



Potomac Lily Society Newsletter

Volume 39 Number 3

<http://potomacilysociety.org>

September 2010

POTOMAC LILY SOCIETY ANNUAL PICNIC AND BULB EXCHANGE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24 2010

At the home of Tricia and John Kincheloe
7900 My Way,
Clifton, Virginia 20124
703-861-1388 trixielee29@cs.com

This year our picnic and bulb exchange will be held at the home of our secretary. The picnic will be a potluck buffet featuring those superb dishes produced by our members and friends. **Please call Tricia at (703) 861-1388 to let her know if you are coming and what type of food you plan to bring – salad, main course, or desert.** Beverages and place settings will be provided. The picnic will go on rain or shine .

The success of the picnic and bulb exchange depends on the generosity of members in making their surplus bulbs and other plants available to the Society for sale or auction. Please bring all you can spare and plan to take home any number of good buys. We ask that you identify and price the items you bring. There should be some special bulbs available for auction and, as always, a number of left over bulbs from the bulb order that will be looking for a home. Volunteers to help with the sale are welcome. We ask that all those attending respect the timing of the sale and not attempt to arrive early to squirrel items away.

The schedule:

Director's Meeting	12:30 p.m.
Social Period	1:15 p.m.
Picnic Buffet	1:45 p.m.
Sale and Auction	2:30 p.m.

PLS Honorary Directors

Alice S. Fenn	Vicki Bowen
Ron Chiabotta	Genie Diller
David Diller	John A. Montgomery
Joseph Uhring	John Roe
James McKenney	

49th Annual PLS Lily Show Summary—Design

THEME: MAGICAL LILIES

CLASS 64 – “Sunrise Magic”
B Ellen Dutka

CLASS 65 – “Magical Filigre”
B Babs McClendon

CLASS 66 – “Lilies and Lines”
B Mary Ann Barton

CLASS 67 – “Dreams of Magic”
B Dolores Felch

CLASS 68 – “Magic of Circles”
B Charmane Truesdell

BEST DESIGN AWARD Ellen Dutka “Sunrise Magic”



The Potomac Lily Society is a non-profit organization established to promote and encourage interest in the cultivation, propagation and improvement of the genus *Lilium* in its many forms and hybrids among the membership, other plant and horticultural groups, and the public.

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49th Annual PLS Lily Show Summary

The Show Chairmen wish to thank all those who helped stage the show, entered the show, visited the show and help clean up after show. There were 43 horticulture entries from 12 lily growers and 16 design entries by 11 artists.

Major Horticultural Awards:

BEST IN SHOW & BEST SPECIES

Lilium canadense Jim McKenney



BEST INTERDIVISIONAL HYBRID

Unknown Kathleen Hoxie



OTHER HORTICULTURE BLUE RIBBONS

SECTION A CLASS 14

Kentucky	B	Marty Whipple
North. Carillon	B	Rachel Hollis
Orania	B	Kathleen Hoxie
Satisfaction	B	Rachel Hollis
Scene Stealer	B	Marianne Casey
Shocking	B	Kathleen Hoxie
Triumphator	B	Jim McKenney

SECTION B

CLASS 23

Seedling	B	Marianne Casey
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CLASS 28

Amer. Series	B	Kathleen Hoxie
Unknown	B/P	Kathleen Hoxie
Unknown	B	Mary Zocchi

SECTION F CLASS 58

Boogie Woogie	B	Roger Polhemus
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SECTION G CLASS 59

<i>Lilium canadense</i>	B/P/P	Jim McKenney
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SECTION I CLASS 61

Belladonna	B	John Roe
<i>Lilium wilsonii</i>	B	Marianne Casey
Robina	B	John Roe
Tropical Garden	B	Russ Wagner
Yelloween	B	Mary Zocchi

A Modern Look at the Lily Family

By Jim McKenney

In the old days- and for most purposes that means right through the twentieth century - the lily family, Liliaceae, was construed broadly to include not only lilies but also tulips, fritillaries, dogs-tooth violets, onions, hyacinths, gloriosa lilies, colchicums, asparagus, fox-tail lilies, cat-briers, trilliums and a host of less-well-known plants.

