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PROCEEDINGS

of the International Lilac Society

Seventeenth Annual Convention

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INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY is a non-profit corporation comprised of individuals who share a particular interest, appreciation and fondness for lilacs. Through exchange of knowledge, experience and facts gained by members it is helping to promote, educate and broaden public understanding and awareness.

Published September, 1988

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EDITOR'S NOTE

THese PROCEEDINGS OF the International Lilac Society's seventeenth annual meeting are a watershed in two ways: (1) they commemorate the centennial of the Monroe County (NY) parks department, and (2) they record and report that the Society actively promotes lilacs as plants of aesthetic appeal and worthy of scientific study. Lilacs are a primary source of our annual rite of spring as well as fitting subjects of genetic investigation, specifically their improvement for horticultural embellishment. However well these written proceedings are presented, they are merely a dim reflection of the enthusiasm gained by personal attendance and participation in the discussions and visiting of lilac collections and attendant fellowship of like-minded lilac amateurs and investigators. That your Society has advanced over the past seventeen years is amply attested by these present reports.

Our eighteenth annual meeting is scheduled for Medina, Ohio, over Mothers' Day weekend 1989 with Dr. Karen Murray as local chairman. Falconskeape's Gardens are greatly improved since we met there in 1980, and, of course, Father Fiala's twenty-first century lilacs are more mature and free-blooming. Plan now to come see the lilacs of the future and enjoy fellowship of kindred lilac-lovers.

Photographs contributed by Ellen Steward, William Heard, William Horman and other members. and Rochester *Times-Union*.



Flower City, an outstanding Rochester seedling at Highland Botanical Park.

This Seventeenth Issue Is Respectfully Dedicated To



Richard A. Fenicchia

...whose career with the Rochester (later Monroe County) parks department spanned more than fifty years in which he rose to Superintendent of Horticulture. As a late teen-ager he attracted the notice of Supt. Barney Slavin by his enthusiasm and uncommon interest in plants. Slavin encouraged the young man to search out exceptional plants and to bring them into cultivation and improvement.

Dick's first success came in raising a white-flowered *Begonia semperflorens* in the park's greenhouses. Besides tender plants he worked with hardy ornamentals such as barberry, crab apple, hydrangea, magnolia, maple, rhododendron and lilac. Among his greatest successes are the paperbark maple (*Acer griseum X nikoense*), the dark-flowered magnolia (*Magnolia liliflora X Soulangeana* 'Nigra'), the double blush pink sweet crab apple (*Malus coronaria* 'Margaret'), the early magenta-flowered rhododendron (*Rhododendron carolinianum X dauricum*), and the 'Rochester' strain of common lilac, this latter into the second and third generation. A partial list includes such outstanding cultivars as 'Dwight D. Eisenhower,' 'Flower City,' and 'Frederick Law Olmsted.'

Dick was the first recipient of the prestigious Directors' Award of this Society in 1972 "for outstanding work in hybridizing the lilac and producing the new 'Rochester strain'."

John Dunbar and His Lilacs

By Robert B. Clark, Former Plant Taxonomist

IN THE NEWLY ACQUIRED Ellwanger & Barry tract of Rochester's Highland Park, at the intersection of Highland Avenue and Goodman Street South, John Dunbar, in 1892, planted about 100 lilacs (see list p. 19). These French hybrids bloomed for the first time four years later. Notices were printed in the local newspapers and crowds came out en masse to see them and to celebrate the advent of summer. Such was the beginning of what has become a Rochester tradition — Lilactime at Highland Park. From this modest beginning the lilac collection has grown to well over 1,000 plants which presently take up nearly one-quarter of the Park's 125 acres.

