



27th Annual Lily Show Is June 20 & 21

By Carol Appelbaum

This is the time of year we can share our beautiful lilies with fellow members and the public.

We encourage everyone to enter stems for judging. Even if you don't think they are "blue ribbon" stems, you might have varieties no one else has seen.

This year we will again have a raffle for stems entered. One raffle ticket will be given for one stem entered; a second

raffle ticket will be given if two or more stems are entered.

Prizes are listed in the

Great growing season promises gorgeous lilies for 2009 show.

schedule inserted in this issue of the *Lily Trumpet*.

Please check over the schedule – it is the rule of the show! Use the schedule to decide which divisions you can enter. Exhibitors may make more than one entry in a division provided each is a different cultivar. Look over the rules and information to answer all your questions. However, there will be experienced members at the show to help you.

We also encourage entries in the Design Division. Ellen Mell has created an interesting schedule, described more fully on



page 6.

Although most of us enter in the hopes of having our stems judged the "best" or a "superior" lily, check out the awards. We have a wide variety of nice awards, and ask that all our members support the nurseries and other businesses that have provided them.

The public is invited June 20, noon to 5 p.m. and June 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The show will be in the Orthwein Room at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Please come and enjoy the wide array of lilies, and get excited all over again about growing them.



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Editor's Note

While resting sore knees last year I had time to keep a garden journal for the first time in my life. Well really, two journals: Observations and Resolutions.

It has been fun to reread my entries. What struck me in reading Observations is the amazingly dependable timing with which plants flower.

Observations from last year and this year have confirmed plants for which I have a growing fondness. They include peonies, perennial geraniums, old garden roses, reblooming iris, crocosmia, Walkers Low catmint, and, finally, species lilies.

I actually used my Resolutions journal to make improvements. It provided a guide for a flurry of transplanting earlier in the spring.

And, I've made substantial progress in creating the imagined little hosta bed under two kausa dogwood trees. My plan is for the hosta to cover daffodil stems as they yellow. The bed also includes existing helebore, another favorite. Scattered in between I want to plant some Casa Blanca or other white Oriental lilies to rise above the green plants and add interest and coolness in the late summer.

In development is another bed of sea oats grass and tough summer bloomers like purple coneflower, black-eyed susans, daisies, buttercups, and sunflowers. This is where my aggressive plants will be sentenced.

This season I'm trying to continue to make notes. It really does help in the garden. I know some other MARLS members keep journals, some more extensive than mine. I'd love to hear about your garden journaling tips, and to share them in the *Lily Trumpet*.

--Carol Bales Mahoney

Lilies, Activities Sprouting

President's Message From Dennis Fitzgibbons

Greetings. It's the time of year that all gardeners cherish. Spring time!!!! WhooHoo!!!!

It looks to be a spectacular lily bloom season as of today, April 30. I have lilies over three feet tall. I am sure we're all looking forward to those first blooms.

We had a successful spring bulb sale. We Sold Out! Thanks to all the great volunteers working the sale.

I would like to remind Lily Society (MARLS) members of our schedule for this spring and summer.

The Mid America Regional Lily Society's Annual Lily Show will be June 20-21. The national show will be held in Springfield, Missouri, June 24-28, 2009. We also will be having the MARLS min-show at Marti Warhurst's home on July 11, 10 a.m.

Look forward to seeing each and every one of you. Happy Gardening!!

It's the Beginning

In reflecting upon our 27 years with MARLS, Jean and I pause to express the high values of our society.

From the beginning, we have pursued an educational emphasis, which has continued through the years. Let's all be proud!

Below are some of the guidelines we have followed. You are invited to add some of your own. We:

*Welcome our fellow gardeners.

*Assist the public to know Lilium.

*Greet and help each other.

Then, we have beginning friendships! It evolves most naturally, as we blend our time and talents in that "Getting to Know You" spirit.

--Jean & Fred Winterowd

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Grooming Show Lilies

Linda Smith Shares Her Expert Knowledge

By Carol Bales Mahoney

Following are some of the tips Linda Smith, a judge and blue ribbon exhibitor, shared at the MARLS March 7 Educational



Meeting.

What to Cut: Cut long stems and keep leaves. Don't cut any with spent flowers. If you want to save the plant, cut no more than two-thirds of the stem. Count petals: Lilies have only six. You may skillfully cut a seventh for show entry.