The contemporary view of the situation is very different, and many plants long considered to be lily-family plants, such as onions, now find themselves in other families.

Those onions (and garlics and related plants) now form a family of their own, the Alliaceae. Hyacinths now are placed in a family of their own, Hyacinthaceae. Colchicums and gloriosa lilies are placed in the Colchicaceae. Fox-tail lilies (*Eremurus*) are placed in the Asphodelaceae. Trilliums and a few relatives make up the Trilliaceae. Asparagus and a few relatives make up the Asparagaceae. *Brodiaea*, *Dichelostemma* and some related plants make up the Themidaceae. The cat-briers, *Smilax*, now form the Smilacaceae. True lilies, tulips, fritillaries, dogs-tooth violets (*Erythronium*) and others make up the now much restricted lily family (Liliaceae).

It takes forever for changes such as this to sink down into common usage, so don't be surprised if you notice inconsistency in these assignments for some time to come.

One of the most interesting to me of these new families is the Asparagaceae. In addition to the culinary asparagus (*Asparagus officinalis*), it includes the many wild species of *Asparagus* (many of them from southern Africa) and three other fascinating genera: *Semele*, an evergreen vine somewhat like *Smilax* from the Canary Islands, *Ruscus*, the so-called butcher's brooms widespread across Eurasia and *Danaë*, which includes a single species, the very handsome Alexandrian laurel, *Danaë racemosa*.

Danaë and at least two species of *Ruscus* (*R. aculeatus* and *R. hypogolssum*) are hardy under local conditions. What look like leaves in these asparagus family plants are actually much modified branches called cladodes. The true leaves, in the species which produce them, are tiny and quickly deciduous. There is a good chance you have seen these plants – or parts of them – without knowing what they were. *Danaë* is still often used to decorate upscale butcher's cases, and it and a large species of *Ruscus* are also sold among the unidentified "greens" distributed by florists. *Danaë* is firm but soft to the touch; not so the garden hardy *Ruscus aculeatus*: these are hard and spine tipped. The "greens" of *Ruscus* are sometimes dried and spay-painted for Christmas decoration: they can be very unpleasant to handle.

Danaë is very decorative in the garden: try to imagine a cross between a bamboo and nandina and you have the general idea. It is evergreen, ultimately forming a broad dome-shaped clump about four to six feet in diameter. During the winter, the annual "stems" lean down to the ground and remain there. *Ruscus* on the other hand forms rigid little clumpy bushes up to maybe two or three feet high and very dense. Both *Ruscus* and *Danaë* form bright red fruits which are ornamental.

Propagation is by division and by seed. Seed is slow, very slow, but sure. These plants have been grown in European gardens for centuries, but are still relatively little known in American gardens, especially outside of the middle South. Henry Mitchell mentioned them as an element of the gardens he saw in the lower South as a young man.

They are well worth having in our gardens, even if we can no longer tell our surprised garden visitors that they are members of the lily family.

THE 2010 PLS FALL BULB ORDER

Included with this Newsletter is the annual fall lily bulb group order. It is once again composed of bulbs we will obtain from MAK Lilies & Perennials, Inc. of Stayton, Oregon and Columbia-Platt Lilies of Vancouver, Washington. Overall, the list includes 21 Asiatic hybrid varieties, 4 trumpet/Aurelian hybrids, 2 Oriental hybrids, and 20 Interdivisional hybrids including some interesting Longiflorum crosses. Many of the MAK cultivars are new to our order; most of the CP varieties will be familiar. CP has provided two lilies that are exclusive to the Regional lily societies and has significantly lowered the price on some others. All in all, the list should provide a spectrum wide enough to satisfy most members. Note that all of the bulbs on this order are grown in the US.

