



Lily Trumpet

www.marls.org

MAY 2008

MID AMERICA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY, AN AFFILIATE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN LILY SOCIETY

26th Annual Lily Show Is June 7 & 8

By Carol Appelbaum

Our Annual Show is the high point of the gardening year. It gives us a chance to share our best lilies and enjoy those of others.

See the show schedule inserted in this newsletter to decide which lilies you want to enter in the different divisions. Consider the three stem sections, or Section G, lilies grown in containers. How about a stem for "People's Choice," or a design for the Design Division?

Because of the early date of our show, combined with the cold weather and late spring, we

need all our members to show their lilies in bloom to make it a beautiful show.

Bring in your best lilies for display and judging at the Garden

A new sponsor for awards has been added this year, Hartke Nursery. Their certificate for nursery items will be the Jack Gagnon Memorial Sweepstakes Award. We thank them and all of

our award participants: St. Johns Bank and Trust Company, Wal



Mart, Winterowd Florist, Columbia-Platte Lilies, Sugar Creek Gardens, Thies Farm and Greenhouses, and the society's president and editor. Please check the schedule to see which lilies or designs will win these awards.

We also encourage our members to remember the three garden centers – Hartke Nursery, Sugar Creek Gardens and Thies Farm and Greenhouses – when you are doing your garden shopping this spring. All have a fantastic variety of plants, perennials, annuals, etc. from which to choose.

The public is invited June 7, noon to 5 p.m. and June 8, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



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Editor's Note

This spring I learned that a garden can not only be a place of hope and renewal, but also a reality check.

I was determined to give excellent care to my roses in 2008. So, out I headed in early March to prune away dead wood and identify roses badly damaged by the winter freeze. I found quite a few.

Once finished pruning, I began digging out the "newly departed." And, since I was determined to do everything exactly right, I also shoveled out the dirt in which those roses had been growing.

It was then that my knees began to hurt, especially my right knee (the shovel knee), and my back wasn't doing so good either. I tried to continue, but the situation got worse.

My husband (not a gardener) volunteered to dig holes and carry heavy items. Together, we managed to plant most everything arriving from the catalogs. And yes, I did put out the lily bulbs purchased at the spring bulb sale.

Now, after doctor visits, and the release of most of my tax rebate to a chiropractor, I'm exercising and walking--on the road to recovery.

But I know I must ease up a bit in the garden. I remember my favorite garden writer, Clarissa Start, who described the container garden she kept after she moved from her little house in Webster to an apartment.

I haven't done much container gardening. I figure I'll hold that in reserve, because I don't believe gardeners ever really quit. After containers, I hope, God willing, to spend time looking at my garden books, and gardening in my imagination. My hat's off to those who've already made that transition.

--Carol Bales Mahoney

This Is It: Show Time

President's Message From Fred Winterowd

How does your garden grow? With those March rains, our hope is that you provided good drainage.

People are still talking about Dennis Fitzgibbons' fine seminar at the March educational meeting.

Note the early date for our show. You may have fewer stems this year. But keep tabs on your LAs. They are beauties, and they will be the "stars" of the show

I have noted the increasing popularity of the LAs in the retail trade. Also, the wholesalers have upped the price of them. They seem to never miss a trick! Let's hope that our plantings have included a number of these beauties. Bring them in!!!

An early show also calls attention to the high value of the Artistic Division. Ellen Mell again has presented an excellent theme for us. As you know, this division of our show continues to gain popularity. I encourage you to take part in this creative display. A first place ribbon was Carol Mahoney's last year in her first entry ever. Go for it!

Look for an enlargement of the Educational Display this year. Note this setting we've titled, "The Center." Maureen, Don and I will present "Show

'n Tell." Our topics : pot culture, meeting the winners, and design (landscape and floral). We hope to have something for every visitor.

Jean and I pause to reflect very happy thoughts upon these 26 years of MARLS. We hold dear the many activities that encourage our mutual friendships. And, certainly, to everyone's appreciation of those exquisite flowers, Liliium!

