

Canadian Prairie Lily Society

Newsletter

JUNE 2001

Number 94

President's Message

Our prairie weather continues to puzzle and confound me, the toughness and the resilience of the trees, shrubs and perennials that grow here continues to amaze me. After a winter with very little snow, and in the midst of one of the driest springs on record, the Nanking cherries and Thunderchild crabapples are blooming profusely, as are the crocus (*Pulsatilla vulgaris*) and callianthemum (*Callianthemum angustifolium*). And of course, the lilies, which are quite drought tolerant, are growing vigorously and promising wonderful blossoms in the months to come.

One of the undesirable side effects of the drought is that animals in search of water are much bolder than usual. I live in the village of Hepburn, which has a population of approximately 400 people. In early May, I went out at 11:30 one evening to close my greenhouse for the night and discovered two deer in my back yard, munching on my tulips. I have seen deer tracks in my garden and lily beds on several occasions since then, and although the deer has not damaged the lilies yet, I have a feeling of dread every morning when I tour my yard. If anyone has a solution for deterring deer, please let me know.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out at

our booth at Gardenscape! Thanks to your efforts our bulb sales were very impressive. Volunteers are also needed for the CPLS Lily Show, which will be held at the Mall at Lawson Heights on July 19-21, 2001. We need people to help with duties including classification, clerking, set-up and registration. If you are interested in assisting at the show, please contact me at (306) 947-2830.

I hope that everyone is taking time to enjoy their yard and/or garden, and I hope that many of you will share the beauty of your lilies by bringing them to the lily show in July!

Barbara Adams Eichendorf



The Hybridizers: Dr. C.F. Patterson

by **Art Delahey**

Dr. C.F. (Cecil) Patterson was born in Watford, Ontario, in 1892. He graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College, then obtained his M.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois; and moved to the University of Saskatchewan in 1921 to become a lecturer. In 1922 he became the Head of the newly formed Horticulture Department, a position he held for nearly 40 years. In addition to teaching, research, extension and administrative duties, he was responsible for developing the campus grounds of the University of Saskatchewan - a beautiful legacy to Saskatoon and to the province. While Dr. Patterson concentrated on developing hardy plants for the harsh prairie climate, he did a great deal of work with roses and gladioli; and introduced many hardy, new varieties of apples, crabapples and plums.

Commencing work on lilies Dr. Patterson only had access to species lilies and a few of the Preston "Stenographer" clones to use in a breeding program. His lily breeding program started in 1934 and continued to 1952, the goal was to develop hardy pink, and white, lilies, which would not require special cultural techniques to withstand the prairie winters. He had grown *Lilium regale* as a potential white parent by using considerable mulching, but his real success started with *L. cernuum*, a dainty pink lily from China. In 1937 Dr. Patterson crossed *L. cernuum* with *L. davidii* var. *willmottiae* this proved to be the break through he was looking for. This crossing produced a mauve-pink, downfacing lily with up to 30 blooms. Never registered, this seedling (known as Original Pink and L.37-538-1) was used extensively as a pod-parent with other species to produce lilies the like of which had never been seen before.

While achieving this milestone Dr. Patterson was crossing several other species with notable success. His first registration was "Apricot Glow" in 1938 a result from crossing *L. davidii willmottiae* and *L. maculatum*. A sibling from this cross "Jasper" was registered in 1940. The first upfacing Patterson variety "Rose Cup" (registered in 1940) also came from this

cross. All three varieties are still popular in many gardens today.

From 1943 through 1953 came the descendants of L.37-538-1 "Rose Dawn" and "Rose Queen" (1943), "Edith Cecilia" (1944), "Burnished Rose", "Lemon Queen", "Pink Charm" (1945, "White Gold" (1950), "White Princess" (1953), and "Orchid Queen" (1957). Of these "Edith Cecilia" stand supreme. A soft pink, downfacing lily with up to 50 blooms and standing three feet, "Edith Cecilia" received the Award of Merit and the prestigious Reginald Cory Memorial Cup at the 1955 Royal Horticultural Society show. "Edith Cecilia" went on to establish itself as an excellent pod-parent for many later introductions by many noted breeders. The current RHS Register lists over 90 varieties in which "Edith Cecilia" is a parent, and there are countless varieties, which carry "Edith Cecilia" genes.