The total number of bulbs ordered has been reduced again in keeping with our low demand experience in recent years. Accordingly, it will be wise to get your order in the mail as soon as possible to stake your claim. Orders are filled in the order received. **All orders must be received not later 1 October 2010.** John Roe is in charge of the bulb order. He may be reached at (703) 534-6569 or by E-mail at jroeboat@msn.com if you have questions concerning your order.

As you study the order, it is at once apparent that CP Lilies provides a good word picture of each cultivar on their list while MAK limits description to little more than color and orientation. Fortunately both growers are providing picture CD's which should contain most of the lilies on our order. These will be available on the Society's website – www.potomacilysociety.org by mid-September.

One of the major benefits of membership in the Society is the bulb order. We do our best to keep prices low and provide good variety. As with everything else, the price of bulbs is increasing and the cost of shipping is now a major factor in our price/profit calculations. We must move along the bulbs we order or the Society takes a hit. The little profit which does accrue from bulb sales provides the funds to cover our show each year, subsidize to some small extent the cost of the annual meeting, and to meet the administrative costs inherent in any organization. So, please take advantage of the bulb order and order as many bulbs as you can find room for. Bulbs do make great gifts and we encourage our members to invite their friends and neighbors to share in the order. You may also make a copy of the order for a friend and encourage him to send it along on his own just so long as he includes \$4.00 for dues. By doing so, he will pay for this year and 2011 membership.

PLEASE PLACE YOUR ORDER ON THE ENCLOSED FORM. Check your addition and keep a copy of what you order. If we turn up short or do not receive the variety ordered, John Roe will do his best to contact you and work out a substitute. We have requested delivery of the bulbs in time for the Picnic. They usually come on the Wednesday or Thursday preceding which makes assembling the order a crunch. Please check the box for delivery point. You may pick your bulbs up at the picnic or at the residence of John Roe, 5801 36th St N, Arlington (703)534-6569 in Virginia or from Vicki Bowen, 3 Carter Ct., Rockville (301) 424-8575 in Maryland. If neither of these spots is convenient, please so indicate on your order and we will attempt to work out some other scheme for delivery. You may pay your dues with the order or obtain a copy of Let's Grow Lilies. Dues are \$4.00, the book is now \$5.00.

2010 PLS GROUP ORDER – DESCRIPTION OF CULTIVARS OFFERED

KEY: CP = COLUMBIA PLATT, M = MAK LILIES

ASIATIC HYBRIDS:

YELLOW

Butter Pixie – (M). Yellow pot/border lily.**Lemon Juice** – (M). Yellow with brushmark. **New.****Pollyanna** – (M). Yellow with orange center.**Yellow Whoppers** – (CP) is a strong tetraploid with heavily recurved side-facing flowers of Luminous yellow, with a hint of gold at the throat.

ORANGE

Kentucky – (M). Burnt orange with burgundy spots. **A Tango lily.****Orange Valley** – (M). Down facing orange garden lily. Spots. **New.****Tressor** – (M). Orange with spots. **New.**

RED

America – (M). True red.**Cocktail Twins** – (M). Double. Pollen Free.**Crimson Pixie** – (M). Red pot/border lily**Karen North** – (CP) is a *Lilium lankongense* hybrid. Coral-rose buds abound on tall, willowy stems, opening one by one for weeks to reveal warm coral-orange flowers with plum “rosepoint” marbling. These lightly fragrant, Turks-cap form flowers are a hummingbird magnet. 4-6’.**Night’s Desire** – (M) Magenta with white stripe. Dark stem. Good bud count.**Red Velvet** – (CP) is a classic hybrid triploid with a long panicle of deepest velvety black-red flowers. Virtually indestructible with great color. NALS Hall of Fame. 3-5’ late June.

