

The Constitution
Of The Wisconsin Regional Lily Society

Adopted at the spring meeting of the Wisconsin Regional Lily Society, on Saturday, March 8, 1997 at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, USA.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the Society shall be the Wisconsin Regional Lily Society.

ARTICLE II: DURATION

The duration of this Society shall be ongoing.

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

The Society is organized and shall be operated to promote the enjoyment and appreciation of lilies, genus *lilium*; to encourage education, hybridizing, the culture of the genus; standardization of cultivar names; distribution of information concerning lilies; and involved in other activities, which serve to benefit the genus.

ARTICLE IV: MEMBERS

The qualification for membership is anyone who has an interest in the purpose for which this organization is formed.

ARTICLE V: DIRECTORS

The Society shall have a board of directors consisting of not less than three (3) nor more than five (5) members. The directors shall be elected as given in the *By-laws* of the Society. The minimum or maximum shall not be altered except by amendment to articles.

ARTICLE VI: NOT-FOR-PROFIT CHARACTER

The Society is not organized and shall not be operated for pecuniary gain or profit. No part of net earnings, if any, of the Society shall inure to the benefit of any person. Upon dissolution of this Society, all of its net assets, if any, will be distributed to the North American Lily Society, or to any other charitable or educational organization, which qualify for tax exemption for state and federal tax, or any corresponding law then in effect.

ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present provided that such amendments shall have been submitted to the membership in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

We, the undersigned, desire to restate the Wisconsin Regional Lily Society's article of intent, formerly found in the Society's original By-laws dated February 1984, and are dedicated to this Constitution, dated Saturday, March 8, 1997.

Harold "Hod" Hoepner

Hod Hoepner, Society Founder

Helen Corbett -Charter Member, /s/

Helen Corbett, 1997 Society President

Harold Burrows, /s/

Sharon Barnhardt, /s/

Mary O'Gara, /s/

Floris Hays, /s/

Paul F. Almquist, /s/

E. Ricki Jacobs, /s/

James H. Cupery, /s/

Kathy Rau, /s/

Timothy J. Fehr, /s/

Betty Holmes, /s/

June Truhn - Charter member, /s/

Susan Kaul - Charter Member, /s/

Charter membership includes those who became members of the Wisconsin Regional Lily Society within the first year, from February 1984 through February 1985.

By-Laws

Wisconsin Regional Lily Society

ARTICLE 1 AFFILIATION

The Wisconsin Regional Lily Society shall be affiliated with the North American Lily Society and the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation. Members of the Wisconsin Regional Lily Society are encouraged to join the North American Lily Society and the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation, but are not required to do so. Because of these affiliations, the Wisconsin Regional Lily Society will cooperate with the North American Lily Society and the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation's guidelines, promoting their various activities and endeavors, and observing their rules where applicable.

ARTICLE II FINANCIAL MATTERS AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Society will extend from January 1 through December 31.

Section 2. Payment of the annual dues qualifies for membership.

Section 3. *Annually, members shall be expected to participate in Society endeavors on an on-going basis. Wherever possible members are encouraged to contribute service work and hours in whatever capacity their skills and talents are best expressed. Passive membership is discouraged since the Society is formed as an educational outreach Society.*

Section 4. Membership may be individual, couple (individual and partner), affiliated groups or organizations interested in supporting the purpose of the Society. Junior membership shall be made available to any one under the age of eighteen (18).

Section 5. The annual dues shall be set from time to time by the executive board. Memberships are due by January 31. Members who do not pay their dues by March 31 for the current year will be dropped. A member's voting rights are suspended during that period of time when dues are in arrears.

Section 6. Dues are encouraged to be paid at the annual meeting in October. Membership will be accepted throughout the year. *New* membership after July 1 will include membership for the remaining current year plus the following year.

Section 7. Dissolution of this Society shall be determined by the existing members and the executive board. (See Constitution, Article VI.)

