

The Iowa Seedling

December 2013 - January 2014

Grow With Us!

IOWA REGIONAL LILY SOCIETY

Visit our Website at: www.iowaregionallilysociety.com

Regional Affiliate of: *North American Lily Society* & *Iowa State Horticultural Society*
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Dates to Remember:

- * **January 11, 2014** - Winter Meeting @ the Waukee Library, 950 Warrior Lane, Waukee, IA at 12:30 PM
Program to follow meeting: Rita Minard on Clematis
- * **March 14,15,&16, 2014** - Flower, Lawn, & Garden Show & Sale at the Varied Industries Bldg
Show is Open: Friday, Mar 14th: 1 pm to 8 pm
Saturday, Mar 15th: 10 am to 7 pm and
Sunday, Mar 16th: 11 am to 4 pm
- * **April 19, 2014** - Winter Meeting @ the Waukee Library, 950 Warrior Lane, Waukee, IA at 12:30 PM

"Every gardener knows under the cloak of winter lies a miracle -- a seed waiting to sprout, a bulb opening to light, a bud straining to unfurl. And the anticipation nurtures our dream."

-- Barbara Winkler, American writer and editor

What's Inside

- * President's Letter
- * Secretary's Report
- * The IRLS Year in Review
- * Member Wanda Lunn Shares
- * Treasurer's Report

The President's Letter

Dear Lily Friends,

I sincerely hope that this Christmas Season finds each one of you and your families healthy and happy; and that each of you is blessed this Christmas and are looking forward to the New Year.

There are so many things to contemplate this time of year; one of the things I have been thinking about is the NALS Show we hosted this last summer. How we spent years getting all the plans made and the pieces in place, then in 5 short days it was over! It kind of opened my eyes to the need for family and friends, people who are near and dear to us and necessary for happiness, please take time this Christmas to tell them how much they mean to you.

I am filled with anticipation for the coming year and the new growing season. While we wait for the winter to play out its role, we dream of the lily stems promises to emerge, instead of sugar plums. We sit cuddled up on the couch or at the PC with our spring catalogs, dream big, and then cut the orders down to a realistic size. If any of you are like me, I can look at the same catalog a dozen times and find something I "must have" each time, then reality sets in and I cut it down to the absolute necessities! I think I have room for a few more perennials!

Rita Minard is going to talk to the membership about Clematis after the business meeting. If you grow them, want to grow them, or just love them, you will want to be there. Rita has been giving presentations on Clematis all over the state for several years and is our resident IRLS expert on these wonderful perennials. Don't let her talents remain hidden to you, come to the January meeting!!!

Sue



Cocker seedling 81-89



Cocker 'unknown'

Secretary's Report

Minutes of the Iowa Regional Lily Society Fall Meeting on September 21, 2013

IRLS President Sue Williams called the meeting to order at 12:45 pm at the the Waukee Library in Waukee, IA . 12 members were present.

The Secretary's minutes of the April 2013 IRLS meeting were read. Minutes were approved as read.

IRLS Treasurer's Report was read and approved as read.

Becca Wichert gave the Treasurer's report for the 2013 NALS Show and Symposium hosted by IRLS in West Des Moines from June 25-30. A deposit on the hotel reservation of \$1000 + \$ 3000 for speakers was voted from the IRLS Treasury as seed money for the event in earlier meetings. NALS Show attendees paid registration for the meals, bus tour, hotel meeting room costs and other expenses. A few outstanding checks have not been cashed yet. The checking account still has a small positive balance that will be returned to the IRLS treasury. The report was approved as read.

Sue Williams read Thank You notes sent by 2013 NALS Show attendees. Two Des Moines TV stations aired interviews and footage of the Lily Show plus Kristi Evan's garden which was on the NALS Garden Bus Tour. People came from all over Iowa to see the NALS Show and some of them became IRLS members. Several IRLS members earned major awards at the NALS Shows for their lily stems. Lilies donated by IRLS members were used to create Lily Designs that surrounded the Show room. The lily presentations were well attended plus two full buses enjoyed Iowa gardens on the Bus Tour.