Now, its On To The Show!

Officers

President
Fred Winterowd
314-423-5313

Vice President

Don Kelley
314-921-5246

Secretary

Jean Winterowd
314-423-5313

Treasurer

Audrey Ringhausen
636-723-0908

Membership

Kim Peterson
314-421-6272

Past President

Carol Appelbaum
314-291-1569

Drip Irrigation

Large crowd gets the details on installation

By Jean Winterowd

Dennis Fitzgibbons began his presentation on “Drip Irrigation: How to Install It” with this lovely lily from his



garden.

The seminar was given at the MARLS Annual Education Day at the MBG on March 1. Don Kelley, co-chair for the event, introduced Dennis.

Extra chairs had to be set up to accommodate the overflow gathering of 65. Dennis did not disappoint.

He covered the pros and cons and showed photos of the components needed for the several types of above ground systems.

He discussed planing the system, water resource, the system itself, mainline, and emitters.

After the mix of slides of beautiful lilies and system parts, Dennis gave a hands-on

demonstration of how to put a system together. He had brought all the parts and fittings necessary to construct a drip line irrigation system, and he answered all the questions the interested audience had to ask. You can find more information on drip irrigation at this web site, dripworksusa.com.

Drip Irrigation Advantages

- * Minimize fertilizer/nutrient loss
- * High water distribution efficiency
- * Allows safe use of recycled water
- * Moisture within the root zone can be maintained
- * Soil type plays less important role in frequency of irrigation
- * Minimizes soil erosion
- * Highly uniform distribution of water
- * Variation in supply can be regulated by regulating the valves and drippers
- * Fertilization can easily be included with minimal waste
- * Early maturity and a bountiful harvest

News

This Just In

An article, “Lilies, Glorious Lilies,” in the May-June issue of *The American Gardener*, is most informative.

It presents the garden of David and Stephanie Sims (Bonners Ferry, Id.) and their joy in growing lilies.

Stephanie is our North American Lily Society (NALS) Executive Secretary, and David is our NALS Webmaster. Both are so valuable.

I’ll bring a copy of this article to the Lily Show. It is a great read about a couple who truly are in the “front line” of lilies! Yes, you will enjoy their love of lilies.

--Fred and Jean Winterowd

Get Well, Fred

Our president, Fred Winterowd, had surgery on his shoulder May 14. He is now home recovering. We send our prayers and best wishes to Fred for a speedy recovery.

Cards and notes may be sent to Fred at 10099 Midland Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63114.

Get well, Fred. We need you at the Lily Show.

Tips on Removing Lily Pollen from Fabric

Let it dry, then brush it away with a tissue. Another method is to gently dab pieces of adhesive tape on the fabric until the pollen is gone. Carol A. says a foam make-up sponge works great on fabric (or lily petals). Don’t try to brush pollen with your hand or use water, which will set and stain the fabric. If some stain remains, place the fabric in the sun or use an enzymatic laundry detergent, such as Era.

Tips on Grooming

This article on grooming lilies for show exhibits is reprinted from the Potomac Lily Society Newsletter (May 2008).

Grooming is the practice of preparing specimens for entry in the show, to be good looking as possible.

Start by selecting your best stems--those which have a healthy, vigorous appearance, free from insect damage or disease. In a perfect world, the stem will have the number of blooms and buds typical for the cultivar, all well-spaced and with good color and size. Practically, pick the best stem of each cultivar you have.

Cut your stem in early morning or late evening and immediately plunge it into water for an hour to harden.

When hardened, place it in a container that allows you to stage the stem as you will want it.

Remove any leaves that would be in water. Carefully trim leaves to remove any brown tips or insect damage, but ensure that you retain the basic shape of the leaf. If necessary, remove heavily damaged or broken leaves and flower parts. If removing a withered flower, avoid leaving any stub or the pedicle.

