



29th Annual Lily Show Is June 18 & 19

This year the Annual Lily Show falls on the peak weekend in June for lily flowers in the St. Louis area. The show promises to be spectacular.

We will have several new features. Potted lilies grown by society members will be for sale. And MARLS introduces a new photography section. You'll find articles related to the photo competition on the pages that follow in this newsletter.

The show now consists of three sections: Horticulture, design, and photography.

We encourage everyone to enter stems for judging on Saturday, June 18, 7-9:30 a.m.. Even if you don't think they are "blue ribbon" stems, you might have varieties no one has seen.

A brochure schedule with information on the horticultural and design divisions is inserted in this issue of the *Lily Trumpet*.

You'll find the photography division registration form and rules and regulations guide on the MARLS website, www.marls.org, as well as design and horticulture forms.

Please check over the schedules – the rule of the show. Use the schedules to decide which divisions and classes to enter. Experienced members will be at the show to help newcomers.

We also encourage entries in the design division. Ellen Mell has created an interesting theme, described more fully on page 3.

We have a wide variety of nice awards, and ask all our members to support the nurseries and other businesses that have provided them.

Potted lilies of all varieties and prices, some blooming, will be sold this year at the show. See back cover of this issue for details.

The public is invited June 18, noon to 5 p.m. and June 19, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The show will be in the Orthwein Room at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The event is free.

Three-year-old Lizzie Sepic found a lily she especially liked at last year's MARLS Lily Show. Lizzy was accompanied by her mother, Elise Sepic.



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New Members

Ray Cain
Godfrey, IL

Elizabeth Mattingly
Webster Groves, MO

Ben Renick
New Florence, MO

News from Members: Gloria LaBlance, who we haven't seen in a while, writes that she is still taking care of her flowers. And she enjoys it. She adds: "In the almost 30 years of membership in MARLS, I have enjoyed it all and made so many friends. Also got a lot of good food and recipes."

Officers

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Don Kelley
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Vice President
Bob Snider
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314-487-5321

Treasurer
Audrey Ringhausen
636-723-0908

Membership
Kim Peterson
314-421-6272

Past President
Dennis Fitzgibbons
314-517-6219

Highlights of Activities

In the President's Corner with Don Kelley

Our one-day spring bulb sale moved a lot of bulbs, but was less than a financial success. We had many bulbs left over. They all have been potted up and will be offered for sale during the show on June 18-19. Thanks to the members who are working to make this happen and also to Pam Hardy for pulling the sale together. Dennis Fitzgibbons will join Pam as co-chair for the fall two-day joint sale with the Daffodil Society.

Plans for our June show are coming together. We thank the MBG for giving us the space. Remember our new Photo Section this year. Share those great lily stems and photographs you have with the rest of us! Remind your friends to come and see the specimens, and to buy a potted lily that a member has carefully grown just for this occasion.

Judges training has continued over winter and spring and will culminate during the show. Those completing the course will be named Student Judges, and after three additional training sessions at NALS accredited shows, will become certified NALS judges. Thanks to Fred Winterowd, our master instructor, and his able assistants, Jean, Pam, and

Carol, who have conducted this complex training course.

The national show is in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, July 15-17. Hamilton is an easy two-day drive from St. Louis and gives an opportunity to see Niagara Falls and the Royal Botanical Garden in the bargain. Pat and I will be there. Attend if you can, and bring a stem or two!

Our awards meeting and pot luck will be in July. Check for details on our website, www.marls.org.

Everyone please make an extra effort to attract new members for MARLS this year. Growing lilies is a wonderful avocation for young and old alike. Our society and NALS offer lily lovers a chance to see, learn, and participate in everything relating to lily culture. It's a bargain, a pleasure, and lifelong rewarding experience. Join now! Our next meeting will be a brief one at the start of the June show.

Lilies (and everything else) in our yard are growing fast. The way this spring is going, everyone should have plenty of blooms for the show. They will inspire sales of our potted bulbs, too. I hope we all control our weeds (and critters) and have time and opportunity to enjoy our gardens.