Section 8. All non-budget expenditures for Society purposes that are fifty dollars (\$50) or more must first receive executive board approval.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS AND THEIR ELECTION

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer, three (3) to five (5) directors, and a newsletter editor. Although appointed by the president, the newsletter editor shall be a voting member and considered an officer of the executive board. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these *By-Laws* and the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected by ballot during the annual meeting. Officers, exclusive of directors, shall serve for one (1) year. No member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. The term of office begins January 1 following their election.

Section 3. The directors shall serve for three (3) years, with one (1) director elected each year. Should a director be unable to complete his or her term, the president shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy. When called by the nominating committee a candidate for the board is to be apprised of committee chair vacancies and given a description of committee chair job descriptions. Nominees whose names are presented "from the floor" must be apprised of board requirements and committee chair vacancies and job descriptions. (See Article IV, Section 5.)

Section 4. Out-going officers shall promptly deliver to their successors in office all records and other materials belonging to the office.

Section 5. The president shall appoint a nominating committee of not less than two (2) members. The immediate past president shall be a member of this committee, in addition to the appointed members, and shall function as its chairperson. In the absence of the immediate past president, the most recent past president will assume the chairmanship. It is the duty of this committee to nominate a candidate for each office to be filled at the annual meeting. The candidate nominated by the nominating committee shall be

reported to the members with the notice of the annual meeting. Consent of the person nominated for an office must be obtained before the name can be placed in nomination. The committee must explain to each nominee the duties and responsibilities of the office for which they are being nominated. Before the election at the annual meeting in October, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted. Nominees whose names are presented from the floor must give their prior consent, whether present or not. In the event there is but one (1) candidate for each office, a motion can be made to dispense with balloting for election of the slate of candidates presented by the nominating committee.

Section 6. Vacancies in Society offices shall be filled by appointment of the president.

ARTICLE IV DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The president shall preside at the meeting of the Society and the executive board, performing such duties as regularly pertains to the office. The president appoints all committees. The president shall fill vacancies in offices by appointment. The president shall be an ex-officio member of all committees, excluding the nominating committee. The president is empowered to call special meetings of the Society or executive board as required.

Section 2. The vice president shall assist the president in the management of the Society, performing all duties of the president in the absence or inability of the president. The vice president shall be program chairperson and is responsible for obtaining speakers.

Section 3. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the Society and executive board meetings, retaining them in a permanent file. The secretary shall keep a chronological listing of all passed motions, retaining them in a permanent file. Within thirty (30) days the secretary will submit a copy of the minutes to the editor for publication in the next *Wisconsin Regional Lily Society Newsletter*.

Section 4. The treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds for the Society, paying all expenditures approved by the executive board or voted by the membership at a regular meeting. The treasurer shall file receipts for all disbursements and shall keep a balanced account of all receipts and expenditures of the Society. The accounting is to be kept in books provided for that purpose. The treasurer shall make a full report of financial activities of the Society for the fiscal year and to be published in the next newsletter. The treasurer and president shall prepare and present to the membership a tentative budget for the next fiscal year at the annual meeting in the fall. The books shall be audited between the end of the fiscal year and before the spring meeting.

Section 5. Each director will be elected to a 3-year term. Each director is asked to serve as a chair or assistant in the capacity that fulfil requirements in Article VII, Section 1-15, or whichever current committees are in effect. The director may serve as chair or assistant as stated in Article VII for a minimum of one (1) year. Each director may serve as chair or assistant in tasks given in Article VII either through appointment of the president or volunteering.

ARTICLE V EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1. The executive board shall consist of the officers of the Society, including the directors, the past president, and the newsletter editor. Board meetings are open to the general membership; voting is limited to board members.

Section 2. The advisor shall be appointed by the president annually, with board of director's approval, and is a voting member of the executive board. The advisor shall be the liaison between the NALS, lily societies, and other organizations and shall report back to the president with information, updates, events and activities that impact the Society. The advisor must be someone who has knowledge and understanding of the Wisconsin Regional Lily Society, The North American Lily Society, and promotes the purpose of the Society.

