



Potomac Lily Society Newsletter

Volume 38 Number 2

<http://potomacilysociety.org>

May 2009

**THE POTOMAC LILY SOCIETY
PRESENTS ITS
FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL
LILY SHOW
*REMARKABLE PATTERNS***

June 27&28, 2009

Merrifield Garden Center
Fair Oaks
120101 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA

<http://www.merrifieldgardencenter.com/v.php?pg=33>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Those of you who missed our Annual Banquet last month missed more than a good meal, you missed an excellent presentation by Jim McKenney on cold frames and summer dormant bulbs. However, you can get a taste of what you missed by visiting www.jimmckenney.com.

We are now one month into spring and the lilies have emerged and are poised to grow vigorously. This weekend of 80+ weather will fuel that growth. Let's hope that we have an optimal year for lilies, and as a consequence, a flower-filled room of lilies for our upcoming show. In anticipation of such a situation, Tricia Kincheloe and Mary Zocchi are busy organizing our 48th Annual Lily Show, to be held at Merrifield Garden Center, Fairfax, Virginia. It is likely that people are still needed to serve as Runners, Clerks, Hosts and Hostesses. Tricia and Mary would be very pleased if you offered to fill one of these positions to help ensure that our show is a great success. Please do not wait to hear from them, call them now (see page three for contact information) and offer you help. More information on the show is presented in this newsletter and in the show schedule. Also, I will send to all members for whom we have an e-mail address a flyer for our show. Please print and distribute this flyer so that the public will be aware of our show and we can share the beauty of our lilies and floral decorations with as many people as possible.

John

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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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ANNUAL LILY SHOW

The schedule for the Potomac Lily Society's Forty-Seventh Annual Lily Show is included with this Newsletter. The theme for this year's show is "*Remarkable Patterns*" and the event will be held at the Merrifield (Fair Oaks) Garden Center, Fairfax, VA

Set-up for the show will be done between 12:00 - 3:00 PM on Friday, June 26. Horticultural and Design Exhibits will be displayed in the upstairs meeting room. Entries may be made from 3:00 - 5:00 PM on Friday, June 26 and from 8:00 - 10:30 AM on Saturday, June 27 and must remain in place until 4:00 PM on Sunday, June 28. Assistance with moving your stems, preparation, classification, and staging will be available during these periods. Clean-up begins on Sunday at 4:00 PM. Please be present if you desire to reclaim your entries, otherwise all stems will be donated. We will attempt to collect and mail all ribbons to those who are not present.

In completing entry cards, you must fill out **both** parts of the form and follow the schedule in classifying your entry. Try to arrive with the name of your cultivar. Classification will help if it can, otherwise, it will be necessary to enter your stem as "Unknown" and it will be judged with other orphans of the same type. In completing entry cards, it is recommended that you use pre-printed name and address labels. Note that two are required per card. Also, please ensure that section, class, and variety information is complete on the bottom stub, as this is the source of information for tabulation of show results.

Members are encouraged to enter as many stems as they possibly can, keeping in mind that specimens should be well groomed and which meet minimum judging standards. At least one bloom must be open. You may otherwise groom your specimen in any way which does not alter its typical features. For example, trim brown leaf tips in a fashion that maintains the original leaf shape. Containers will be provided by the Society. For best results, bring along some extra stem material to help wedge your entry in the bottle so that it stands straight.

The Novice Class is open to any exhibitor who has not previously won a blue ribbon. This is a great opportunity for our new growers to gain familiarity with show procedures and to receive the extra assistance that goes with entry into this class. We also encourage everyone to consider the many sections available beyond the single stem or single bloom categories, such as Section F which calls for three stems of the same species, variety, or cultivar or Section G which invites the entry of lilies grown in pots with no protection.

Help for the Lily Show

The success of our show is dependent on our member's participation. Besides submitting your Horticultural and Design Exhibits, help is needed with setting up the show on Friday, June 26. On the morning of Saturday, June 27, Clerks and Runners are needed to provide assistance to the Judges. In addition, while the show is open to the public from Saturday at 12:30 pm to 5:00 pm and Sunday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Hosts and Hostesses are needed to greet visitors to the show.