After Dr. Patterson passed away in 1961 the portion of his work, which was located on, his city-block-sized property in Sutherland (now Saskatoon) went with the property to the Oblate Fathers. They cared diligently for the lilies for several years which no effort was made to select and register worthy varieties from the over 200 varieties then on hand. The author purchased all of the lilies in 1968, and transferred them over two seasons to acreage, which is now Riverside Gardens. The Horticulture Department (Univ. of Saskatchewan), represented by Dr. Ed Maginnes, then took a very active role in selecting and registering worthy varieties starting in 1969 with "Cohoe", "Tiger Queen", "Honey Queen", "Indian Lady", "Northern Splendor", "Snowdrop", and "Cardinal Beauty". In 1970 "Laura Patterson", "Rose Marie", and "Northern Princess" were registered. "Golden Princess" and "William White" followed in 1974; and "Brown Ivory" and "Fairy Pink" completed the registrations in 1984. One variety was missed. Bulbs of it their way to Australia where B.G. Hayler liked it enough to register it as "Strawberry Roan" in 1980. No known trace of that variety exists today.

Many of the Patterson varieties are still commercially available. "Tiger Queen", "Golden Princess", "Jasper", "Rose Queen", and "Red Torch" are still on nursery lists and occupy a spot in many gardens with distinction.

CPLS is endeavoring to find bulbs of all Patterson varieties to incorporate into our heritage plots located at the Horticulture Department maintenance property at the University of Saskatchewan. We encourage any member who has unidentified lilies known to be of Patterson breeding to bring stems to the CPLS Lily Show or to photograph them in an effort to have them identified. We occasionally hear from gardeners who received lilies directly from Dr. Patterson, presenting excellent opportunities to find some of the missing varieties.

CPLS posthumously nominated Dr. Patterson in 1998 for the E.H. Wilson Award established by the North American Lily Society to recognize those who have made significant contributions to lily culture. This award was not in place when Dr. Patterson was active in his research and, as a result, he unfortunately was overlooked for many years. We are pleased that NALS awarded the E.H. Wilson Award to Dr. Patterson at the

1999 annual meeting - a fitting recognition that was long overdue.

The author was fortunate enough to take horticultural classes from Dr. Patterson while attending the College of Agriculture. "Dr.C.F." as he was known to many students was a very dedicated researcher, a fine gentleman and an excellent teacher who was respected and appreciated by all. The gardening community with his passing felt a tremendous loss as he had done extension work of the department in addition to his other duties. His memory is maintained through the naming of a peninsula on Lac La Rouge and a four acre garden at the University after him, but his legacy will forever be the great groundwork in lily breeding and the numerous hardy fruit trees which he developed for the prairies.

Editor's note: The author, Art Delahey, is the owner and operator of Riverside Gardens. Art was a student of Dr. Patterson; he had a major role in saving many of the Patterson varieties when the Oblate Fathers were to put the late Patterson property to other use.



New - Canadian Hybridizers: CPLS Show Class 12

The Canadian Prairie Lily Society is providing the lily enthusiast who shows a combination of heritage lily stems with a new award celebrating Canadian Hybridizers (Class 12). This award will be presented each year at the annual CPLS Lily Show. Stems from Prairie breeders and other Canadian breeders can be entered; for example varieties produced by Porter, Patterson, Fellner, Robinson, Simonet, and other know lily breeders who conducted work especially in western Canada. This list is far from complete, as others breeders who have produced excellent lily varieties include Burnett, Wright, Strohmman, Tarlton, Erickson, Fox, Sunley, and Dunville to name only a few more. The following lists are examples of some lily varieties that have been bred in Saskatchewan and Alberta. Please contact Herb Sunley, Art Delahey, Bob Caldwell, Margaret Driver and others in the Society for information on other varieties that are acceptable in Class 12.

