

Canadian Prairie Lily Society

Newsletter

June 2005

Number 108

President's Message

Spring is underway in Saskatchewan. Sunny days have been a rare commodity – cloud, rain and cool temperatures have been the norm. However, the lilies and other plants appear to be coping well. There were several very cold nights that affected some of the early lilies. A clump of 'Guinea Gold' martagons were flat on the ground one morning while others martagons nearby showed no effects of the cold night, but once the sun came around "Guinea Gold" popped back up! With any luck the cold nights will have had minimal affect on our lilies and there will be many great stems on show tables later this summer.

Since our last newsletter in March many exciting things have been happening. The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING on March 22 was held at Dutch Growers. Committees presented their reports, elections were held and following a short coffee break and shopping spree the group was treated to a very interesting well illustrated presentation on perennials and oriental lilies.

GARDENSCAPE'05 was held in Saskatoon on April 1 – 3. Our booth was a great success thanks to the organizing skills of Jim Sullivan, Art Delahey, and Bob Caldwell and all the many members who worked through out the show.

NALS Regional Award Medals were presented to Herb Sunley and Art Delahey for their outstanding contributions. Both have worked with great enthusiasm for more than 30 years to promote lilies in the prairie regions. They are both founders of the

Canadian Prairie Lily Society (Saskatchewan) and mentors for other lily societies that have since sprung up on the prairies. Art and Herb played integral roles in the three NALS Shows hosted in Saskatoon. Thank you both for your enthusiasm and generosity.

"PRAIRIE PHOENIX" was launched on May 10th at Government House, Regina Saskatchewan. This was an exciting event to which I was invited to and represented the Canadian Prairie Lily Society. CPLS was one of the supporters for the production of the book *Prairie Phoenix: The Red Lily in Saskatchewan* written by Bonnie J. Lawrence and Anna L. Leighton.

PRAIRIE GARDEN AWARD for EXCELLENCE: CPLS President received a letter from Linda Pearn, Chair, The Prairie Garden Awards Board calling for nominations of groups or individuals making a significant contribution to the advancement and/or promotion of horticulture on the Northern Great Plains. CPLS executive nominated the Honeywood (A.J. Porter) Heritage Nursery. I am happy to announce that our nomination has been awarded "The Prairie Garden Award for Excellence. The award is one thousand dollars (\$1000) and a suitably inscribed plaque. The winner will be featured in the 2006 "Prairie Garden".

SUMMER 2005:

CANADIAN PRAIRIE LILY SOCIETY SHOW:

Workers are needed to stage our show which runs over a three day period July 21, 22, & 23. Please consider

giving some of your time (2 to 3 hours) to help make this event a success. Contact: Bob Caldwell at (306) 374-2873

CPLS BULB SALES:

Membership sale and general public sale information will be in the September newsletter and on the website.

I hope to see many of you at the CPLS lily show in Saskatoon and the NALS Show in Winnipeg. Take the opportunity to attend the NALS show in Winnipeg this July. Our Manitoba counterparts have planned an exciting show. There are numerous natural and historical sites surrounding Winnipeg that will

compliment the show and provide for a well rounded holiday for the gardener and non-gardener..... SEE YOU AT THE SHOW!
.....Margaret.

CPLS Scholarship 2005 Recipients

April 11, 2005

Art Delahey
Canadian Prairie Lily Society
18 Pony trail
Riverside Estates, SK
S7T 1A2

Re: Canadian Prairie Lily Society Scholarship in Memory of Dr. J. M. (Milt) Bell & Canadian Prairie Lily Society Bursary

Dear Mr. Delahey,

Awards Night was held on March 16, 2005 and once again was a huge success. Your continued support of our students is greatly appreciated and is making a difference. The following are a couple of recent student testimonials:

“Thank you so much for your generous bursary which you have awarded me! I would like you to know how much this money will help me as I am paying my way through school and have many student loans. I appreciate it so much and will put the money to good use!” Holly Smith

“I would like to express my appreciation of the approval for this years’ Gold Scholarship. My future plans are to return to Olds College to attain my Bachelor of Applied Agriculture degree. This scholarship will greatly facilitate my financial needs for the upcoming year.” Rhen Tumbach

During the recent awards ceremony the Canadian Prairie Lily Society Scholarship in Memory of Dr. J. M. (Milt) Bell & Canadian Prairie Lily Society Bursary, in the amounts of \$1000 were awarded to Leona Megli & Inga Behm.