When to Cut: You can begin cutting 8 to 10 days before the show, if you have a cool place to store them. Always cut before flowers are full, once you can see flower color showing. To enter show, one flower must be open. Put a plastic bag over flowers that are stored in the fridge. Always label lilies as you cut them, and groom a bit. You won't have much time at the show.

Show Tags: Get tags before the show and fill them out at home. Try to find the names of your lilies. Refer to catalogues or last year's entries. Don't enter unknowns in the unnamed seedlings category.

Stem Holders: Available at the show, large and small sizes. Small is usually best. Don't place the stem all the way down. you want

the lily to appear as tall as possible. Use spanish moss to hold the stem in the holder. Put label on side you want the judges to see. If you have a huge stem, bring your own tall vase, and fill with gravel to hold it down.

Transportation: Wrap Press'n Seal gently around the flowers to protect them. Many ways to pack. Try vases or wine bottles in 5 gallon buckets. Turn AC on in the car. Lay long stems flat. Try long thin box filled with form to build up, then cut notch in box for flower head.

Grooming: Use brush or sponge to remove bugs and pollen. Wipe leaves with distilled water. Repair defects, and place holders on the judging tables.

Linda's Box

Items needed to groom lilies

Linda opened her box of tricks and shared **most** of her secrets for grooming lilies to perfection. She also gave sources, except for one item: a special glue that actually works on lilies.

She suggests using a tackle box with dividers for holding the assortment of tools.

Her box contains a scissors for cutting and trimming. She also has a box of tiny pins and magnet for repairing broken leaves.

A razor blade can come in handy to improve leaves, as needed. A small bottle of distilled water is at the ready for cleaning. A green ink pen or magic marker can be used to touch up leaves.

Peroxide and Dawn dishwashing liquid are good to remove the stain of pollen on petals, stem or leaves.

Other items in Linda's Box include water color brushes, Q-tips, paper clips, glue (we still don't know what kind!) or fingernail polish with acetone, and duct tape.

General Tips

In transporting lilies, they will generally do fine without water for a four-hour drive.

Be sure to carefully read the show schedule (inserted in this issue) to determine which categories to enter your lilies. This is best done at home.

In categories that call for three identical stems, try to make them look alike. In categories for three different stems, try to emphasize the differences--color, height, etc.

Good luck, and have fun!

Voles!

A Short Tale on Rodent Control

By Dennis Fitzgibbons

If you want to grow large numbers of lilies you will have to control rodent populations. I mean, specifically, the control of Voles.

What is a vole, you ask. A Vole is a small rodent resembling a mouse but with a stouter body, shorter hairy tail, slightly rounder head, and smaller ears and eyes.

There are approximately 70 species of voles. They are sometimes known as meadow mice or field mice in North America.

The vole's diet consists of seeds, tubers, bulbs, needles, bark, various green vegetation, such as grass and clover, and insects. They love lily bulbs.

You will see their trails in the grass like little rodent highways. If you see the trails, the damage is already done. There are several ways to control voles.

My personnel way is to poison them. I do this by finding their holes, placing rat poison around the hole and covering the poison with a clay pot. Place a brick on top of the pot. This keeps pets and other non-target animals from the poison. You can also use rat traps, baiting with peanut butter and placing them around the holes and placing a clay pot over them just like the poison.

Check the traps daily. An infestation of Voles will wipe out a lot of \$5 or \$10 bulbs. Voles have a very refined taste.

They always find the most expensive bulbs to eat.

Lilies in the Japanese Style

By Carol Bales Mahoney

Yoshiko Mitchell, an Ikebana instructor and MARLS member, recently talked about the lilies of Japan and how lilies are used in Japanese-style flower arranging.

“The lily has been admired in Japan from ancient times,” she says. “It is considered pure and sacred. Lilies, as well as peonies, were always admired as graceful flowers.”

YURI is the Japanese word for *Lilium*. Fifteen of the 96 species of lilies are indigenous to Japan, including *Lilium longiflorum* (Easter lily).

Japanese botanists were breeding lilies from 1603 to 1867. The famous botanist Dr. Phillip van Siebold introduced many Japanese lily bulbs to Europe in the 19th century.

Ikebana arrangers use lilies in every style arrangement—from traditional to free style.

Any color or shape of lily can be used and any kind of container, with a kenzan (pin-holders)

“Modern day designers try to bring movement to the lily design by using bent branches or a vine, such as bittersweet,” Yoshiko says. “This material should always enhance the lily, not distract from it.” Since the lily is straight, non-flowering branches, such as pine or bamboo, are often combined with lilies in arrangements.