First Highland Park Seedling Lilacs

In 1907 Dunbar sowed seven lots of open-pollinated lilac seeds. Of the resulting seedlings he selected nineteen as worthy of introduction into horticulture. Eleven of this group were dark-toned while six were double-flowered. Evidently encouraged by such results he repeated his experiments in 1914 using four Lemoine cultivars, one of Mathieu's, and one of his own seedlings, No. 201, which he named 'A. B. Lambertson' in honor of a park commissioner. Out of eleven worthy seedlings this time he selected three dark-toned and eight double-flowered lilacs. Dunbar reported his results to the Ontario Horticultural Society in 1915 in a significant paragraph (Annual Report, vol. 10 (43): 75-81):

ABOUT EIGHT YEARS since, I sowed the seeds of some good single-flowering lilacs, such as [Alba] Virginalis, white; Princess Alexandra, white; Marie Legraye, white; President Massart, purple red; Aline Mocquery [sic], deep purple red; Scipion Cochet, violet purple red. These have all flowered during the past two or three years. There was no artificial fertilization of the flowers. No doubt a good deal of that must have occurred haphazard in a collection of nearly three hundred varieties. It may appear strange that out of one hundred and fifty seedlings of Marie Legraye, white, only two or three occurred with white flowers, and these blossoms were miserably small and showed no character. One good seedling, with semi-double, reddish lilac flowers, appeared, and two or three others of rich lilac shades that seem to be worth preserving. The best varieties came from the dark-flowered kinds. One seedling from Aline Mocquery [sic] was semi-double, with almost maroon flowers. Two other seedlings with semi-double to double-flowers, bluish lavender shading to a tinge of reddish-lavender were detected. A few good single reddish-flowered varieties with compact habit, appeared to be worth saving. From [Alba] Virginalis, white, I procured a good seedling with single bright porcelain-blue flowers, and from Princess Alexandra a good double white was procured. A few good forms were procured from President Massart and Scipion Cochet. We may, perhaps, name some of them, but if not we will grow them under seedling numbers. Aline Mocquery [sic] appeared to be superior to the others in producing good progeny. A large number of the seedling, however, were worthless and were destroyed.

Dunbar's Bakers' Dozen Lilacs

The single purple 'Aline Mocqueris' was sensational during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Dunbar regarded it highly and, using it as a parent, selected eight seedlings from it, among which was in Dunbar's opinion "perhaps the darkest double-flowering lilac in cultivation." This he proudly dedicated in honor of his beloved Adelaide. Its florets borne from large thyrses open maroon or dark crimson, turning a violet-red when fully expanded. Its unfolding leaves are slightly copper-colored. The double dark-flowered lilac is rare, so it is still one of much esteem to this day. 'President Roosevelt' (for "Teddy") is a sibling which Dunbar considered "most attractive," its flowers claret to purplish-red. Another sibling of "remarkable beauty" is free-flowering semi-double 'General John Pershing' whose florets are tinged a very delicate azure lilac.

The most popular of Dunbar's seedlings is 'President Lincoln' which he held to be "perhaps the bluest of the single-flowered lilacs in cultivation." Mrs. McKelvey considered its color "unusual among lilacs." Dunbar called it Wedgwood blue, even though the hue is more violet than blue. Nevertheless it remains the standard blue lilac even today. It is a cultivar of the old-fashioned 'Alba Virginalis' and is among the very earliest of the French hybrids to bloom. Also it is a vigorous plant — so much so that the long thyrses are often hidden among the rapidly lengthening shoots before the flowers fade.



*General
Sherman
lilac.*

White-flowered lilacs do not necessarily produce white-flowering seedlings. 'A. B. Lamberton' is a violet lavender selection of the once-standard forcing lilac 'Marie Legraye,' a single white. This seedling is characterized by florets an inch in diameter which are borne on rather large thyrses. Its growth habit is somewhat compact with slightly twisted branches. Dunbar used this cultivar as a parent in raising his second batch of seedlings.