Section 3. The executive board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society. The board shall be subject to the orders of the Society, and none of its acts shall conflict with any action taken by the Society.

Section 4. Unless otherwise ordered by the board, regular meetings of the board shall be held no less frequently than semi-annually. Special meetings of the board may be called by the president on notice, or may be called upon written request of three (3) members of the board.

Section 5. The executive board shall function as the budget committee. The budget for the next fiscal year shall be prepared and presented for approval at the first regular meeting of the year.

Section 6. Five (5) members of the board shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the executive board, and the president and secretary's attendance is necessary for quorum at board meetings.

ARTICLE VI MEETINGS

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in the fall for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports from officers and committees, and for any other business that may arise. The time and place of the annual meeting shall be determined by the executive board and notice thereof given to members not less than thirty (30) days prior to such annual meeting.

Section 2. Additional meetings of the Society may be called by the president, or by the executive board, or may be called upon written request by ten (10) members of the Society. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in cases of emergency, at least fifteen (15) day's notice shall be given to the members.

Section 3. Twelve (12) members of the Society shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Society.

ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Section 1. The president, with executive board approval, shall establish such committees and appoint committee chairs from among the members of the Society as deems necessary, to carry out the purpose of the Society. A report of the results achieved is due from each committee chair at the annual meeting. Committee appointments are one year, and may be re-appointed by the president. One chair is appointed per committee. It is recommended that when a chair requires help, an assistant is appointed. Any substantial change must be discussed with the board. Committee chairs may be members at large without having board of director's status.

Section 2. *Program*: The vice president and committee shall be responsible for providing suitable programs for all regular meetings of the Society.

Section 3. *Lily Show*: The show chair and committee shall be responsible for developing and presenting the annual Society lily show, or other Society-sponsored event. It is the responsibility of the lily show committee to originate the lily show packet, to be given to the editor three (3) months before show time, for publication in the spring newsletter.

Section 4. *Publications*: Chaired by the newsletter editor with assistance from a committee when necessary, he or she is responsible for publishing and mailing to all members any item approved by the Society. A newsletter, known as the *Wisconsin Regional Lily Society Newsletter*, shall be mailed out to membership in each of the months of March, June, September and December. The editor of the newsletter shall maintain a permanent master file of everything published by the Society. The editor of

the newsletter shall maintain and at his or her discretion, initiate, update, or purge reciprocal newsletters between the WRLS and other regionals, the North American Lily Society, Wisconsin Garden Club Federation, libraries, and other horticultural institutions. The newsletter editor shall coordinate newsletter publications in a timely manner whereby Society lily show packets are included, preferably (3) months prior to the summertime lily show.

Section 5. *Budget*: The president and treasurer will present to the membership a proposed budget for the next fiscal year at the annual meeting in the fall.

Section 6. *Library and Historian*: The librarian is responsible for maintenance and appropriate expansion of the Society's library. The committee will establish rules from which members of the Society may check out items. The librarian will maintain a complete file of Society publications for the use from members. Society books and handouts will be available to be checked out at the spring meeting. Biennially, a catalog of the collection will be published in the *Wisconsin Regional Lily Society Newsletter*. The historian is responsible for the collection and maintenance of items of historical interest to the Society.

Section 7. *Auditor*: Preferably a Society member, the president at the summer meeting shall appoint an auditor, who will submit his or her report to the Society at the next spring meeting.

Section 8. *Public Gardens*: Each garden shall have a chairman and an appointed assistant (WRLS member). They are responsible for providing overall direction in their maintenance; who offer and justify needs with Society's financial and horticultural goals; provide objective esthetic evaluation of garden status; and give periodic updates to the board and Society as dictated by the needs of the gardens and public officials.