Large arrangements may make use of a lot of different kinds of lilies.

Many Japanese arrangers like to use *Lilium maculatum*, SUKASHI YURI in Japanese, an orange, upright flower, one of the main parents of Asiatic hybrids.

Casa Blanca, another favorite of the Japanese today, was bred in New Zealand by hybridizing Japanese species lilies.

Yoshiko comments that lily arrangements were used in the home, but rarely in temples because of the fragrance. “Such fragrance was considered a distraction for the priests,” she says.

Yoshiko is no stranger to the annual MARLS lily show. She is a blue ribbon winner in the design division. Be sure to see arrangements “In The Japanese Manner” at the 2009 Lily Show.

News

Mini Show & Awards Luncheon Coming Up

Here's your chance to visit Marti Warhurst's lovely home and garden in St. Clair, MO.

The annual MARLS Mini Show and Awards Luncheon will be held July 11 at Marti's house, beginning at 10 a.m.

Bring a covered dish, your best stems, and a camera.

Driving directions: Take I-44 W, exit 239 for MO-30, turn left at MO-30, turn right at W. Gravois Rd. Mari's address is 2791 Gravois Rd.

You'll find a map on our web site.

Visit www.MARLS.org

The web site has been updated to include information about the Lily Show and the show schedule.

It also offers links for information on this year's annual NALS Lily Show, and directions to Marti Warhurst's home in St. Clair for the Mini Show.

During April, visitors to the site spent an average of 1 minute, 51 seconds. They viewed the calendar/events pages, including the bulb sale. We even had some visitors from other countries.

Welcome New

Members

Leslie Clark

St. Louis, MO

Shirley Pupillo

St. Louis, MO

Jeff Reames

Bethalto, IL

Carol Weidner

Webster Groves, MO

2008 National Show Photos

Courtesy of Pat & Don Kelley, who attended last year's NARLS convention in Vancouver Island



No Passport Required

By Ellen Mell

The exciting theme for the Design Division of the 27th Annual Lily Show 2009 is “No Passport Required.” Details of the five classes of design follow.

So, this year why not vacation at home?

Instead of Dijon, France, take a short jaunt to Springfield to tour the French’s mustard facilities.

CLASS 1: *Les Fleurs Jaune*. A design (Exhibitor’s Choice) of predominately yellow flowers.

Only Rome has more fountains than Kansas City.

CLASS 11: *Water, Water Everywhere*. A design featuring water.

Continuing our “trip to Rome,” we return home and tour the St. Louis Cathedral on Lindell to view the beautiful mosaics.

CLASS 111: *Mosaics*. A mass design of many different colored flowers.

Stay in St. Louis in August to attend the Greek Festival--the next day visit the Garden to enjoy the many events at the Japanese Festival.

CLASS IV: A design “In the Japanese Manner.”

In the Fall, wander around Laumeier Park, one of only a few sculpture gardens in the world.

CLASS V: “The Way,” a tubular design (Description/definition follows.)

Tubular Design

A Creative Design having a dominance of cylindrical components throughout. “Cylindrical” means “tubular” and both mean circular.

- a. Design may consist of more than one unit.
- b. Tubes may be of metal, cardboard, plastic, mesh, fabric, round plant stems, e.g., *Heliconia* stem, etc.
- c. Plant material and other (optional) components, imaginatively used, complete the design.

The usual rules apply. For this schedule, the designer may include accessories in any of the classes. And 32” tall black backgrounds may be draped or covered. Tables will have a black covering and 28” space allotted.

An exhibitor may enter only one design per class. Contact Ellen Mell, 636-285-0674 to pre-register as required.

See the show schedule insert for more details on Design and Horticultural Division rules and information.

Books

A Review by Kim Peterson

Lilies That Fester by Janis Harrison, 2001.

Lilies That Fester finds florist Bretta Solomon, a woman with a talent for solving puzzles,

overseeing a floral convention in Branson. While Bretta arranges meetings and handles disgruntled competitors she is distracted by a plea from the McDuffys, a couple who ask for her help with their daughter’s death. They believe the death was not natural.

Bretta arranges to meet with them and discovers that the McDuffys have disappeared. Her full attention now on this strange situation, she investigates their disappearance while dealing with a series of pranks at the convention that become increasingly dangerous. When they escalate to a final surprise, Bretta reveals who is behind it all.

Author Janis Harrison sets her mystery novels in Missouri where Bretta Solomon, a likable middle aged woman who just wants to work with flowers, is confronted with mysterious deaths she has to solve.

