

## Join Us at the 70th Annual Lily Show & Symposium

Lynn Slackman, Belleville, Illinois

The 2017 North American Lily Society (NALS) Annual Meeting and Lily Show will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, from June 28 – July 2, 2017. The Show, based upon our theme, *St. Louis: An Historic French Town*, offers a pleasant and relaxed setting where we have an opportunity to enjoy and renew old friendships in a community of lily enthusiasts.

Our 70th annual Lily Show and Symposium will draw exhibitors from across North America. Over 250 Lily blooms from nine horticultural divisions will be reviewed and judged, with artistic floral designs and photography completing the show. Our impressive NALS Lily Show is a tremendous opportunity to see the latest lilies, as well as enjoy the fellowship of other like-minded lily supporters.



Education and sharing knowledge are major aspects of the 70th annual Lily Show and Symposium. Our thought-provoking keynote and symposium speakers will address important trends and topics that will stretch your mind and add to your knowledge.

The Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel St. Louis is the location for our annual Lily Show & Symposium. This hotel is located in Westport Plaza which offers access to more than 20 restaurants, exclusive shopping, and entertainment within easy walking distance of the hotel. Our selected hotel recently completed a multi-million dollar renovation, during 2016, that includes stylish new guest rooms with impressive functionality. Sheraton Westport offers free Airport transportation to and from our hotel with complementary free covered and uncovered parking facilities. The Hotel is already accepting reservations—don't miss the opportunity to make your reservation at our special group rate.

In addition to our onsite convention activities, we have scheduled a day of activities at the world renowned Missouri Botanical Garden, where our guests can enjoy scheduled tours or wander the garden at their leisure.



The Missouri Botanical Garden was founded in 1859 and is a United States National Historic Landmark. The founder, Henry Shaw was inspired in 1851 by the magnificent grounds at Chatsworth, England and returned to St. Louis to develop the property surrounding his country home to resemble the great gardens and estates in Europe. The Garden is currently composed of 79 acres (31.97 ha) of horticultural displays that include an extensive bulb collection, a 14-acre (5.66 ha) Japanese garden, and large collections of rare and endangered flora from around the world.

In addition to providing an oasis of beauty in the city of St. Louis, this inspirational garden has grown to be a global leader in botanical research, science, and conservation. While visiting the Missouri Botanical Garden, we will also have the opportunity to visit the Garden's Science and Conservation Division, one of the world's most active and leading botanical research centers. This tour will include the Garden's herbarium of over 6 million plant specimens and the Peter Hamilton Library, one of the most extensive botanical libraries in the world.

An optional tour to the 314-acre Bellefontaine Cemetery and Arboretum will be available during the morning of June 30, 2017.

Established in 1849, Bellefontaine Cemetery was St. Louis' first rural cemetery. In addition to being a cemetery, Bellefontaine has since become a Level II Accredited Arboretum, and is listed in the Morton Register of Arboreta. The Arboretum supports and enhances the cemetery as a place of perpetual commemoration, as well as a gorgeous garden that is both inspirational and of historic significance. Bellefontaine has a diverse horticultural collection, and is an important natural sanctuary and habitat for wildlife in an urban environment. It is the only accredited arboretum in St. Louis. Grand ornate mausoleums and monuments throughout the cemetery memorialize famous individuals buried within, such as General William Clark, William Burroughs, Adolphus and Lily Busch, Frank Tate, George Engelmann, Irma Rombauer, and many more.



The 70th annual Lily Show and Symposium would not be possible without generous contributions from businesses, organizations, and tribute sponsors. We greatly appreciate their support for this convention! Contributions help us reach our goal of an affordable convention fee for our guests without compromising our convention events. ***We still need your support!*** Please take time to review our current sponsors and learn how you, too, can support the 70th annual Lily Show and Symposium. Visit the Sponsor page on our Convention website at <http://nals2017.lilies.org/sponsors.html>.

The North American Lily Society is delighted to partner with the Mid America Regional Lily Society to host the 70th annual Lily Show and Symposium in St Louis, Missouri. Please take some time to review our 2017 NALS Convention website, at <http://nals2017.lilies.org/> for additional information about this exciting annual event. We look forward to visiting with our Lily friends from across the United States and Canada!