Of 'General Sherman' Dunbar, using the royal plural, modestly says, "we consider this [cultivar] perhaps one of the most beautiful lilacs in cultivation." Deep lavender in bud the florets open to a creamy lavender-lilac with a faint tinge of porcelain blue in the center. Immense thyrses are actually pyramidal, or "many-shouldered," as Dunbar called them. Havemeyer classes this cultivar as "formal," lilac-pink, while one nursery offers it as white. It is a seedling of 'Marlyensis Pallida,' as is 'William C. Barry' which bears flowers strikingly similar to the parent. Dunbar professes an especial fondness for the silvery or pearly-lavender hue of this cultivar which he calls "decidedly charming." He notes that in structure its thyrse is also "many-shouldered." The plant is vigorous and tall growing in habit, and its flowers, according to Havemeyer, are light blue.

The second batch of Dunbar seedlings contain the following half-dozen cultivars, two each from two Lemoine cultivars and two from one of his own. None of these later Dunbar lilacs has achieved the popularity of his earlier ones, although most of them are indeed the equal or superior to the better-known choices.

The late-flowering 'Elihu Root' bears rather large azure-lavender florets on dense thyrses. Its sibling 'General Elwell S. Otis' is semi-double also with azure-lavender florets in very dense thyrses. They are seedlings of Lemoine's single lilac-colored 'Gilbert' (1911). Dunbar selected two hybrids of 'Thunberg' (Lemoine 1913), each a double-flowering white, although the parent is double and lilac in color. One he dedicated to his granddaughter, 'Joan Dunbar,' the second to 'President John Adams.' The former bears "somewhat star-shaped" florets which produce a "fleecy" effect, a description Mrs. McKelvey considers "well chosen." The latter is of dwarf (read: slow-growing) habit with compact flower clusters.

The last pair of Dunbar cultivars are F₂ seedlings of 'Marie Legraye' through 'A. B. Lamberton,' already described. 'Henry Clay' is a "showy" white with rather large florets. The second, 'Alexander Hamilton' bears remarkably large florets, one and five-sixteenth inches across, violet-lavender in color, in large dense thyrses. Mrs. McKelvey characterizes this selection as "showy."

New Species

Dunbar's interests and responsibilities transcended lilacs. He was a

*Halesia
monticola*
silverbell
blooms
with the
lilacs.



consummate plantsman with a discerning eye such that he studied the flora of the Genesee Valley and Niagara Frontier where he found azaleas, hickories, hawthorns, sloes and shads. After a mere eight years at Rochester, he called Professor Sargent's attention to the native hawthorns. Sargent, who was surveying the timber resources of the United States at the time and who was particularly interested in hawthorns, encouraged him. In the end Dunbar collected sixty-four types of Sargent's hawthorns, that is, he made those particular collections upon which the name of the plant is based. Sixty-four is a lot of new species! But the haws were not the only plants discovered by Dunbar. He found a variant among the silverbells, *Halesia carolina*, which Professor Alfred Rehder, also of the Arboretum, described as var. *monticola*. Still another plant was the native crab apple, *Malus glaucescens*, again described by Rehder. Then there were a pair of hybrid shrubs which Dunbar noticed among the seedlings at Highland Park. Rehder named them in Dunbar's honor as *Cornus Dunbarii* and *Prunus Dunbarii*.

Milestones Along Dunbar's Rochester Years

April 22, 1891 Hired as foreman in Rochester Parks Department
March 1, 1895 Promoted to assistant superintendent
1908 Spoke before the Western New York Horticultural Society

- 1910 Founded with local florists Rochester Florists Association
Sept. 13, 1913 Designated first assistant superintendent upon B. H. Slavin's promotion to assistant superintendent
1916 Appointed botanist to Society of American Florists
1917 Elected fellow of Rochester Academy of Sciences
June 13, 1919 Co-founded Rochester Rose Society, elected president
Feb. 1, 1923 Arboriculturist added to his title
Jan. 1, 1926 Pensioned from Rochester Parks Department after 34 years, 8 months, 8 days
June 14, 1927 Died at age of 68 years, 0 months and 10 days

A bronze plaque situated behind the Pansy Bed at Highland Park honors his memory with the extravagant epithet of "Creator of Rochester Parks." His grave is located in Riverside Cemetery. R.I.P.