Lilies hybridized by Dr. C.F. Patterson

Apricot Glow registered [R] 1938, introduced [I] 1949; *Jasper* [R] 1940, [I] 1949; *Rose Cup* [R] 1940; *Rose Dawn* [R] 1943, [I] 1951; *Rose Queen* [R] 1943, [I] 1952; *Edith Cecilia* [R] 1944, [I] 1952; *Burnished Rose* [R] 1945, [I] 1950; *Lemon Queen* [R] 1945, [I] 1952; *Pink Charm* [R] 1945, [I] 1951; *Fuchsia Queen* [R] 1946, [I] 1957; *Red Torch* [R] 1946, [I] 1958; *Bronze Queen* [R] 1948, [I] 1958; *Fuchsia Lady* [R] 1948, [I] 1958; *Primrose Lady* [R] 1948, [I] 1958; *White Gold* [R]; *White Princess* [R] 1953; *Orchid Queen* [R] 1957; *Rosalind* [R] 1958; *Tiger Queen* [R] [I] 1959 as *Crimson Queen*; *Cohoe* [R] 1959; *Honey Queen* [R] 1969; *Indian Lady* [R] 1969; *Northern Splendor* [R] 1969; *Snowdrop* [R] 1969; *Cardinal Beauty* 1970? Introduced as *Crimson Beauty* in 1960; *Laura Patterson* [R] 1970; *Northern Princess* [R] 1970; *Rose Marie* [R] 1970; *Golden Princess* [R] 1974; *William White* [R] 1974; *Strawberry Roan* [R] 1980; *Brown Ivory* [R] 1984; *Fairy Pink* [R] 1984.

Lilium davidii var. *willmottiae* was crossed with *L. cernuum* to produce seedling 37-538-1, which was never registered. This lily was crossed with various species and Stenographer clones to produce *Edith Cecilia*, *Lemon Queen*, *Orchid Queen*, *Pink Charm*, *Rose Dawn*, *Rose Queen*, *White Gold*, and *White Princess*.

Lilies hybridized by Dr. A.J. (Bert) Porter

Earlibird [R] 1956; *Golden Jubilee* [R] 1956; *Roseabelle* [R] 1956; *Rusty* [R] 1956; *Red Knight* [R] in cooperation with Percy Wright; *Scarlett* [R] 1960; *Firebright* [R] 1964; *Orange Light* [R] 1964; *Pink Champagne* ?; *Redland* [R] 1964; *Delicious* [R] 1965; *Princess Royal* [R] 1965; *Sunshine Bright* [R] 1965; *Flame* [R] 1969; *Red Carpet* [R] 1969; *Pink Chartreuse* [R] 1974; *Embarrassment* [R] 1975; *Flaming Giant* [R] 1975; *Geisha Girl* 1975; *Towering Turk* 1975; *Cheerful Charlie* [R] 1976; *Saskatoon* [R] 1977; *Jolly Miller* [R] 1979; *White Picture* [R] 1980; *Cinnamon Toast* [R] 1984; *Golden Age* [R] 1984; *Skydancer* [R] 1984; *Susan Eileen* [R] 1984; *Happy Thoughts* [R] 2001; *Gayle's Favorite* [NR]; *Glistening Star* [NR]; *Raspberry Rhime* [NR].

Other lilies Porter name and introduced: *Barber #17* [NR] hybridized by J. Barber; *Embarrassment* [R] 1975 hybridized by R. Simonet; *Girls Only* [R] 1975, hybridized by J. Barber; *Lady Dawn* [R] 1974, hybridized by J. Barber; *Honeybunch* [R] 1975, hybridized by J. Barber; *Make-believe* [R] 1976, hybridized by J. Barber; *Summer Night* [R] 1975, hybridized by R. Simonet; *Suntan* [R] 1974, hybridized by J. Barber; and *Sungod* [R] 2001, hybridized by E. Brooman.