What's Your Hobby?

By Ellen Mell

The exciting theme for the Design Division of the 29th Annual Lily Show 2011 is "What's Your Hobby." Details of the five classes of design follow.

Perhaps it's freshwater or....

CLASS 1: Deep Sea Fishing. An Underwater Design. Discussed on page 212 of *Handbook for Flower Shows*.

Maybe it's cooking. The Food Network has inspired many to cook. Presentation is one of the criteria for winning on the phenomenally successful...

CLASS 11: Iron Chef. An Exhibition Table--Type I, discussed on page 216 of the handbook.

Of course, a long-time favorite is...

CLASS 111: Gardening. A Creative Mass Design. See page 200.

An interesting avocation is...

CLASS IV: Visiting Lighthouses. A Reflective Design. See page 207 of *Handbook for Flower Shows*.

And what could be more fun than traveling and....

CLASS V: Riding Roller Coasters. A Multi-Rhythmic Design, discussed on page 205.

More Information

Designs will be staged in front of new 36-inch tall and 30-inch wide black backgrounds, made by Bob Snider. Tables will have a black covering. Lilies must be included in all designs.

No Missouri

Conservation material may be used. No artificial flowers, foliage, fruit or vegetables permitted.

Fresh plant material may not be treated.

Accessories are permitted.

An exhibitor may enter only one design per class.

To pre-register (required), contact Ellen Mell, 8250 Woodcliff, House Springs, MO 63051. Email: elnmell@aol.com. Phone: 636-285-0674.

Ellen will be happy to help with explanations regarding the design classes of guidelines in the *Handbook for Flower Shows*, contained in the *Federated Garden Club Handbook*.

See the show schedule insert included in this issue of the *Lily Trumpet* for more details on Design and Horticultural Division rules and information or go to www.marls.org.



Books

A Review by Kim Peterson

Field Guide to Photographing Flowers by Allen Rokach and Anne Millman. Amphoto, 1995.

June's MARLS lily show will feature a new

exhibit: Photography.

Would you like to enter but lack confidence in your photos? A guide to making good images will help you with that. The author suggests that you start with completing this sentence: "What I want to do is..." and define your photographic purpose. By asking this question you bring focus to what is most important to you in creating the photo, and from there you can make appropriate decisions in shooting.

You may want to capture a small interesting detail of a flower. Or perhaps you'd like to show the contrast of a field of flowers against their background. It's possible that one perfect flower exists in your sight line, and you want to record that perfection. The author gives guidelines for good composition that will highlight your purpose. "Less is more" is one of them, and he tells photographers to eliminate any extraneous thing that distracts from the goal of the photograph.

This field guide lays out techniques to take good photos. Lighting—the all important element of good photos, is extensively covered here. Back light and side lighting as well as typical top lighting are discussed in detail.

NALS Judging Class

Students of the NALS Judges' School, sponsored by MARLS, have completed Courses I and II and their written tests. They will undertake Lesson III, "Judging of Stems," at the Annual Lily Show on June 18.

Results of the tests will be announced on Sunday, June 19. The students must then successfully serve as student judges at three or more NALS-approved lily shows to become accredited NALS lily judges.

The students began their course of study last October.

"We should all be proud of the achievements of these future judges," says Fred Winterowd. Fred is the lead instructor, assisted by other accredited MARLS judges—Jean Winterowd, Carol Appelbaum, and Pam Hardy.

Growing Griesbach Seeds

Some lily growers in MARLS are watching seeds from a well-know lily hybridizer sprout under their grow lights this spring.

Dr. Robert Griesbach, the hybridizer from Delavan, WI, gave some of his tetraploid (tetra) Orienpet (OT) seeds to Fred Winterowd recently. Fred shared some of the seeds with others interested in hybridizing.