WHITE

Big Bang -- (CP) has an explosion of intense, velvety “stardust” swirls across each wide-petalled out-facing flower. Each creamy flower varies slightly, and cool weather or shade brings a delicate wash of pink and cream to the petal tips. Spectacular. 4’, late June.**Heirloom Lace** – (CP) combines the best of its parents ‘Ariadne’ and ‘White Butterflies,’ with a long inflorescence of white “Turks-cap” form flowers, with a hint of pink or bisque in cool weather. The flowers have a delightful “rose whisker” that add charm to the nodding flowers. **Exclusive to the regionals.****White Butterflies** – (CP) bears species-like pendant flowers that resemble delicate butterflies poised for flight. Blooms early and lasts long. 3-4’ late May to early June.

PINK

Coral Petite – (M). Down facing, coral. **New.****Cotton Candy** -- (M). True pink.**Solem Pink** – (M). Side facing pink. Pollen free.**Spice Islands** – (CP) is a hardy beauty! Peach-melon up-facing flowers are accented with an Attractive sprinkling of cinnamon “stardust”, and there are a bounty on every stem. 4’ late June.**Sun River** – (M). Pink with yellow center. Spots**TRUMPET AND AURELIAN HYBRIDS****Ice Follies** – (CP) is a **new** Tetra with the largest flowers yet in a trumpet. Gigantic icy white sculpted blooms are slightly flared, rather than simple trumpet formed, displaying their green throats. Robust stature and terrific substance. 4-5’ and taller. July.**Louis XIV** – (CP) is a regally tall lily with deep golden flowers that recurved into a true “sunburst” form, traceable to its *L. henryi* ancestry. 5’+ late July.**White Henryi** – (CP). The classic with white “sunburst” flowers with deep golden orange centers. This is a true clone of the over 50 year old favorite. 4-5’ July. A must in every lily garden.***Lilium henryi*** – (CP) is a virtually indestructible lily with smaller, tightly reflexed, golden orange flowers with festively papillate “whiskers.” One of the latest lilies to bloom. Very adaptable. 3-6’ and taller when established.

ORIENTAL HYBRIDS

Casa Blanca – (CP) is world famous for its enormous pure white flowers of incredible form and beauty. Sweet fragrance befitting its 8' to 10' flowers. 4', mid-August.

Sumatra – (CP) is among the darkest black-red Orientals with a stunningly saturated color that is even darker at the center of the petals. Hairline white margin. Very large flowers. 4' August.

INTERDIVISIONAL HYBRID LILIES

Act two – (CP) has tall stems with big, waxy white flowers with beautifully recurved petal tips, with each perfectly sculpted flower centered with a deep rose blush. Bred from 'Tetra White Henryi' x 'Scene Stealer,' it combines the color, heavy substance, and strong stems of 'Scene Stealer' with the height, sunburst flower form, and saying power of 'White Henryi.' 4-6', mid-July. **Exclusive to the regionals.**

Alchemy – (CP) is a stunning orienpet with huge, wide-open flowers of deepest red rimmed with a wide margin of rich coppery gold. Fragrant. 4-5' July.

Avocado – (M). Greenish/yellow OT.

Black Beauty – (M). . This superlative garden plant produces a cascade of tightly recurved Black/red flowers. 3-5' and taller, mid August.

Caravan – (CP) – has large, out-facing flowers of intense sunshine yellow with brilliant rose-red centers. Flower form and poise similar to 'Silk Road.' 4-5' July.

El Condor – (M). LOO hybrid. Red with white tips.

El Divo – (M). Yellow LA hybrid.

Gloriana – (CP) gives a dazzling display of honey-gold "sunburst" flowers with brilliant red "whiskers" and matching pollen. Its flower form, high bud count, inflorescence, and broad green leaves reminds one of 'Scheherazade' but "Gloriana" has its own tale to tell in a totally new color. Disease resistant and strong 4-6', late July to August.

Leslie Woodriff – (CP) A cross between tetraploid forms of 'White Henryi' and 'Black Beauty.' Robust stems carrying numerous semi-recurved crimson-rose flowers with wide white margins. 4-6' late July to early August. Whopper bulbs at special price to celebrate elevation to NALS Hall of Fame.

Indian Summer – (M). Down facing yellow OT hybrid.

Menorca – (M). Peach shaded LA hybrid. Early bloomer.