Lilies Hybridized by Fred Fellner

Wanda [R], 1978; *Ice Cream* [R], 1978; *Lily Simonet* [R], 1978; *Marjorie Linda* [R], 1978; *Sally Jo Ann* [R], 1979; *Honey Pink* [R], 1986; *Lindsey Jennifer* [R], 1986; *Melissa Jamie* [R], 1986; *Sheri Katherine* [R], 1986; *Apricot Cream* [R], 1987; *Donna Sylvester* [R], 1987; *Golden Summer* [R], 1987; *Spacious Living* [R], 1987; *Yellow Joy* [R], 1987; *Alice Moger* 1988 (named and registered by B. Strohmman); *Coppertone* [R], 1991; *Gienah* [R], 1991; *Melusina* 1991 (named and registered by F. Tarlton); *Parkland Orange* [R] 1991; *Pink Peach* [R], 1991; *Salmon Cream* [R], 1991; *Alberta Rose* [R], 1993; *Linda May* [R], 1993; *Shirley Marie* [R], 1993; *Mary Margaret* 1994 (named and registered by B. Strohmman); *Master Gardner* 1994 (named and registered by U. of S. Extension); *Plumblossom* 1994 (named and registered by B. Strohmman); *Red Pine* [R], 1994; *Red Raven* [R], 1994; *Rosemary Margaret* 1994 (named and registered by B. Strohmman); *Smokie* [R], 1994; *Brown Buttercup* [R], 1995; *Mother Teresa* [R], 1995; *Raspberry on Whip* [R], 1996; *Red Blaze* [R], 1999; *Red Galaxy* [R], 1999; *Snow Leopard* [R], 1995; *Dori Jo* not registered.

Lilies named and registered by Fred Fellner and hybridized by R. Simonet: *Robert Simonet* [R], 1997; *Lily Simonet* [R], 1978; *Kimberley Ann* [R], 1979.



CPLS NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!!

A successful society is a result of membership participation. CPLS needs its members input to remain a successful, viable society. There are specific areas in which members can volunteer their expertise and hands. Remember - many hands lighten the load.

Here are some areas in which you may be able to help CPLS in the coming year -

1. LILY PLOT MAINTENANCE - Plot managers need help with weeding and general plot maintenance during June, July and August. For details as to how you may help please call Stan Dunville at 343-1963.

2. FALL BULB DIGGING John Bond, the Fall Bulb Sale Chairman, requires volunteers to help with digging bulbs at the three CPLS plots in September. This activity usually takes place in the morning and lasts about three hours. John can also use help in packaging up mail out orders. Contact John at 374-2953.

3. LILY SHOW CHAIRPERSON - if you are interested in the "inner workings" of how to stage a lily show now is your chance! Our current show chairperson would like an assistant. For details on how you can help contact Barbara Adams-Eichendorf (306) 947 2830.

From the CPLS Library

Do you have questions about your favourite flower, the Lily?

Would you like to read information about the early history of lily hybridizing?

Are you having difficulty in understanding the "new" terms - polyploidy, tetras, 2x4?

Or, would you just enjoy reading about parents, pod and/or pollen that is?

The Canadian Prairie Lily Society has a Library of books ALL pertain to the Lily.

If you require specific information I'll do my best to find it for you.

Books will be mailed via first class postage, insured; as soon as possible after receiving your request. We ask that within three weeks you return the books in the same manner, via first class postage, insured.

Address your request to:

CPLS Librarian

To be confirmed in September

Tips On Preparing Your Lilies For Show !!!!!

How do I choose a lily stem for show? How do I prepare my lily stem for the show bench? What are the judges looking for in a lily stem? Whether you are a long time grower or a recent entrant, these are the questions that come up at the show each year. Show preparation may begin months before with your choice of lily bulbs for fall planting and ends when you place your stem on the show bench. Study the show schedule carefully as most have the judging criteria described- this will tell you basics your stem will need for show. However, a show stem must have more than the basics to be a winner- *it must well groomed and presented.* Here are some factors to consider when choosing stems:

GARDEN GROOMING

Grooming for potential show stems begins at the first emergence in the spring. Judges look at the foliage as well as the flowers. Start early with a regular spray program soon after emergence to help protect lilies against insect damage and botrytis.