Once again thank you for your continued support of our learners at Olds College. We strive to be the premiere college delivering education and training in the fields of agriculture, horticulture, land and environmental management, agribusiness, rural entrepreneurship and applied research.”

If you have any questions or require further information about the exciting initiatives at Olds College kindly contact Doug Pearce at the Office of Advancement.

Yours truly,
Doug Pearce
Director of Development
Olds College

March 18. 2005

Attention: Mr. Art Delahey
Treasurer
Canadian Prairie Lily Society
18 Riverside Estates, SK
S7T 1A2

Dear Mr. Art Delahey,

I had the honour of receiving the Canadian Prairie Lily Society Scholarship in Memory of Dr. J. M. (Milt) Bell. Thank you very much for your generosity!

I am a student in my third year at Olds College. I am currently taking the Bachelor of Applied Science in Horticulture majoring in Landscape Management. I am about to embark on my Directed Field Study (DFS) at a Landscape Design and Construction firm near Calgary. The DFS is a practicum which focuses on achieving learning goals through mentorship. This position required me to move and find new accommodations. I had been wondering where I would find the money to pay for rent and damage deposit when I was told I had won this scholarship. It could not have come at a better time for me.

Once again, thank you very much.

Yours truly,

Leona Megli.
4226 51 Ave
Olds Alberta
T4H 1A7

Inga Behm
Unit 1C 5300 46 Ave

Olds, AB
T4H 1X6

Attention: Mr. Art Delahey
Treasurer
Canadian Prairie Lily Society
18 Pony Trail
Riverside Estates, SK
S7T 1A2

Re: Canadian Prairie Lily Society Bursary

Dear Mr. Delahey,

I am writing to thank you and the Canadian Prairie Lily Society for making the \$1000 Bursary available to me and other students in the future. I appreciate very much the opportunity to receive this generous gift. The bursary will help me move on from my third year at Olds College at the end of March 2005 to continue my studies and work experience in horticulture. I will be my 8 month Directed Field Study in April and this will conclude my Bachelor of Applied Science in Horticulture – Landscape Management Major.

Again, thank you for your generosity in providing this gift. It definitely came at the most needed time and will help me a great deal.

Sincerely,

Inga Behm.

Coming Events.....

JULY 9 - 10, 2005

ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY: TENTH ANNUAL MARTAGON LILY SHOW will be held at the Devonian Botanical Gardens, West on Yellowhead or Whitemud, south on Highway #60. Everyone Welcome. Contact: Lil McLean at 780-467-2660.

JULY 15 – 17, 2005

NORTH AMERICAN LILY SOCIETY: 58TH ANNUAL LILY SHOW and SYPOSIUM hosted by the Manitoba Regional Lily Society at the CanadInn-Polo Park, 1305 St. Matthew's Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. For more information contact: Sandy Venton at (204) 888-2837
Or e:mail at felix1@mts.net

JULY 22 – 23, 2005

CANADIAN PRAIRIE LILY SOCIETY: 39TH ANNUAL LILY SHOW will be held at The Mall at Lawson Heights , 134 Primrose Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

SOUTH SASKATCHEWAN LILY SOCIETY INC: 14TH ANNUAL LILY SHOW will be held at the Golden Mile Mall, Regina, Saskatchewan.

JULY 23 – 24, 2005

ALBERTA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY: 20th ANNUAL LILY SHOW will be held at the Westmount Centre, 111 Ave. & Groat Road, Edmonton, and AB. Contact Lil McLean at 780-467-2660.

