



Potomac Lily Society Newsletter

Volume 40 Number 2

<http://potomacilysociety.org>

May 2011

*The Potomac Lily Society
Presents its*

50th

Annual Lily Show

Inspirations

*Merrifield Garden Center
Fair Oaks Location*

12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax, Virginia

Admission is free and the show is open to the public

Saturday, 25 June, 2011

12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 26 June 2011

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

*Affiliated with
The North American Lily Society
and
The National Capital Area Federation
of Garden Clubs, Inc.*

Inside this Newsletter

- 2011 Lily Show Info □□
- NALS Regional Service Medal □□
- 2011 Photography Contest □□
- Other Society Events □□

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

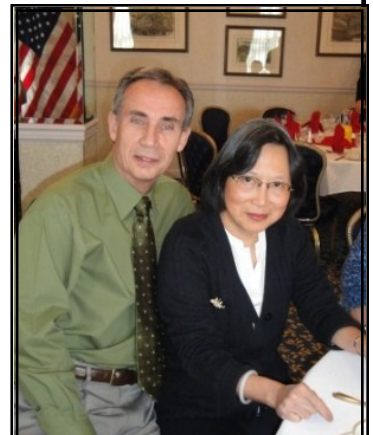
I am starting this message with a reflection on the Annual Banquet. The highlight for me was awarding Harlin Turner the NALS Regional Award, an award that was well deserved. The PLS Officers for the next two years were elected, and we are very fortunate that all the officers from the preceding term were willing to serve for another two years, and that was accepted unanimously by the membership attending the meeting. Finally, John Peter Thompson gave an entertaining and informative presentation on invasive species. Overall, it was an excellent meeting, and I would like to thank Sam Wyatt for arranging for the facilities and Jack Roe for handling the reservations.

By now I am sure that everyone who is planning to enter exhibits for the PLS show has assessed the likely candidates in their garden. The cool wet spring that we are experiencing is certainly conducive to the development of luxuriant plants. Hopefully the timing is right and it translates to a lot of stems for our show. Chances are we still need volunteers to assist as Hosts/Hostesses and Clerks/Runners. Please contact Kathleen Hoxie (Hosts/Hostesses) or Mary Zocchi (Clerks/Runners) if you can help with either effort to ensure that our show is a success.

We are holding a photo contest again this year. As many lilies will open after our show date, submission of photos can be made up to Sept 15, 2011. Winners will be posted on our website in the fall and the winning photos will find their way into PLS announcements. Please consider submitting a few photos of your lilies to this contest.

John

(photo of John & Martina Lydon at the 2010 Annual Meeting)



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.

OFFICERS

President

John Lydon
301-595-1066
J.lydon@verizon.net

Vice President

Kathleen Hoxie
703-437-3207
KathleenHoxie@aol.com

Secretary

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

Treasurer

John Roe
703-534-6569
jroboat@msn.com

Membership Secretary

Harlin Turner
703-713-0138
HarlinTurner@cox.net

DIRECTORS

Delores Felch
Tricia Goins
Rachel Hollis
Jim McKenney
John Rountree
Dave Willmore
Sam Wyatt
Mary Zocchi

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Mary Q. Zocchi
540-847-9418
maryzocchi@earthlink.net

WEBMASTER

James McKenney
301-770-1867
webmaster@potomacilysociety.org

NALS Regional Service Medal presented to Harlin Turner

The medal is given to a member of a local Lily Society who has made outstanding contributions to the Society.

Harlin has served the Society in many ways. He served as Membership Secretary from 1998-2003. In 2003, Harlin became President of the Society and held that position until 2009. From 2009-2011, Harlin served another term as Membership Secretary. He has also been an active Board Member for many years.

In addition, Harlin has always been very active in planning, staging, exhibiting and Judging for the Potomac Lily Society Annual Lily Show for over 10 years. Harlin has invited the Design Judges for the show and Chaired the Committee several times. Harlin was the Design Chair when the Potomac Lily Society co-hosted the NALS Convention and Show in 2002.