This light reading will provide a break for all lily enthusiasts from spring and summer gardening chores.



News from the Board

By Mary Lou Snider

Minutes of March 7 Meeting

President **Dennis Fitzgibbons** opened the meeting with information about the NALS Lily Show in Springfield, MO. Everyone is invited to bring stems, and there was a discussion on how to safely transport them. Hotel rooms are \$74 a night, and members are still talking about traveling in a caravan.

Pam Hardy brought a plate with painted lilies, donated by **Sue Rogers**, a volunteer for Missouri Botanical Garden. Dennis suggested we raffle the plate off at our Lily Show in June.

Carol Appelbaum said the Bulb Sale notice was not published in the Garden's Bulletin. Members talked about ways to ensure it would be in the future.

There were suggestions to pot up leftover bulbs and sell them at the next sale.

Lynn Slackman said there are now membership forms available on our web site, www.marls.org.

Carol Appelbaum gave the treasurer's report for **Audrey Ringhausen**. Starting balance was \$2,830; after income and expenses the balance was \$1,829. With two CDs for \$7,253, the ending total balance: \$9,082.

The Educational Seminar followed the meeting. **Don Kelley** demonstrated how he put together his drip irrigation system, with slides and commentary warning of potential problems. **Linda Smith** presented "How to Prepare Lilies for a Show."

Minutes of April 3 Meeting

We had a nice turnout for our bulb packing party. Twenty-three people came to help and all the work was done in a short time. We then enjoyed our pot luck supper and had a short meeting.

Our next board meeting will be held at **Kim Peterson's** house on Tuesday, May 5, at 7 p.m.

We need volunteers for the Lily Show on Saturday, June 20, and Sunday, June 21. Contact **Dennis Fitzgibbons**.

Everyone introduced themselves and told how long they had been in MARLS and how they got to be members.

The members voted not to give the usual \$25 to members who go to the NARLS Lily Show, since it will be held in Springfield,

MO, this year. More people will be going from our area.

Everyone who attended the Educational Meeting received a free Asiatic bulb.

Minutes of May 5 Meeting

President **Dennis Fitzgibbons** opened the board meeting at **Kim Peterson's** house. Eleven members were present.

Audrey Ringhausen gave a treasurer's report. The Spring Bulb Sale made a profit of \$873. The society's ending balance is now \$10,274.

Lynn Slackman has been updating our web site with a calendar, a map for directions to the Mini Show at **Marti Warhurst's** home in St. Clair, and advertising for the bulb sale in October.

Carol Appelbaum is working on the new schedule for the Lily Show in June. **Dennis** will be the show chair, and **Kim** will be the clerk chair.

Kim Peterson has also volunteered to be the chair for the bulb sale in October.

It was suggested we purchase three \$25 certificates for the Missouri Botanical Garden to give to the three judges for artistic design.

Kim suggested we shorten one of the bulb sales to one day, or maybe even the Lily Show to one day. There was discussion, but no decision was made.

National Lily Show's Here

June 26, 27 & 28 in Springfield, MO



MARLS members have a special invitation to attend

the 62nd Annual International Lily Show, held in Missouri.

“We need everyone north of us to bring as many stems as possible,” Art Evans wrote to Don Kelley. Art, a well known lily hybridizer, founded and currently is vice president of the Ozark Regional Lily Society, sponsor of this year's show.

The show offers a rare opportunity to enter your best lilies in an international show. You'll also have a chance to see thousands of show lilies, meet other growers, and tour lily gardens in the Ozark area.

MARLS is planning a caravan of cars headed for Springfield. Contact: Dennis Fitzgibbons, 314-517-6219.

Visit the our web site, www.marls.org, for more information and links to other sources. The show's address is www.conference.lilies.org.

Calendar

*Annual Lily Show
June 20 & 21
Orthwein Hall, MBG
Open to the Public
June 20, noon-5 p.m.
& June 21, 9 a.m.-5
p.m.*

*Awards Picnic & Mini
Show, July 11, 10 a.m.
Marti Warhurst's
Home*

*Fall Bulb Sale
Oct. 24 & 25, 2009
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
MBG*

Carol Bales Mahoney, Editor
Lily Trumpet
8766 Burton Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63114



The NALS 62nd Annual Conference and Show will be held this year in Springfield, MO, sponsored by the Ozark Regional Lily Society. It begins June 24 and ends June 28. The conference offers outstanding speakers and garden tours as well as thousands of award winning lilies on display at the show. Don't miss it.