Clean each leaf with a wet cotton swab to remove any dirt, spray residue, or insect remains. If cleaning is necessary on the bloom, it is best to use a dry artist's brush to remove dirt or pollen. Treat pollen as the enemy and do all you can to avoid spreading it beyond the anthers.

Place your stems in an appropriate container to transport them to the show. Keep stems from rubbing together and any contact that could cause bruising or damage to the stem or flowers. If appropriate, cover the anthers with foil cups or tissue to prevent them from staining the tepals. Finally, stage your stem in the show container so it is straight and has sufficient water.

How I Grow Seedlings

By Dennis Fitzgibbons

My way is not necessarily the right way. Like they say, there are more ways than one to skin a cat (or something like that).

1) I soak my seeds for about a week and change the water at least twice a day. This takes a week or two off the germination, and I believe gives a better germination rate.

2) I use a soil-less mix.

2 parts Miracle Grow potting soil

1 part vermiculite

1 part perlite

1-part pine bark fines

1 tablespoon of 17-17-17 /6-month slow release fertilizer (per container)

This has worked the best for me. It holds moisture but aerates and drains well.

3) I use 14 inch long X 8 inch wide X 5 inch deep plastic shoe boxes. You can buy them at Lowes for about \$1.28. They come with lids. After the seeds germinate, I use the lids as saucers. I use a packing slip sleeve and an aluminum label for each container that will follow them to the garden.

4) I use a natural fungicide called Root Shield and a product called Mighty Myco, a mycorrhizal



Some of the beautiful lilies from the Fitzgibbons' garden are shown above.

product. I have had no damping off and better root systems.

5) I place the soil mix that I've mixed in a 10-gallon plastic bucket into the shoe box with the fertilizer about ½ inch from the top. I sprinkle on a tablespoon of Mighty Myco. Then I place the seeds, using an eyebrow tweezers, about ½ inch apart. I cover this with ¼ to ½ inch of pine bark fines or grit. Water in with the Root Shield fungicide.

6) When the seeds start germinating I place them under 3 1000-watt High intensity lights that I run from about 6 p.m. till 6 a.m. Cost is about \$20 to \$30 a month. I fertilize with ¼ strength Miracle Grow.

7) Water once a week, maybe more if needed.

A Magical Place: The Library

By Ellen Mell

The Design Division theme for this year's Annual Lily Show is "Magical Place: The Library." Making arrangements is fun. So even if you've never entered one for judging, why not try your hand. See the enclosed schedule for details on registering.

Following are the classes in the Design Division:

CLASS 1: "Francoise Gilot's Matisse and Picasso--A Friendship in Art." A Design using two containers.

CLASS 11: Creator Jeri Taylor's "Startrek Pathways." A spatial thrust design.

CLASS 111: A Novel by Brian Keith Johnson, "A View From Here." A transparency design. (See description provided in the next column.)

CLASS IV: Bill Bryson's "A Walk in the Woods" (On the Appalachian Trail). A design to include branches.

CLASS V: Allen Rucker's "Entertaining with the Sopranos" (of TV fame). An exhibition table.



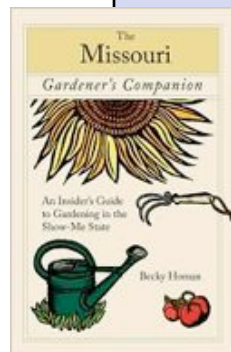
Transparency Design: A Definition

1. A Creative Design including see-through element/s that permit some components to be viewed through others.
2. For flower show purposes, the term "transparency" is interpreted as "to be seen through easily;" therefore, in addition to transparent materials, translucent, diaphanous, and grid-like materials are also acceptable.
 - a. Plant material. Examples are skeletonized foliage, branches, sea fans, open weave grasses, Gypsophila, etc.
 - b. Man-made materials. Examples: acrylic, glass, mesh, screening, open-weave fabric, grillwork, etc.
3. By positioning solid forms in front of and behind transparent ones an increased awareness of depth is realized.
4. Special lighting, particularly back and/or under-lighting, may further enhance the effect of a transparency.