Sue Williams informed us that a CD of the NALS Lily Show was sent to us for our library. It includes photos of the lily designs & lily stems in the show plus host gardens. Extra CD copies are \$20.00 each

Wanda Lunn reported that the Fall IRLS Lily Bulb pre-sale is on the website and bulbs are selling fast. Special selection of martagons for fall planting. Bulbs will be packed in Cedar Rapids in late October. Bulb orders will be mailed to members or can be picked up at the IRLS Lily Symposium .

Vice President Kristi Evans will be in charge of the 2014 IRLS Lily Show in June. Discussion of venues in Waterloo, Des Moines and other Iowa towns.

IRLS Lily Symposium on October 26 at the Waukee library from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Four speakers on Lilies plus bulb trades and lunch. Free and open to the public.

Winter meeting on January 11, 2014 at the Waukee Library at 12:30 pm. Rita Minard will give a presentation on growing Clematis.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm and was followed by refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda Lunn IRLS Secretary / Treasurer



Happy New Year!!!

The IRLS Year in Review

2013 was an exciting year in many respects, it was also just a normal year in others. We started the IRLS year with our winter meeting in January. Plans were presented and the schedule was finalized for our upcoming show. January also meant a trip to Atlanta, Georgia, a presentation to the NALS Board, a few corrections, some clarifications, a few meals, and we were good to go. The Bulb Committee was busy selecting the bulbs for the spring sale.

February was more planning, some last minute additions to the bulb list, but really quiet for the most.

March was wild and exciting! The weather was closer to February temperatures than March. The Bulb Sale at the Flower, Lawn, and Garden Show and Sale at the Varied Industries Building was a success even though the weather was colder and gloomier than the last couple of years. We had a great volunteer turnout and had more people join the Society.

April was still a month away even though the calendar said it WAS April. We had our spring meeting and were also able to have a volunteer meeting before the IRLS meeting proper. We had a wonderful turnout and many of you signed up for specific times and positions at the June Show. New officers were elected including President: Susan Williams, Vice President: Kristi Evans, Newsletter Editor: Susan Williams, and Board Member: David Moody.

May brought surprises and disappointments. The weather just was not cooperating, many of us were beginning to worry for the lilies and the Show. Our Head judge who was also one of our scheduled speakers, had a family health crisis, and had to back out. Kathy Andersen stepped up as Head judge with very little time to prepare and Ki-Byung Lim from South Korea was happy to step into the speaker shoes. Whew!!!

June! It was finally here, rushing, last minute fixes, double checking, triple checking! The registrants started arriving and the dust didn't settle until an exhausted, but elated crew tore down the show and with great big smiles went home from one of the best (just a little prejudice here) NALS Shows. Our tour gardens were outstanding and all our volunteers were simply wonderful. I just can't commend all of you enough!

July seemed like a let down for awhile, but then the garden needed some serious tending, work was once again the main focus of many hours of each day and life settled back into a much less hectic routine.