If you live in an area that receives spring frosts you will need to protect the stems against those cold mornings. Frost can also kill the buds on Asiatic and Martagons causing "blind" stems (stems without flowers). Frost can damage the foliage, which in turn can invite botrytis infections. If the stem is not growing straight, stake it early and check regularly to keep it straight and prevent the ties from damaging the stem.

As the inflorescence begins to expand check it regularly for placement and for any buds that might be aborting or deformed. Any bud that is aborting or deformed should be removed as early as possible. Cut or pinch the bud and pedicel as close to the main stem as possible. With practice this "surgery" will hardly be detectable at bloom time.

ADVANCE SHOW PREPARATION

Obtain a show schedule and entry tags in advance.

Read the show schedule carefully noting the rules and regulations for the show. Check all the sections of the show for possible entries. Fill out in advance as much of the entry tag as possible. Have a supply of address stickers or a rubber stamp for the name and address sections of the entry tag. Take a supply of paper clips and rubber bands with you to attach your entry tags if necessary.

As the show date nears, walk around your garden and make a list of show possibilities. Check the official classification of your lilies by looking them up in the RHS Lily Register and Supplements. This information is required on the entry tag and will help in placing your entries in the correct classes at the show. If this fails the Show Classification Committee will help you at show time. Obtain the Lily Judges Handbook, not only will it tell you what the judges are looking for but it will help you learn more about lilies.

GROOMING MATERIALS

Get your grooming materials ready that you will need the day of the show. Some of the basics are: a pair of small, sharp scissors, a small soft artist brush, a sharp knife, cotton swabs, single edge razor blades, florist tape, ink pens and pencils.

CUTTING AND STORAGE

When the show is a week away, you can begin cutting stems for show. Most lilies will last a week in refrigeration without any deterioration. The stems are cut the morning the first flower opens. They are stored in a refrigerator at temperatures of 34°-40°F. Some refrigerators will dehydrate the flowers. If this happens then you will need to cover the stem with a plastic bag before putting it in the refrigerator. Before placing your stems in refrigeration wrap a small piece of foil around the anthers to avoid pollen stains. Refrigeration will keep your lilies up to a week for a show but there are some problems involved. Never tie the buds so they cannot open. The lily will open when it is ready and if tied, you will end up with deformed flowers. Also be careful about overcrowding, as the flowers must be free to expand. If they are against something when opening they will be misshapen.

When refrigerated some oranges and reds will lose colour; or some lilies will open their flowers out of sequence when refrigerated. Always check the water levels so that the stems do not use all the water in the container.

TRANSPORTATION

Everyone has their own method of transporting lilies to the show. If you are taking just a few stems then individual containers that hold the stems away from each other is the most successful. You can use soft drink crates and scatter the stems in bottles so that they do not touch. With larger amounts of lilies I have had some success by taking the stems in buckets of water, placing the stems so that they don't move about in the buckets.

STAGING

The way your entries are staged in the container can easily affect its appearance in the show. When you get ready to groom your stems get the containers that you need and fill them with water. This will give time **before** placing your entries to check the container for any leaks. Attach the entry tag on the container before you place the stem in it. Remove all leaves from the part of the stem that will be in the container. Put the stem in the container and block it in so that it will be straight and will not fall to one side when being moved to the show floor. There are a variety of materials that may be used- pieces of stem, wooden wedges, paper towels, (*and rhubarb*) or pieces of foam. They wedge the stem in tightly, do not "give" and do not absorb water. The stem need not go to the bottom of the container. Keep plenty of height and proportion to the stem. Making sure that the stem is in water and will not move around is all that is necessary.