Section 9. *Membership*: Preferably a board member, the membership chair is responsible for maintaining the current membership of the Society and encouraging interested persons to become active members. The chair is responsible for extending on behalf of the Society, an official welcome to new members, including copies of the Society By-Laws, Constitution, Welcome Packets (cultural information on lilies), and the most current recent issue of the *Wisconsin Regional Lily Society Newsletter*. Responsible for the annual production of the membership roster to accompany the March issue in the *WRLS Newsletter*; responsible for notifying the editor of the Newsletter with the name and complete address of each new member, each dropped member and each change of address.

Section 10. *Bulb Sale*: The chairman (and committee) is responsible for promotion, encouragement and distribution of newest liliium cultivars, species, and educational materials through Society bulb sales. Bulb sales are held at a minimum of one (1) time per year, preferably in the fall. Bulb discounts in dollars must first get board approval. Bulb prices at sales are to be priced out at a nominal amount less than specialty lily bulb catalogs for the same cultivar and size. *Regarding Bulbs*: (A) The selling price of each consignment bulb from Society member is not to exceed the initial selling price the Society charged for the same cultivar at prior Society bulb sales. A percentage of the consignment-selling price will be returned to the consignee. The bulb chairman and board of directors will determine the percentage prior to the Society bulb wrap. Members who have consignment bulbs are to notify the bulb sale chair in writing by July 31 with a listing of bulbs he or she has available for the Society bulb sale, including quantity and suggested prices - prior to orders the chair makes from wholesale lily bulb suppliers - to help avoid duplicates, overpricing and under pricing, and ordering too many bulbs. Consignee bulbs must come individually packaged, labeled with description and ready for sale. Leftover bulbs will be returned to the grower. (B) *Leftover bulbs* from previous bulb sales that someone volunteers to grow are not to be sold as consignment bulbs, and are to be turned back to the Society for future sales at a later

date. (C) Newer *introductions* - named and unnamed clones, unnamed seedlings - hybridized, and/or grown from seed by Society members, will be offered at Society sales occasionally. Bulbs must come individually packaged, labeled with descriptions and ready for sale. (D) The Society grower, bulb sale chair and board of directors will determine the percentage the Society will receive prior to the Society bulb wrap. Leftover bulbs will be returned to the grower.

Section 11. *Awards*: The awards chairperson, a member of the show committee, is responsible for research and development of requests for new Society-sponsored awards, offering recommendations for acceptance. Keeper awards will be awarded on a year-to-year basis.

Section 12. *Hospitality*: The hospitality chairperson is an annual appointment and is responsible for soliciting refreshments for meetings and lily society events. As necessary the hospitality chair will coordinate work and responsibilities with publicity and membership chairs at lily society events.

Section 13. *Publicity*: The publicity chairperson is an annual appointment. The chair is responsible for advertising and publicizing lily Society events in a timely manner, including meetings, lily shows, bulb sales, and other lily society events. Suggested coverage includes newspapers, community calendars, and paid and free advertisements.

Section 14. *Website*: The website chairperson is responsible for maintenance, improvements, and preferably quarterly edits to the website. The WRLS website is dedicated to lilium and general gardening practices.

Section 15. *Sunshine*: The sunshine chairperson is responsible for sending messages or cards to members or their families who are experiencing life events. It is encouraged that members inform the sunshine chair of events as they occur, so appropriate messages can be sent promptly. Major events will be dealt with from input from the president and sunshine chairperson.

ARTICLE VIII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent to these bylaws and any special rules or order the Society may adopt.

ARTICLE IX AMENDMENT OF THE BY-LAWS

The board may recommend by-law changes to the membership. The *By-Laws* may be amended at any regular meeting or special meeting of the Society by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted in writing at a previous meeting and subsequently published in the *Newsletter* at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which time voting will take place. If approved, the amendment to these *By-Laws* will be published in the next issue of the *Newsletter* under an appropriate notation to that effect.

Original February 1984
Revised and accepted November 2001 WRLS annual meeting