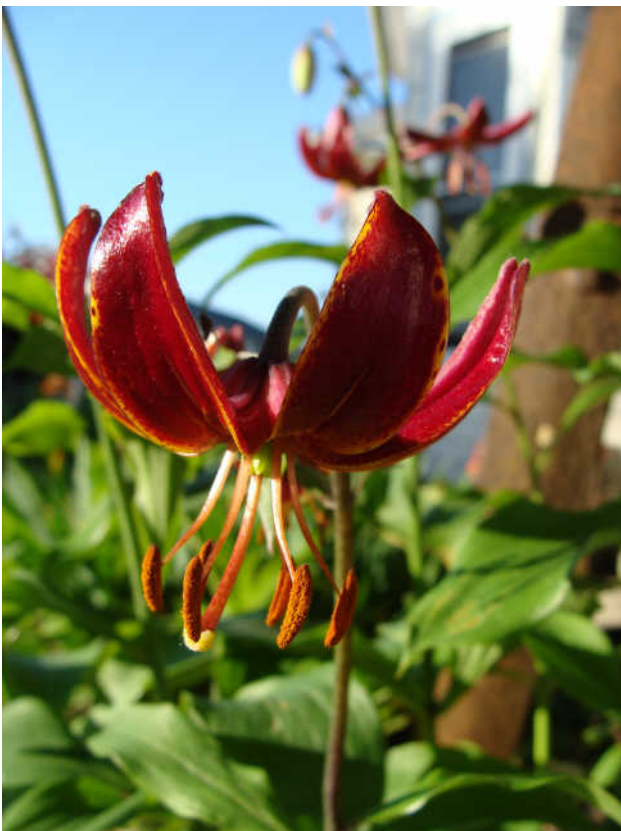
August continued the trend of warm dry weather. The Bulb Committee started work on the bulb selection for the Fall Sale. Topics and speakers were bandied about for the Lily Symposium.

September brought another member meeting. Few showed up for the meeting, I think everyone was still recovering from the show and waiting for the symposium.

October was a great month right up until the end, funny how Halloween seems to make the weather turn. The symposium was well attended and many went home with new lily bulbs to plant after listening to several speakers for the day.

November saw us getting those lilies into there new homes and ready for the cold weather.

Now we have arrived at December and have been experiencing some very cold weather and don't forget the foot of snow! I hope your lily babies are all nestled in their beds, your Holidays are the happiest yet, and your New Year starts well.



Member Contributions

The snow is covering my garden but I can see skeletal Lily stems beckoning me to think of spring. Like many of you, I have hundreds of garden photos with lilies that need labeling. Some are blurry or bad angles and need to be deleted. Others make me stop and wonder at the beauty of elegant lilies floating over my beds.

Last summer I took time to note which lilies bloomed well in my garden. Did the Asiatics have enough sun? Were my Martagons and Orientals protected by afternoon shade? Were some lilies too tall or too short for their spots? I had a few surprises with adopted lily seedlings including a striped yellow and white Orienpet plus pink ruffled Trumpets popping out. A five foot deep red asiatic Hiawatha bloomed in a huge candelabra for 4 weeks. And look at that eight foot Orienpet Anastasia stretching out by the garage. Wow!

In late October I moved tall Lilies to back rows and shorter lilies to the front. I dug up other lilies that were too similar or too weak to thrive. Overcrowded lily stands were thinned and the extra bulbs headed for the Bulb Exchange at the IRLS Lily Symposium. Some daylilies or other perennials got tossed out to make room for new lilies I had ordered. I replaced damaged garden stakes and mulched all my stands to protect them from the hard freezes and thaws to come.

The onset of winter lets our garden sleep as we rest from our gardener labors. Time to dream and plan about next season and the lilies to follow. The IRLS Spring Bulb Sale will soon tempt me with more lilies for spring planting. So many lilies to try, so little space! Submitted by Wanda Lunn



Future Events

Here are some important Dates to add to your calendar. We all have such busy schedules it is never too early to make plans!

January 11, 2014 - IRLS meeting at the Waukee Library 12:30 meeting followed by a Presentation on Clematis by Rita Minard

March 14-16, 2014 - The Flower, Lawn, & Garden Show and Sale at the Varied Industries Bldg at the State Fairgrounds. This is also our spring bulb sale location.

April 19, 2014 - IRLS meeting at the Waukee Library 12:30 meeting

June 2014 - IRLS Show Date to be Announced

July 9-13, 2014 - NALS International Lily Show and Conference hosted by the North Star Lily Society
This will be the last close International Lily Show for several years. You don't want to miss it!! The Hilton Airport/Mall of America is the home of the 2014 NALS Show and Convention. The hotel is conveniently located near I-494 at 3800 American Blvd E, Bloomington, MN, USA, 55425.



One last look at those great gardens from the NALS 2013 Garden Tour!