PLEASE HELP!

Listed below are the committee functions and respective contact person. Please call or e-mail the contact person and offer your assistance.

Staging

Mary Zocchi and Tricia Kincheloe
540-672-1397 703-861-1388
greenwaymlq@earthlink.net
trixielee29@cs.com

Clerks & Runners

Mary Zocchi and Tricia Kincheloe
540-672-1397 703-713-0138
greenwaymlq@earthlink.net
trixielee29@cs.com

Hosts & Hostesses

Tricia Kincheloe
703-861-1388
trixielee29@cs.com

Delivering Your Lilies

The exhibition room is located on the second floor of the Garden Center. An elevator is located inside the sales room near the main stairway, which is located directly across from the information desk. Stems can be set up in the break room, which is on the right at the top of the stairs.

Cars cannot be left unattended in front of the building. If you have a lot of items to load and transport to the exhibit room, feel free to announce in the auditorium that you need assistance unloading your vehicle.

Directions to Merrifield Garden Center

Generate directions and a map from your starting point to Merrifield Garden Center using their MapQuest feature at:

<http://www.merrifieldgardencenter.com/v.php?pg=49#fairoaks>

Alternatively, see page 5 for a map showing the show location.

Hosts & Hostesses for the PLS 2009 Flower Show

Hosts/Hostesses are needed to greet visitors to our show. Duties include answering questions about the exhibits, lily culture, and how to become a member of our society. We will also have copies of "Lets Grow Lilies" for sale.

Below are the times for which Hosts/Hostesses are still needed. Please call Susan or John Rountree (703-534-2391) to offer your assistance for this important task.

Hosts & Hostesses are needed for the following times:

Saturday, June 27 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Sunday, June 28 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Misplaced your newsletter or wondering when the next PLS event will be? Bookmark our web address and you will be a click away from all the current PLS information.

www.potomaclilysociety.org

Some Tips on Grooming Show Exhibits

Grooming is the practice of preparing specimens for entry in the show, making them look as good 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 in a container which 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 artists brush to remove any 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. Avoid 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 it from staining the tepals.

Finally, stage your stem in the show container so it is straight as possible and check to see that there is sufficient water in the container.

Upcoming Events

NLS 2009 International Flower Show

The 62nd Annual International Lily Conference and Show will be June 24 - 28, 2009. The show will be hosted by the Ozark Lily Society and the show theme is "Lilies! Let's Celebrate!". Visit the Ozark Lily Society web site for more details.

<http://edgiddens.home.mchsi.com/Lily/Lily.htm>

GCV 2009 Flower Show

The Petersburg Garden Club is hosting the 67th Annual Lily Show of the Garden Club of Virginia on June 17-18, 2009. The GCV Lily Show schedule is available at :

http://www.gcvirginia.org/Flower_Shows/Lily/2009_Lily_Schedule.pdf

To receive a registration packet by mail or to obtain further information on this event, contact Joan Pollard (Wpollard08@aol.com).

Mid-Atlantic 2009 Flower Show

Contact Marianne Casey (mjcasey@crosslink.net) for information on the Mid-Atlantic Lily Society 2009 Lily Show.