Pictured is Harlin, with his wife Muriel, at the 2010 PLS Annual Meeting.

PLS Lily Show Committee 2011

Please check the enclosed show schedule for Committee assignments.

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.potomacilysociety.org

Annual PLS Lily Show

The schedule for the Potomac Lily Society's Fiftieth Annual Lily Show is included with this Newsletter. The theme for this year's show is "*Inspirations*" and the event will be held at the Merrifield Garden Center, Fair Oaks Location in Fairfax, Virginia.

Set-up for the show will be done between 12:00 - 3:00 PM on Friday, June 24. Entries may be made from 3:00 - 5:00 PM on Friday, June 24 and from 8:00 - 10:30 AM on Saturday, June 25 and must remain in place until 4:00 PM on Sunday, June 26. 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 they 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.



Hosts & Hostesses for the PLS 2011 Lily 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.

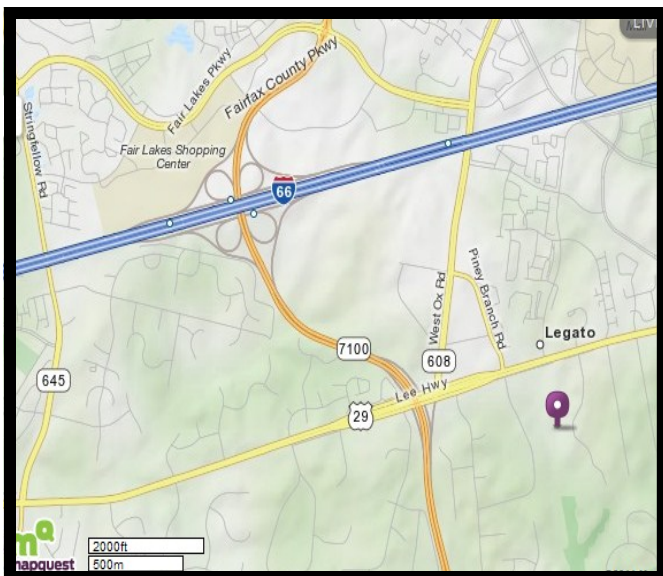
Please call Kathleen Hoxie (703-437-3207) to offer your assistance for this important task. Hosts & Hostesses are needed for the following times:

Saturday, June 25 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Sunday, June 26 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Please consider volunteering for an hour or two!
You meet some wonderful people!

**Directions
Merrifield Garden Center
Fair Oaks
12101 Lee highway
Fairfax, VA 22030**

From either side of I-66, take exit 55 and take the Fairfax County Pkwy (Rt. 7100) south. Stay in the right lane and take the next exit to Lee hwy (Rt 29). Going east on Lee Hwy, you pass Piney Branch Rd and then the Garden Center will be on your right.



Delivering Your Lilies

The exhibition room is located on the 2nd floor of the main bldg. You can use the stairs or the elevator. Signs will be posted to direct you.

Stems may be dropped off at the loading area adjacent to the main bldg. A variety of carts will be available to use in moving your stems. Park in the lot—cars cannot be left unattended in the loading zone. Preparation will take place in the lunch room.

**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 pollen 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.



Notholirion thomsonianum,
 a rarely seen lily relative, blooms in the greater
 Washington, D.C. area

By Jim McKenney

A call from some of my rock gardening friends earlier this year brought me face to face with a plant which, although I grow it myself, became the gardener’s equivalent of the birder’s life-list bird. Audrey described the plant as having pink flowers on a stem a bit more than a foot high. Audrey knows plants well, so the common plants which fit that brief description were ruled out. But what could it be? The plant was *Notholirion thomsonianum*, and when I first saw it, I was not sure at what I was looking. The plant grows in the Simpson Park gardens developed by Audrey and Bob Faden, in Alexandria, Virginia. When I saw it, I recognized it as a *Notholirion*, but I was puzzled about the specific identity. To begin with, that plant was the first blooming *Notholirion* I had ever seen. I knew the genus only from pictures in some of the older lily books – and from a plant in my own garden which after five years has yet to bloom.