Miss Libby – (CP) is a rare hybrid from 'Catherine the Great,' with its fragrant, soft yellow bowls painted inside with a wide wash of deep cherry. Strong, adaptable, and disease resistant. 4-5' and taller. Late July. Revenues from 'Miss Libby' are donated by CP to the American Cancer Society.

Pizzazz – (CP) has brilliant orange flowers with shiny red centers. Sunburst shape. A Popularity Poll favorite. 4-6' and taller, early August.

Quintessence – (CP). Clone 6 from Luminaries strain. Stunning, huge flowers with a wide sunburst of gold at the throat, encircled with a deep rose kaleidoscope shading to soft cream-yellow. Tall. Whopper bulbs.

Rococo – (CP) has stupendous rich golden yellow flowers. This sturdy tetraploid has robust stems carrying deepest yellow flowers of any Orienpet. Sweetly fragrant. 4-5' mid-July.

Sarabande – (CP) is a sturdy tetraploid with rich crimson "sunburst" flowers with wide white margins and delicate red "whiskers" that accent its deep red throat and shimmering green nectarines. From the same cross as 'Leslie Woodriff,' it has more tightly recurved flowers, a deeper color, and more "whiskers" than its sibling. 4-6' and taller. Early August.

Scheherazade – (CP) is a vigorous hybrid from 'Thunderbolt' x Tetra 'Black Beauty.' Deep red recurved flowers edged in gold, shading into white margins. (If you saw our show you know.) July to early August. 3-6' and taller. Special price.

Serrano – (M). Up facing yellow OT hybrid.

Silk Road – (CP). Huge white flowers with deep, intensely crimson pink throats, carried on an enormous inflorescence. Everyone knows this beauty, on list for anyone who by now does not have one or needs a replacement. Special price.

Triumphator – (M). Stark white with burgundy center. LOO.

POTOMAC LILY SOCIETY
c/o Mary Zocchi
2701 Park Center Dr B-309
Alexandria, VA 22302



DIRECTIONS to the picnic

FROM I-66 West

Take the Fairfax County Parkway (Route 7100) toward Alexandria and Springfield. This is the second part of the exit for the Parkway. Take the Braddock Road, West, exit and travel 1.8 miles to the intersection of Braddock Road and Clifton Road. Turn left at the stoplight onto Clifton Road.

Follow Clifton Road to the end, about 3.5 miles, and bear to the right toward to the town of Clifton. You are now on Mail Street. Travel across the railroad tracks and through Clifton. Go straight through the 3 way stop in town at the intersection of Main Street and Clifton Road. The road curves to the right and at this point, Main Street becomes Kincheloe Road. In 0.8 miles you will come to a 4 way stop at the intersection of Kincheloe and Yates Ford Road. Continue straight through the stop sign so you stay on Kincheloe Road. Travel 0.4 miles to the entrance for Wyckland Subdivision on your right. If you come to a large open field on your right, you've missed the turn. Turn right on Wyckland Drive and at the bottom of the hill turn left onto My Way. Follow My Way to the end. The road dead ends at our house. The driveway is made of crushed clamshells.

From I-66 East

Take Exit 52 for Route 29 toward Centreville. Travel through 7 traffic lights and at the eighth traffic light (7-11 will be on your right), turn right onto Clifton Road. Cross over Braddock Road at the next intersection and refer to the paragraph above for the remaining directions.

From Alexandria

Take the Fairfax County Parkway toward Reston and Springfield. Take a left at the traffic light onto Burke Lake Road. At the next traffic light, you will cross over Route 123 and Burke Lake Road becomes Clifton Road. Continue straight to a 4 way stop at the intersection of Clifton Road and Wolf Run Shoals Road. Go straight to stay on Clifton Road. Take the third **LEFT** onto Yates Ford Road. At the 4 way stop at the intersection of Yates Ford Road and Kincheloe Road, turn left onto Kincheloe Road. Then right on Wyckland Drive and left onto My Way.