be treasured. His love for LILIUM was above and beyond commonplace enthusiasm. A dear friend is no longer with us,—yet he is, as kind memories now appear.

... Fred Winterowd

A moment to reflect on a huge man—Jack Gagnon. It is hard to put into a few words someone who meant so much to many people.

When I think of how many times he said, "I'll help." Or, "I can do that," he did too! He was always willing to do the job no matter how hard, how dirty or boring. I guess the most fun he and I had was the time our regional had planted a huge bed of lilies here at the farm to grow on for our annual bulb sale. He volunteered to help me dig, separate and label all of them. We dug and sacked until we could hardly crawl on our knees anymore. We decided they had done very well—too well!

Jack was good for a contest. We had fun competing at our lily shows, but it was most fun rooting for each other. He was a good sport and a delightful man. My life is indeed richer for having known Jack Gagnon. He was a blessing and brought the best out of everyone he was near. He never let life's frustrations get him down. He could have as many reasons as anyone to be down, but he refused to let that happen. We will miss him, and will forever miss Jack.

... Linda Smith

Compiled by Hal Schrei

(This article will also be printed in the North American Lily Society Yearbook.)