Bernard H. Slavin (Times-Union Photo).

BARNEY SLAVIN

Planter of Durand Eastman Park

By Richard A. Fenicchia of Willowbrook, Webster, NY

UNLIKE MARC ANTONY, Caesar's eulogist, I have come to pay respects to Bernard H. "Barney" Slavin, my mentor, who began his distinguished career as a day laborer at Genesee Valley Park on April 1, 1890 at age sixteen. He advanced rapidly to assistant foreman in six weeks and then foreman of Genesee Valley Park. He was transferred to Highland Park in 1895 and on to the larger task of developing the newly acquired Seneca Park in 1903. In 1910 he was promoted to assistant superintendent, the same rank John Dunbar held for much of his entire career, and he was forthwith sent to "Siberia," as the newly acquired Durand Eastman Park became known among park personnel. His task was of Herculean magnitude: to transform 500 acres of inhospitable steep-sloped delta sands into Edenic parklands. Others had failed miserably. That he succeeded is attested by the worldwide reputation it came to enjoy among horticulturists and by the loyalty his colleagues and successors held toward him.

Five years after his retirement in 1942 at the age of seventy-four, Elizabeth Keiper summarized his contributions to the Rochester parks and to horticulture by stating that there are "at least fifty species and varieties carried under Slavin numbers which might be given formal designation and introduced."¹ She lists 22 choice woody plants which Barney selected and grew, perhaps the best known are the Mt. Hope Norway maple with its upright branches, and the "Katherine" crab apple with blush pink petals fading white and its densely branched globose habit.

In January 1949 Blake McKelvey, Rochester historian, wrote "An historical view of Rochester parks and playgrounds"² based in part on interviews with parks director Patrick J. Slavin (Barney's younger brother), Richard E. Horsey (Highland Park foreman) and a Mr. Earl Weller. Barney's "Irish" was aroused. He took exception to several erroneous statements of McKelvey by penciling in on the margins of his copy, and, to set the record straight, he fired off a letter to the distinguished author, herewith reproduced in full:

February 11, 1949

Dear Dr. McKelvey:

I have read with great interest your recent article in the January issue of "Rochester History," giving a historical view of Rochester parks and playgrounds. Inasmuch as there were several erroneous statements in your article, I am writing at this time to give you a detailed statement of the development work done in the Rochester park system, from the time that I first entered the employ of the City of Rochester as a laborer at Genesee Valley Park in 1890 until my retirement as Superintendent of Parks in 1942.

When I first became employed as a laborer at Genesee Valley Park, Calvin C. Laney was Superintendent of Parks. Genesee Valley Park was nothing more than a grazing pasture and it was our lot to clean out all of the buildings, fences, orchards, etc., that are a "part and parcel" of a farm and to convert the farm into the park as it is today.

I remained at Genesee Valley Park until 1895, at which time I was transferred to Highland Park, as a foreman. Here again we followed the same process in transforming the acreage into what is today Highland Park. Planning of the work at Highland Park was done by the noted landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmstead [sic] of Boston, and under the supervision of one of his assistants, I executed and supervised the original planting of the shrub collection at Highland Park. I also supervised the road building from Reservoir Avenue to Goodman Street and from Highland Avenue to Elmwood Avenue, after the city had acquired a new tract of land to the south. I remained at Highland Park for a period of eight years until most of this development work had been completed, at which time I was transferred to Seneca Park as a foreman, where we again followed the same procedure of development work as had been done at Genesee Valley Park and Highland Park.

In 1908, Patrick Slavin was made foreman of Durand Eastman Park, but he retained this position for only a period of a few months. He was succeeded for a short while by various employees in the department, until 1910 when I was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Parks to Mr. Dunbar.

As Assistant Superintendent of Parks, I was responsible for the general supervision of all of the parks in the City and in addition, thereto, was requested to develop Durand Eastman Park, which I did, but with more expertness and, therefore, made it the wonder of all the Rochester parks.

In 1915, in addition to my other duties as Assistant Superintendent, I was asked to help clean up the street trees and for a period of about fourteen months supervised the street tree work.