Books

A Review by Kim Peterson

The Missouri Gardener's Companion: An Insider's Guide to Gardening in the Show-Me State by Becky Homan. Morris Books, 2008.



Becky Homan, who recently retired from the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* as garden editor, has written a new book to guide local gardeners. She starts with the basics of soil, seasons, and water, addressing these questions: What's in our St. Louis soil?

How do we make it better? What zone is St. Louis and why does that matter? How should we water our garden?

From there she covers several types of plants. The section on annuals notes our St. Louis trend of growing tropical plants such as banana trees and elephant ears. These do well in our hot, humid climate. Chapters about edibles feature herbs, vegetables, and fruits that will thrive, and the author gives details about cultivation to maximize yield.

Ornamental trees, shrubs, and lawns are covered, naming the best plants in each category for our area. A chapter on native plants helps gardeners visualize how to use these sturdy plants in the landscape design.

A final chapter lists area public gardens and parks where we can learn from the pros by visiting seasonal displays for inspiration and practical help.

The author's background as a St. Louis Master Gardener has allowed her to produce a useful resource for all Missouri gardeners.

News from the Board

By Jean Winterowd

Minutes of March 1 Meeting

President **Fred Winterowd** opened a short board meeting before the seminar on above ground irrigation systems.

Spring Bulb Sale:

April 12 & 13. Co-chair **Kim Peterson** said we have a great selection of new cultivars. Pictures are available on our MARLS web site.

Lily Show: June 6 & 7 at the Missouri Botanical Garden, with set up at 10 a.m. June 5. **Ellen Mell** reports the Artistic Division theme is "At the Library." To sign up to enter a design, call Ellen Mell at 636-285-0674. Division classes are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Education Center: A new self-guided display will offer tips on potting techniques/culture; landscape and garden design; and steps in artistic design. Ways to promote photographic opportunities at the show are in the planning stage.

NALS Convention:

Vancouver Island. **Pat Kelley** reports she and **Don and Jean**

and **Fred** will attend and take a side trip to Butchart Gardens.

Treasurer's Report:

MARLS has a balance of \$1,083.91.

Membership Report:

65 households are receiving the *Lily Trumpet*. Editor **Carol Mahoney** received many favorable comments on the *Lily Trumpet* and the color photos.

Fred expressed sympathy on behalf of the MARLS membership to **Linda and Ray Smith** on the passing of their son, **Paul**.

Minutes of April 26 Meeting

President **Fred Winterowd** opened the meeting by thanking hosts **Kim and Roy Peterson** for their hospitality. Reports included:

Treasurer's: **Audrey** informed us MARLS has a balance of \$3,903.21. The spring bulb sale netted \$739.88.

Web Mistress:

Maureen says we are having a good number of hits on our web site. She plans to add some photos featuring lilies in companion plantings.

Membership: **Kim** reviewed our roster and will send postcards to those not yet renewed.

Editor: Articles should be sent now to **Carol M.** for the *Trumpet*.

Spring Bulb Sale: Co-chairs **Carol A. and Kim**

reported bad weather caused less traffic and fewer sales. Best day was Sunday, when bulbs were put on sale for half price. **Carol A.** will plant the left over bulbs. New baskets will be purchased.

Scholarship: **Fred Winterowd** will be the new contact person. No students have applied so **Carol A.** will rework the application. We will offer the scholarship one more year.

Lily Show June 7 & 8:

The list of chair people is in place, and we checked for changes in the show schedule. **Carol A.** will have the schedule printed. It will be inserted in the *Lily Trumpet*.

Awards Picnic & Mini

Show on June 28: This will be held at the home of **Dennis and Lori Fitzgibbons**, 2208 Chariot, Fenton, MO 63026. Bring a potluck dish and some of your late blooming lilies.

Fall Bulb Sale: The MBG has changed the date. It will now be held October 11 & 12, 2008. We will offer a free bulb as an incentive to new members.

