

# Canadian Prairie Lily Society Newsletter

March 2014

## President's Message

At last it's looking like spring is on it's way! I spent quite a bit of time this winter reading gardening books and catalogues and looking at flower and garden pictures on the internet to keep my spirits up during those long cold winter days. Another favorite pastime of mine in winter is spending time "pretend" shopping ...pretending I have unlimited money to spend on garden plants and unlimited space in which to plant them. This also requires that I pretend to have unlimited energy to look after them, or maybe some staff to help out while I rest in the shade and enjoy the beauty. Pure fantasy, but fun anyway!

Another of the pastimes that helps me to stay sane through the winter is planting lily seeds and caring for the resulting seedlings. I usually plant the Asiatic lily seeds in January, and I must say that it feels wonderful to have my hands in potting soil at that time of year. Asiatic lily seeds start germinating a couple of weeks after planting, and the appearance of the first slender green shoots does a lot to chase away the winter blues. Those little shoots are a sure sign to me that winter will end (eventually!) and I will be able to plant the seedlings out in the garden.

Some thank you's are in order for three people who are stepping down from roles in CPLS. After many, many years of dedicated service, Margaret Driver has stepped down as CPLS Newsletter Editor. After serving as a co-editor for several issues, Margaret took over the editor's duties in 1993 and has served as editor since then. Margaret has done an amazing job and on behalf of CPLS I'd like to say a heartfelt thank you to her for all of her work.

Thanks also go to Ed Driver, who developed the website for CPLS eleven years ago, and has been the webmaster since then. A huge thank you to Ed for all of

the hours of work he has put into developing and maintaining our website!

Ted Markus has served as the CPLS Bulb Sale Chairperson for the past several years and a huge thank you goes out to him for his service in this area.

Societies such as ours can only continue to hold events such as the show and bulb sale if we have enough interested volunteers to carry out the necessary duties. As a way of saying thank you to volunteers, the CPLS Executive has implemented an annual draw for three \$75 gift certificates from The Mall at Lawson Heights. Names of all of the people who volunteered for CPLS during the year will be entered in the draw, which will take place at the AGM.

Happy gardening!!  
Barbara

## **CPLS Request for Help**

CPLS is in need of some help in the following three areas.

### **1. Newsletter Editor**

Some details about the newsletter:

- it is printed and mailed, or sent by email to CPLS members depending on their preference
- it is published three times per year, in March, June and September, to ensure that information regarding the AGM, Lily Show and Fall Bulb Sale gets to the membership in a timely manner.
- articles for publishing are requested from the membership, but not often received, however, there is a wealth of lily information and interesting articles to be found in NALS yearbooks and quarterly bulletins, as well as in older issues of the CPLS Newsletter, all of which may be reprinted with permission.

### **2. Webmaster**

Current Webmaster Ed Driver has suggested that the new webmaster will need the following:

- knowledge of HTML and JAVA script programming
- software to handle resizing and touching up digital images
- a file transfer program to move HTML and pdf files and digital photos between the webmaster's computer and the Redbird server

### 3. Bulb Sale Chairperson

CPLS conducts a bulb sale each year in fall. The bulbs that are not sold at the fall sale are put into cold storage for the winter, and then offered for sale at our booth at Gardenscape.

Some of the duties of the Bulb Sale Chairperson include:

- have available space such as a garage for a couple of weeks in late September and for about a week in late March where the bulbs can be sorted, packaged and placed on shelves until the sale.
- organize digging of lily bulbs at the CPLS plot
- organize volunteers to help with bulb packaging (3-5 volunteers for 2-3 days)
- keep track of bulbs received and ensure that they are packaged and then placed in bins in alphabetical order
- fill and ship membership mail orders (fall only). There may be up to around 20 mail orders, and many of these are picked up at the sale, rather than being shipped.
- transport the bulbs to the sale location, along with bulb trays, cardboard photo supports, and other items used at the sale
- ensure that there is a cash float and envelopes for cashiers to fill out at the end of their shift.
- CPLS has shelving material, a folding table, bins with lids for transporting the bulbs, and plastic bags etc. for packaging.
- bulb ordering and label making are currently done by other volunteers

If you feel that you would be able to serve in any of these areas, please contact Barb at 306-947-2830, or any member of the executive.

## Upcoming Events:

Gardenscape

March 28-30, 2014

Saskatoon

CPLS Annual General Meeting

April 8, 2014, 7 p.m.

Multi Purpose Room

McClure United Church, 4025 Taylor St. E, Saskatoon

7 p.m. AGM, including the draw for three \$75 gift certificates for those who volunteered for CPLS events in 2013

8 p.m. Speaker: Jackie Bantle "Horticulture and Heritage in Turkey"

CPLS Annual Lily Show

July 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The Mall at Lawson Heights

134 Primrose Drive, Saskatoon