GROOMING AT THE SHOW

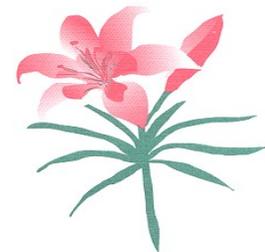
An average stem can become a good stem with proper grooming. Grooming is making your stems appear their best at the show. Grooming is not trying to fool the judges as a good judge will be able to detect the grooming you have done and appreciate that you have done your part in making the lily look its best.

Any faded flowers should be removed, cutting the pedicel with a razor blade or sharp scissors neatly next to the stem. A cut should be made on each side of the

pedicel to avoid pulling off a section of stem. If a pedicel has been bent during transit, take a small piece of wire and put it along the bend and wrap the pedicel with florist tape! If this is done the day before the show, the stem will often mend itself and will not show when the tape and wire are removed for the show. Using a cotton swab to gently clean any dirt, pollen, spray residue, insects and spiders from the foliage. If stains do not come off a wet towel might be used but keep in mind you are often only rearranging the debris with water and it will reappear again when dry.

All insect damage, burned tips and diseased foliage should be removed. Leave as much of the leaf on the stem but trim off the bad parts with sharp scissors. By starting at the tip of the leaf and following the shape of the leaf, most leaves can be left on the stem by simply cutting away the damaged area.

Pollen should be brushed off the flowers and foliage with a dry artist brush. Any time moisture comes in contact with the pollen a stain will result. Sometime these stains can be removed with a cotton swab dipped in a bit of baby shampoo. The last step in grooming is removing the foil from the anthers. This should be done very carefully to avoid removing an anther and to avoid spilling pollen on the flowers or foliage. Before the entry goes to the show room make sure that the entry tag is on the best side. After you have all your entries groomed and entered in the show, if there is time and if the show floor is open, walk around the show and double check to see that your entries have been placed in the right section and class. Check the water levels and dust off any pollen that might have fallen during movement. **[This article was modified from the NALS Quarterly].**



Coming events and Lily Shows

JULY 7 & 8, 2001

ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY: Sixth Annual Martagon Lily Show, Devonian Botanic Gardens, Devon, Alberta.

JULY 11-15, 2001

NORTH AMERICAN LILY SOCIETY: 54th Annual Lily Show & Symposium will be hosted by the ONTARIO REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.
Registrar: Michael Homick.
e-mail: mhomick@execulink.com.

JULY 16 & 17, 2001

KINDERSLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: Annual Lily Show will be held at the United Church Hall, 520 Main Street, Kindersley, Saskatchewan.

JULY 19-21, 2001

CANADIAN PRAIRIE LILY SOCIETY: Annual Lily Show will be held at The Mall at Lawson Heights, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Chairperson: Barbara Adams-Eichendorf (306) 947-2830.

JULY 19-21, 2001

SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN LILY SOCIETY: Annual Lily Show will be held at the Southland Mall. Chairperson: Maida Gardner (306) 586-5700

JULY 19-22, 2001

2001 LILY FESTIVAL. Neepawa, Manitoba. For information call (204) 476-8811 or FAX: (204) 476-5231.

JULY 20-21, 2001

ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY: Annual Lily Show. will be held at the Bonnie Doone Shopping Center, 83 St. and 82 Ave. Edmonton, Alberta.

JULY 27-28, 2001

MANITOBA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY: Annual Lily Show. Winnipeg, Manitoba. For Information phone (204) 476-8811 Or fax (204) 476-5231

From the Editor's Desk.....

The CPLS newsletter needs articles from the membership. Articles about general culture, fertilizing, pot culture, forcing lilies, companion plants in lily beds, lily diseases/pests, hybridizing, lily species, lily classification, lilies in floral design, advances in lilies, showing lilies or notes based on your personal experiences growing/showing/ hybridizing lilies are of great interest to all and can be very helpful. Please consider writing for your newsletter.

Your editors would really appreciate getting some articles from the membership - our society has many knowledgeable members so let's all contribute to make the newsletter interesting and useful to all.

Any article submitted will be considered for publication, please include your name and a complete address. Newsletter **DEADLINES** are February 15, May 15, August 15 and November 15. So get pen to paper, fingers to keyboard and send your words to :

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