It was really exciting to see this plant in bloom. And, the story has a comical-small-world aspect to it. My plant came from Jane McGary in 2006. For years, Jane annually distributed excess bulbs from her Oregon garden. Much of what she grows was grown from seed collected in the wild, and in fact that is the case with the *Notholirion*. This bulb distribution is now a thing of the past, but while it was running it was eagerly anticipated yearly by bulb growers in the know. After the Fadens had had a chance to check their records for the name of the plant, another detail emerged: when I asked them where they got their bulb, I had to laugh when they told me “Jane McGary in 2006”.

The Fadens’ plant has been outside for five years; and other than being planted in a deep sand bed, it gets no special attention. I grow my plant in a cold frame. This plant produces a tuft of basal leaves in the autumn somewhat in the way *Lilium candidum* does. I’m not sure how cold tolerant those leaves are. The Simpson Park garden in Alexandria is probably only about 10 or 15 feet above sea level; here in Montgomery County, Maryland, I’m at about 450 feet elevation. This year, I might move an offset bulb into a position in full sun out in the open.

When I first saw the plant, the color of the flowers puzzled me. I was expecting *Notholirion thomsonianum* to have white or whitish flowers. The flowers of the Simpson Park plant remind me strongly of the color of *Lycoris squamigera*. I hope the success of the Simpson Park plant emboldens more growers to try this neglected but very beautiful genus of lily relatives.



Photos by Jim McKenney

**PLS Honorary
 Directors**

Alice S. Fenn
 Vicki Bowen
 Ron Chiabotta

Genie Diller
 David Diller
 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 websites, 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 not, I can always include it in a later issue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Ontario Regional Lily Society and the Royal Botanical Gardens invite you to the **64th annual North American Lily Society International Lily Show and Conference**

From Enchantment to Star Gazing

**July 13-17, 2011
Hamilton, Ontario**

Dr. Brian Bergam
51 Woodcrest
Toronto ON M94 4J3
(416) 614-6394
NALS2011Chair@orls.ca
<http://www.orls.ca/NALS2011/>

PLS Fall Picnic
Date/Time/Place to be announced in the next newsletter.
Lots of Fun, Food and Bulbs!!
Pictured below is Jim McKenney tallying up a bulb order.



**Garden Club of Virginia Lily Show
June 22-23, 2011
Green Spaces in Busy Places**

The Garden Club of Fairfax is hosting the 69th Annual Garden Club of Virginia Lily Show on June 22-23, 2011. The Show will be held at The Church of the Good Shepherd, 9350 Braddock Road, Burke, Virginia 22015. The Church is on Braddock Road about half way between the Beltway and George Mason University. We would love to have members of the Potomac Lily Society exhibit in the show.

The title of the show is **Green Spaces in Busy Places** and the design section highlights historic homes and public parks in Fairfax County. There are 4 open design classes: The W&OD Park-stretch design, Green Springs Garden- pot-et-fleur design, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens-synergistic design and Great Falls Park-Cascade design.

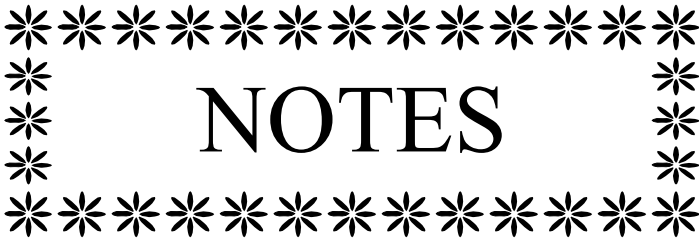
In the horticulture section, Section A is limited to Garden Club of Virginia members only. The rest of the classes are open to any amateur grower. The open classes in the GCV schedule follow the PLS schedule, so there are plenty of opportunities to exhibit. In addition, this year the Garden Club of Fairfax is sponsoring an annual cup for the best stem grown by a non-GCV member. So you may win a cup to take home!