NALS Mid Winter Meeting by Barbara Adams-Eickendorf

The mid-winter NALS Board of Directors meeting was held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Phoenix, AZ, on January 22, 2005. (Committee meetings took place on Friday Jan. 21, but because I am not a committee member, I planned to attend only the Saturday meeting.) I was able to attend this meeting with the much-appreciated financial support from CPLS. The trip was somewhat eventful, starting with an early morning phone call from my travel agent informing me that the runway at the Saskatoon airport was so icy that the airplane that I was supposed to take to Winnipeg, then on to Denver was too large to land; and could I be at the airport an hour earlier than planned to catch an alternate flight to Calgary and make connections from there. And so, after a white-knuckle drive to Saskatoon, I got to the airport in time to catch the flight to Calgary, but arrived in Calgary too late to catch the connecting flight to Denver.

Luckily, there are several flights from Calgary to Denver so I was able to catch a later flight and finally arrive in Phoenix late Friday evening, about four hours later than planned.

The Board of Directors meeting is an all day meeting, starting at about 8:30 a.m. and running till business is finished, usually 4 or 5 p.m. There were approximately 20 people present for the meeting including President Eugene Fox, U.S. Vice-President Linda Smith, Canadian Vice-President Dolores Nelson, Treasurer Ede Strand, Secretary Barbara Holland, 9 Directors, 3 Committee Chairpersons and 2 Regional Representatives.

Most of the meeting consisted of listening to and discussing reports, including Finance, Judges Accreditation, Membership, Publications, Seed Exchange, Show Guidelines and reports from various Regional Societies. I won't report on the entire meeting but will try to highlight some points of interest. (For anyone who is interested the complete minutes of the meeting are published in the March 1, 2005 NALS Quarterly Bulletin.

Membership in NALS stands at 1,063. There are 84 Life Members, 586 U.S., 181 Canadian, 152 Overseas, 25 Regional and 35 Institutions to make up this total. A new Regional Society has been formed in Indiana and

has requested affiliation with NALS. This was voted on and approved.

Wilbert Ronald reported that the Research Trust Fund will be able to grant between \$7,000 and \$10,000 to research projects this year. The largest portion of the funding continues to be designated for the University of Rhode Island's lily beetle project. Because of the threat this insect imposes to lily gardening, this research is deemed to be very important.

The Show Manual for Judges and Exhibitors is in the process of being revised. As revisions are almost complete, the manual should be available later in 2005. Mike Homick has been corresponding with Victoria Matthews, who is the International Lily registrar at RHS (Royal Horticultural Society). Ms. Matthews has been revising the 1982 Register plus the supplements. These are to be combined and published in book form as well as made available on the RHS web site. It is hoped that this will happen in 2006 but there is still a tremendous amount of work to be done.

Ted Sobkowich and Sandy Venton from the Manitoba Regional Lily Society presented information regarding the upcoming NALS Show in Winnipeg. The show will take place July 13-17, 2005 at the CanadInn-Polo Park. They have acquired an impressive group of people to present seminars. Norgart Martschinke from Germany will be speaking about her work with martagons and the North American hybrids. Jaap van Tuyl, a hybridizer and geneticist from the Netherlands will be speaking about his areas of expertise, which include interspecific hybridization, polyploidisation, embryo rescue, development of molecular marker techniques in lily and tulip, resistance breeding and flower longevity. David Sims of Idaho will be speaking about his hybridizing program which involves interspecific crosses between martagons and Asiatics: 'martasians', and Antra Balode of Latvia will make a presentation about lily hybridizing in Latvia. Dr Wilbert Ronald will be the Dinner Speaker at the Awards Banquet and will give an overview of his work with orientpet hybridizing in Manitoba.

Frans Officer submitted a proposal to the NALS Board of Directors that a Lily Photography Contest be

included in the NALS Show. This idea was met with enthusiasm, as there are many benefits including the possibility of seeing lilies that are not in bloom at show time.

The meeting ended shortly after 4 PM and we were able to spend a little time enjoying the warm weather before the Friendship Banquet at 7 PM. The courtyard of the hotel is nicely planted and well kept with many large shade trees as well as shrubs, annuals, and perennials. The bougainvilleas and oleanders were in bloom, and it was fun to stroll around and look at the plants – sago palms and ponytail palms in the hot sunny areas and ferns and aspidistra in the cooler, shady areas.