I would like to take exception to several of the statements in your article, notably, that I followed Mr. Dunbar's technique in this development work. With due respect to Mr. Dunbar's knowledge, I think it only fair to state that I followed my own technique in developing Durand Eastman Park, as well as the various varieties of shade trees, plants, shrubs and innumerable other items connected with the horticulture of our park system.

You also write in your article that it was Commissioner Riley who was responsible for converting Ontario Beach into a recreation center. This project was initiated by Mayor Edgerton, who directed me in carrying it through to a successful conclusion.

I also feel that Miss Gertrude Hartnett is deserving of more recognition, since throughout my many years of service, and especially after I was made Superintendent of Parks in 1926, I found her to be the most dependable employee in the park office.

I have written you these suggestions not as criticisms, but in a spirit of helpfulness, so that if a permanent record is ever made of the history of the park system of this City, proper recognition shall be given to the personnel mostly responsible for making Rochester's beautiful parks famous throughout the country.

Very truly yours,
/s/ Bernard H. Slavin

On the occasion of his fiftieth year with the Park Department, the Lakeshore Garden Club passed a resolution recognizing his contributions

to horticulture: "he has achieved a civic and aesthetic natural monument of which Rochesterians are justly proud."³ The Federated Garden Clubs of New York State presented him with its Silver Achievement Award in 1942. In 1945 the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences elected him to fellowship with a citation: "by sheer force of an inspired understanding you groomed a wasteland into a garden of surpassing beauty enabling your city to give its people a new enthralling area for recreation, inspiration and health at every season of the year."⁴ In October 1959 the American Horticultural Council, meeting at Rochester, bestowed the F. H. Bartlett award upon him. The next month the Western New York Arborists Association honored him with a citation, in part: "At the time the [Rochester] Parks Department was unable to supply funds for the vast amount of plant materials needed, Bernard H. Slavin grew literally millions of trees and shrubs at practically no cost."

On March 30, 1960 the Rochester Times-Union carried the obituary notice: "B. H. Slavin dies, park official, at age eighty-seven."

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*Marcia Hoepfl in the
Barney Slavin
Memorial Lilac Garden
at Smith Road,
Webster, New York.*

Bernard Emerson Harkness

Plant Taxonomist

By Mabel G. Harkness, Geneva, New York

WHEN BERNARD HARKNESS was hired by the Rochester Park Bureau in 1948 as "skilled laborer" he immediately took up the duties of plant taxonomist, relieving Richard E. Horsey. Bernie's responsibilities consisted of curating a 14,000-sheet herbarium, organizing and building a useful reference library of 1,500 volumes and pamphlets, initiating an intelligible system of records accounting for the living collections, and expanding a plant and seed exchange program involving correspondence, both domestic and foreign, of up to 200 seed packets annually. Inasmuch as this program was reciprocal he perused **indices semina** (seed lists) from sources around the world and requested seed packets for trial in the Rochester arboretum. Many of the resulting plants are specimen plants in today's living collections, including 163 new lilacs.

Bernie enjoyed the academic and scientific interchange he experienced as a member of the 1953 lilac survey committee under the auspices of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta. This committee, headed by the late John C. Wister, completely researched all lilac cultivars grown in the United States and Canada, assigned flower form and color classifications, and determined a listing of the one hundred best cultivars for recommendation to collectors and commercial growers. The completed survey included over 900 varieties and was a comprehensive and definitive lexicon of all known lilacs in cultivation at that time.

Because of the importance of the lilac as a symbol of the Rochester arboretum, Bernie was much involved in protecting, improving and building the collection. Lilacs and Lilac Time were being used as a main promotion for attracting tourists to the community. He enjoyed participating in the Lilac Time Festival despite the fact that he had to replace hundreds of labels each year in preparation for many visitors.