The meeting was adjourned for refreshments. Those attending enjoyed the beautiful day by relaxing on the patio and touring the lovely gardens of **Kim and Roy Peterson**, located in the historic Lafayette Square District of St. Louis.

News

Great Job on Bulb Sale

Carol Appelbaum and I, co-chairs of the sale, would like to thank everyone who came to our spring bulb sale to work and to buy lilies.

While the weather was miserable, and we had few sales on Saturday, business picked up on Sunday. When we slashed prices to half, we were able to move most of the bulbs. By the end of Sunday we had only about 80 bulbs left. We made a profit of \$739.88.

We hope to see some of those lilies at our show in June.
--Kim Peterson

Visit www.MARLS.org

To see upcoming events and photos from past events, go to our great web site.

During the month of April, there were 1,166 hits, or page views.

The web site has been updated to include dates for the fall bulb sale and Fred Winterowd as contact person for the MARLS scholarship.

Congratulations to Winterowd Florist on 75 Years

Winterowd Florist was founded by George S. Winterowd during the Great Depression. The business grew from a "Grower" format to "Retailer." After the war, Fred joined his father in the business. Educational pursuits led Fred into twin vocations: business and teaching. The third generation, Fred's son Paul, now provides the firm's leadership. The Society thanks Winterowd Florist for all the tremendous support through the years.

Annual Lily Show Team

General Chairperson: Fred Winterowd
Classification Chairperson: Maureen Janson
Judging Chairperson: Linda Smith
Design Division Chairperson: Ellen Mell
Clerk Chairperson: Claudia Chopp
Schedule: Carol Appelbaum
Awards: Fred Winterowd
MBG Liaison: Carol Appelbaum
Orthwein Hall Staging: Carol Appelbaum
Entry Lobby Staging: Claudia Chopp
Education Exhibit: Don Kelley
People's Choice: Jean Winterowd
Hospitality: Marlene Belew

Your Membership in MARLS

- Join an enthusiastic group of gardeners and learn about lilies!
- You will receive 3 issues of *The Lily Trumpet* and notices about meetings and events. Dues are \$10 per household. To join, complete the form below:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

e-mail _____

- I would like to receive *The Lily Trumpet* by (check one or both):
 Post Office delivery e-mail (please include your e-mail address above).

Send this form with \$10 dues to: MARLS Membership Chair Kim Peterson, 1705 Carroll, St. Louis, MO 63104.

Awards Picnic, Mini Show

Mark Saturday, June 28, on your calendar



The event starts at 10 a.m., and will be held at the home of Dennis

& Lori Fitzgibbons in Fenton.

Members of the Mid America Regional Lily Society are invited to attend the Annual Awards Picnic and Mini Show on June 28. Please come whether you are receiving a show award or not, and bring some of your late-blooming lilies for an unjudged

show. Don't forget to also bring a dish to share at the pot-luck lunch.

Directions: Take Interstate 44 to the Bowles Exit (in front of the Chrysler plant). Turn left. Follow Bowles around a curve past a large open area on your right. After the field you will make the 2nd right onto Fenway Drive (into a new subdivision). Follow Fenway till you see older homes. The Fitzgibbons home will be on the left, 2208 Chariot Drive, Fenton, MO 63026.

Calendar

*Annual Lily Show
June 7 & 8
Orthwein Hall, MBG
Open to the Public
June 7, noon-5 p.m.
& June 8, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.*

*Awards Picnic & Mini Show, June 28, 10 a.m.
Dennis & Lori Fitzgibbons' Home*

*Fall Bulb Sale
Oct. 11 & 12, 2008
MBG*

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



Come to the MARLS 26th Annual Lily Show on June 7, noon to 5 p.m. and June 8, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Members may bring their lilies in beginning at 7 a.m. on June 7. All entries must be in place by 9:30 a.m. Judging begins at 10 a.m. Opens to the public at noon June 7.