The Friendship Banquet is a great time to visit with friends and strike up conversations with people that you only see once or twice a year. And the weather was so warm that after the meal was over we ventured outside to the courtyard where we were able to sit and visit comfortably till after 11 PM.

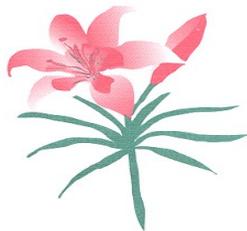
Sunday morning, after many exchanges of “Travel

safely!” and “See you in Winnipeg!” people started their journeys home or on to extended vacations. My journey home was uneventful, accompanied by warm thoughts of ‘lily people” and I look forward to seeing many of them again when we meeting at the show in Winnipeg in July 2005.

Photos -jpegs or prints!!!!

The web master can use all the photos members can send in. This summer head out into your garden and photograph!!! Photograph your favorite lilies, perennials, annuals and views of your garden then send the prints (which will be returned to you if you wish) or jpegs to the webmaster. The webmaster is

in the process of obtaining several software programs to launch your photos into cyberspace.



Executive and Board Members 2005

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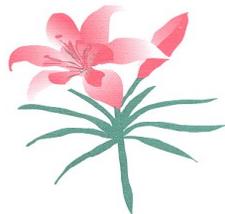
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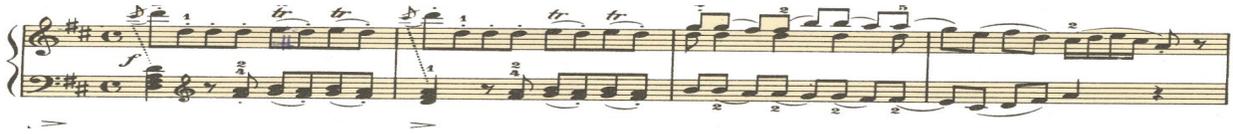
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A Garden Sonata



"I took a walk in my garden one day to look at my lilies and was amazed at what I saw. Connecticut Yankee stood like a sentinel watching the bees gather honeydew. Every flower seemed in harmony. Maybe they had pink champagne before I arrived, as there was such a radiant glow in the garden.

Enchantment and Prosperity were telling Joan Evans that Prince Charming had found his first love and gave her a corsage.

Then I had a nice visit with nobility. The Carnival Queen was entertaining Lemon Queen, Rose Queen, Orchid Queen, Bronze Queen and even an African Queen. Fuchsia Lady, Primrose Lady and a White Princess were trying to get the attention of a black prince who was on a mission for King William. Some old mountaineers were hid among the evergreens, but they looked happy because all the harlequins were having such a good time.

A new era opened for me – and I didn't need a tiger in my tank. I had them in my garden in many colours of pinks, yellow, tans, reds, and golds.

Some foreign ladies in the Sunday best – one who called herself the Empress of China and another the Empress of India - wanted to get in the limelight too.

The meadow larks, cardinals, and red birds weren't afraid of the black and green dragons: they were having so much fun with the whirlybirds.

To add zest and flavour to the garden, there were paprika and tabasco and even Nutmegger was spicing up for a golden wedding.

The Inca Princess, in her royal robes, was talking to Uncle Sam and Ruby when a black cloud with a thunderbolt of fire flame and fury gave way to a jamboree of good hope. For here came golden nuggets of rain at eventide.

Then when the sunset in its apricot glow told me that soon stardust would fall and morning's pink and silver sunburst would again in all its golden splendor proclaim me a queen of Hearts in my garden.

As I bade them all good night, the northern lights of amber gold, in all their regal splendor, brought me back to the discovery that I had found in my garden and achievement and adventure in life: and destiny had brought me here"

[**Editor:** A Garden Sonata – was originally written by Mrs. Suzie Johnson in 1972. Mrs. H. W. Johnson, Verdi, Minnesota sent this clever essay using the names of hybrid lilies. To test your ability to know many of the currently (in 1972) available varieties, underline those you can identify, some are easy, others may fool you. The complete list of names will appear in the September CPLS newsletter. There are 69 names in all. "A Garden Sonata" appeared in the June 2004, Volume 38, Issue 2 of the Ontario Regional Lily Society Newsletter]