Unlike our Potomac Show, the GCV requires that every exhibitor have an exhibitor number before an entry can be placed on the floor. While registration is not officially open yet, our registrar, Tricia Goins, is willing to take your information via e-mail. Her e-mail address is purplefan24@cox.net. Tricia will notify you when numbers are assigned.

Entries will be accepted from 1:00 P. M. until 7:00 P. M. on Tuesday, June 21, 2011, and from 8:00 A. M. until 9:45 A. M. on Wednesday, June 22, 2011. We hope to have the schedule posted on the GCV website-www.gcvirginia.org-by mid-April. It will give you all of the information concerning the show as well as the rules for Judges and Exhibitors. I'm going to try and have a draft of the schedule available at the Annual Meeting.

I do hope that PLS members will come and exhibit. Since the PLS show is on the following Saturday, you can pick up your stems at the Church on Thursday and take them over to Merrifield on Friday.

Tricia Kincheloe



NOTES

PLS Lily Photo Contest

Attention photographers! Be the recipient of the PLS Outstanding Lily Photo Award. The general rules for the contest follow. Contact Jim McKenney (jimmckenney@jimmckenney.com) or John Lydon (lydon.j@verizon.net) if you have questions regarding this contest.

GENERAL RULES

There will be category winners (see below) and an overall winner (PLS Outstanding Photo Award) which will include a prize of lily bulbs. Judges will consider factors such as subject, composition, technical aspects, and overall appeal. All entries are to be digital files taken of lilies during 2011 and should be in jpg format at the maximum resolution possible. E-mail images to pls.photo.contest@verizon.net by September 15, 2011. Include in your message the category to which the images are submitted. All submissions will remain the property of the submitter but will be free for use by the PLS on their web site, publications, announcements, etc. Winners will be announced at the Annual Picnic and Plant Sale held in October.

Submission categories

1. Non-*Lilium* "lilies" - plants or flowers
2. *Lilium*
 - A. In cultivation
 - Photographer's garden
 - Garden setting
 - Single bloom
 - Multiple blooms
 - Lily culture
 - B. Garden other than photographer's
 - Garden setting
 - Single bloom
 - Multiple blooms
 - C. In nature
 - D. Photo series or collage



MINUTES from the ANNUAL MEETING

submitted by Tricia Kincheloe

The Annual Meeting of the Potomac Lily Society took place on March 20, 2011 at the Ft. Meyer Officer's Club.

After a delicious Brunch, President Lydon called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. President Lydon read the proposed slate of Officers and Board Members for the 2011-2013:

President	John Lydon
Vice President	Kathleen Hoxie
Secretary	Tricia Kincheloe
Treasurer	Jack Roe
Membership Secretary	Harlin Turner

Board Members:	Dolores Felch
	Tricia Goins
	Rachel Hollis
	Jim McKenney
	John Rountree
	Dave Willmore
	Sam Wyatt
	Mary Zocchi

There were no additional nominations from the floor and the proposed slate was unanimously passed by the membership.

It was announced that two long time members of the Society have resigned.

President Lydon presented Harlin Turner with a NALS Regional Service Medal (see p. 2 of the newsletter).

President Lydon then called for a vote on the proposed amendment to the bylaws which puts procedures in place should the Society ever dissolve. The amendment was published in the February, 2011 Newsletter and was read aloud at the meeting by Tricia Kincheloe. The proposed amendment reads as follows:

ARTICLE VIII DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of PLS, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Society, distribute the remaining assets to an entity or entities whose objectives most closely resemble those of PLS, and shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The treasurer shall duly notify the IRS as prescribed by current regulation.

The amendment was unanimously approved by the membership present at the meeting.

There being no further business, President Lydon adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p. m.

President Lydon then introduced our meeting speaker, John Peter Thompson, who gave a wonderful and informative program on invasive species.

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



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 **2010**. 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