In the March 1, 2008, edition of the North American Lily Society (NALS) *Quarterly Bulletin*, Dr. Griesbach described some of his experiments.

Dr. Griesbach bred the wonderful OT 'Leslie Woodriff' as well as other tetra OTs and Asiatics.

We'll be watching for some Griesbach stems to be entered by local lily growers in future MARLS lily shows. Thank you Dr. Griesbach for this exciting new experience.

Photographing Your Garden

By Carol Bales Mahoney

Gardening is my passion now, but once it was photography. I was introduced to photography while a student at J (Journalism) School, University of Missouri-Columbia. By the time I graduated the camera had become an extension of my body. And I had acquired a degree and all the equipment (Nikon Fs) to become a full-fledged photojournalist.

My passion and assignments took me on travels abroad, peace marches and demonstrations, down country roads, and onto the meanest streets of Chicago. As a freelance photojournalist I specialized in telling stories of people and social issues through photographs for more than 10 years. But the equipment got heavy. And I found my life's vocation--a husband and children--and jobs that required more writing and editing than photography.

Over the years, photography has changed, and so have I. Photography is now more intertwined in my life than a constant focus. Retired, instead of mean streets I stroll around the backyard in the morning or evening hours to capture photos of my garden. So what transfers from photojournalism to garden photography?

Despite the revolution of digital cameras, photography as I

knew it has not changed, only the technology. Mastering light and composition are still what makes good pictures.

Light: Morning and evening hours are indeed the golden hours in the garden (or landscape) with an overcast sky coming in second. Look at how the light strikes the flower(s) you want to photograph. Nothing can be more exquisite than a backlit poppy in full bloom, well maybe an Oriental lily. If you need to shoot with uneven or contrasting light, expose for the highlights rather than the shadows to avoid losing detail. Less light can work to your advantage through depth of field.

If you adjust to the low light by opening up your aperture, as opposed to slowing the shutter speed, you will narrow your depth of field (the area in focus front to back) throwing the background out of focus. This reduces distractions.

Automated point-and-shoot cameras certainly make taking pictures easier, but you will have more control if you use manual focus and manual shutter/aperture or aperture-preferred modes.

Composition: Don Sullivan of Creve Coeur Camera offered some excellent tips during our Educational Meeting in March. He advised us to place the subject off center (though

there can be exceptions), think of the rule of thirds (a picture divided in thirds is pleasing to the eye), and remember that diagonals create motion.

While these general guidelines are helpful, look also for the magic in a composition. Elements of a photograph can come together in unpredictable and exceptional ways that make a composition unique. I'd argue this is what makes photography an art.

Photojournalists are taught to work a situation by moving about to change angles and elements in the frame, shooting as you move. When you find the right angle and the right elements fall into the composition you have your photograph. The great French photographer Henri Cartier-Bresson called this the "decisive moment." Believe me you know when you've got it from the tingle up your spine. I find this same technique works in the garden, though I no longer get tingles.

The wonderful thing about digital cameras is that you can shoot as many shots as you like (no film costs) and then review them on the spot. Select your flower(s) first and decide what you want to show about them. Then use your camera to frame your subject in different ways, shooting as you go.

1. Most serious garden photographers will use a tripod to get tack-sharp pictures. Truth be told, I always hated tripods. They seemed heavy and awkward,

but worst, they planted you in one defined spot.

Photography for me has always been about movement. A shaky camera can be reduced by holding the camera securely in the palm of your left hand while cradling it with your right hand. This will work with SLRs, but not the smaller cameras. And, always important, firmly plant your feet.

Why take photographs in your garden? It's an excellent way to record the location of your plants and their seasonal cycles as well as how well your plant combinations are working by color, shape, size, and texture. These photos will help you to plan future plantings and transplantings.

But the fun part is the opportunity to really look closely at your flowers and capture their beauty and unique characteristics. Do this during all seasons.

And then you can share your garden with friends near and far, enjoy your flowers during a long winter, and enter your best photographs in a Lily Show competition.