PLS Honorary Directors

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

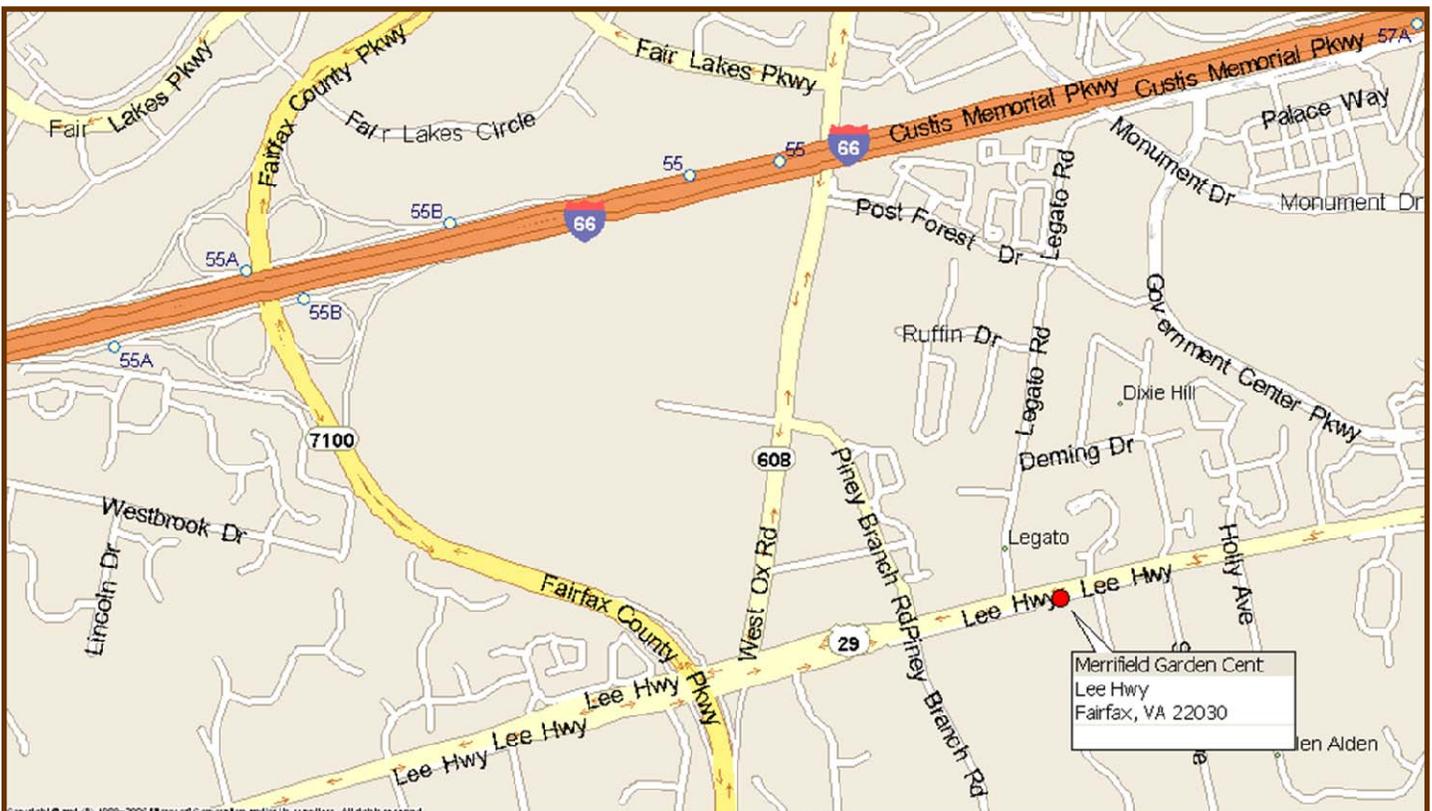
Your Article Here

I invite you to submit articles or notices to be included in the newsletter. Suggested items could be the highlights of other society flower shows or the NALS show this summer, gardening tips (particularly about lilies), useful web-sites, gardens visited, upcoming events, etc. Do not be concerned that there may not be space for your contribution. Just send it on and I will fit it in if possible. If the contribution does not contain dated information, I can always include it in a later issue.

John

Photo Contest?

We are considering including a photo contest as part of our annual flower show. How it would be integrated into the show still needs to be worked out. What categories, the definition of an acceptable submission, how they will be judged, what awards would be given, and how the material would be displayed are some of the things that need to be considered. It is likely that images from the current and past seasons will be acceptable. Consequently, in the event that it happens, I encourage you to take lots of digital images of your lilies this season.



POTOMAC LILY SOCIETY
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BELTSVILLE, MD 20705



Potomac Lily Society Dues Payment

Annual dues (January to December) are \$4.00 for either an individual or couple at the same address. Dues can be paid for multiple years. The year on the upper right of the address label on this newsletter is the year to which your dues are paid. **Dues are due** if the number is **2008**. Make your check payable to the **Potomac Lily Society**.

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mail to: Harlin Turner
13484 Lake Shore Dr.
Herndon, VA 20171