Resources

Check out the Missouri Nature & Environmental Photographers, www.monep.org. In 2009 I attended a terrific two-day seminar hosted by this group. A book I'd highly recommend: *The Art of Garden Photography* by Ian Adams, and be sure to read Kim Peterson's book review

Board Briefs

Summary of Minutes by Mary Lou Snider

The Board decided at its May 14 meeting to stop selling bulbs online and to limit the amount of bulbs we buy for the bulb sale. Pam Hardy, chair of the spring bulb sale, asked for help, and Dennis Fitzgibbons agreed to be co-chair for the fall sale.

Bulbs left over from the spring sale are being grown in pots for sale at the show. Fred Winterowd will make a sign to sell the potted lilies.

Treasurer Audrey Ringhausen reported a balance of \$2,513.80 in checking and \$7,715.62 in CDs. The profit for the spring bulb sale is \$200, although some bills have not yet been paid.

Bob Snider will make new backdrops for the Lily Show design division and a backdrop to use for taking pictures of the award winners. The Board approved \$100 for this purpose. The Board also voted not to give a \$5 coupon for design entries.

NALS has requested a contribution for web site maintenance. Lynn Slackman will seek more information.



Fred and Jean Winterowd instruct students in lily arranging during a class April 16 in Kansas City. The class was sponsored by the Garden Center Association of Greater Kansas City (GCA).

Show's New Photo Division

How to enter your pictures of lilies

This year the Mid America Regional Lily Society introduces a photo division at it's Annual Lily Show.

MARLS members and nonmembers (amateur and professional) of any age are eligible to enter.

Two monetary awards will be given: The Hal Schrei Memorial Award for Best in Show (\$25) and People's Choice (\$25).

The classes are:

- *P-1 Portraits of Lily--a close-up of a single lily bloom, or up to three blooms of the same cultivar.
- *P-2 Lilies in the landscape or garden.
- *P-3 Lilies and people.
- *P-4 Lilies and animals.
- *P-5 An arranged still life incorporating lilies.
- *P-6 Abstract or special effects incorporating lilies or lily elements.

Two color or monochrome photos may be entered per class. Mount on card stock or conventional mat of the

photographer's color choice. Minimum photo size is 4 x 6; maximum size is 8 x 10.

Debra Pratt, the Photography chairperson, a member of MARLS and the Daffodil Society, says a 2008 journey to six Midwest daffodil shows convinced her of the need to introduce photography divisions in flower shows hosted by MBG. MARLS had for several years talked of having a photo division but no one took the lead until Debra joined the group.

How To Enter

Photography exhibitors must register by completing a registration form. Go to www.marls.org to download this form and the Rules and Regulations. Or contact Debra at photograph.a.lily@gmail.com or 314-599-2778 for the forms or to ask questions. Registration forms must be returned no later than midnight on Thursday, June 16.

Potted Plants For Sale at the Lily Show



MARLS members have been growing individual lilies in pots for sale at the show. The selection includes a variety of lilies, some in bloom and some with blooms to come, at a variety of prices. Enjoy them in a pot and then plant in your garden in the fall. You might even find a lily you missed at the sale. See Don Kelley's upstarts growing on his deck during March in photo left.

Calendar

*Annual Lily Show
June 18 & 19
Orthwein Hall, MBG
Open to the Public
June 18, noon-5 p.m.
& June 19, 9 a.m.-5
p.m.*

*Awards Picnic & Mini
Show, July, details to
be announced*

*Fall Bulb Sale
Oct. 15 & 16, 2011
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
MBG*

NALS Lily Show

The North American Lily Society (NALS) will hold its 2011 national show and convention on July 13-17 at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton, Ontario. The show is sponsored by the Ontario Regional Lily Society and Royal Botanical Gardens. For more information, visit www.orlds.ca.

You may also check www.nals.org. While at this site, you can also get information on becoming a member of the national lily organization. The benefits are well worth the membership fee of \$20 per year.

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