One of the less conspicuous yet indispensable duties was Bernie's custodial activities of the living collections, entailing constant surveillance of the condition of thousands of plants. He noted if a certain plant needed immediate or eventual replacement, conferring with Dick Fenicchia over its propagation. A large section of the nursery was always given over to lilacs for introduction or replacement of cultivars.

Universities offering courses in plant science, botany, horticulture and landscaping brought classes to Rochester to experience a field trip with "Bernie" Harkness. Those who planned annual trips included Cornell, Syracuse and Alfred. Upon occasion, classes also came from Rutgers,

Michigan State and Farmingdale. The School of Gardening of the Niagara Falls (Ontario) Park Commission, en masse, frequently visited during Lilac Time. Many other visitors also appear on the visitor list: students working on advanced degrees, representatives from other botanical institutions, commercial nurserymen, leading educators and governmental officials. All of these were interested in observing and studying selected plant materials under his guidance.

Bernard's technical writings, such as *Hortus Durobrivensis*, Parts I, II and III which provided detailed information about plants within the Rochester Parks, and, the *Checklist of Cultivated Woody Plants of Rochester Parks* can be found on the bookshelves of many scientific institutions. His devotion to the dissemination of horticultural knowledge is well exhibited when one considers that the writings mentioned above were published in the technical journal, **Phytologia**, entirely at personal expense.

He appeared as featured speaker for many garden club groups, conducted tours and wrote countless articles for the **Garden Center Bulletin**, as well as for nationally known publications, including the **Garden Journal** published by the New York Botanic Garden. He also wrote most of the informational material which annually appeared in the Lilac Time pamphlets distributed to thousands of visitors. Articles on lilacs written by Bernard appeared in **Popular Gardening**, **Flower Grower** and **Horticulture** magazines.



Sovietzkaya Arktika at Highland Botanical Park.

As well as being a true academician in the plant world, Bernie was also a plain dirt gardener. Almost single-handedly he developed and planted the gardens located at the rear of the Garden Center (Castle) building. These gardens, particularly the wall garden, the court garden and the rock garden, are a living catalog of plant materials which reflect his interest in rock garden plants.

During his years in Rochester, Bernard was elected president of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta. He also served in a similar capacity with the American Rock Garden Society and as vice president of the Rochester Academy of Science. He was elected a fellow of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences in November 1961. At that awards ceremony attention was focused on his study of landscape architecture, his interest in tropical plants developed during wartime assignments in India and China, and his field trips to Jamaica, Portugal, the Canadian Rockies and Kentucky, as well as throughout the Rochester area.

In conclusion it must be stated that Bernie's story does not end with his retirement from the Parks Department. Bernie was a charter member of the International Lilac Society. In 1972 he served as its second President but was unable to complete his term because of ill health. He also devoted hours of research, compiling and writing the **Seedlist Handbook**, which lists over 9,000 plants, including habitat, height, outstanding characteristics and country of origin, plus references to other publications for more detailed information. Now in its fourth printing, this handbook, according to H. Lincoln Foster, author of **Rock Gardening**, "is a remarkable document, a veritable storehouse of dependable information based on the prodigious industry and immaculate scholarship of Bernard Harkness."



Two F.L. Olmsted lilacs (left), Sovietskaya Arktika (center), Znamia Lenina (right).

The Influence of the Lilac on Rochester

1945 to 1975

By Alvan R. Grant, Former Director of Parks

THOSE WHO HAVE preceded me have given you some of the early Rochester Parks' history. You have learned that John Dunbar first planted lilacs in Highland Park in 1892 and that the collection was expanded on a somewhat consistent pattern year after year. The practice of declaring an annual Lilac Sunday when the lilacs were at peak bloom was begun in 1905. A program of music was added when the park band provided entertainment on Saturday and Sunday, May 29 and 30, 1909. This established a pattern which was followed until after World War II.

A historic milestone of Lilac Time at Rochester occurred in May 1948 when the City Council adopted the lilac as the official city flower, authorizing the Mayor to proclaim Lilac Time a full week, varying as to date to be fixed each year upon recommendation of the Parks Director. This designation of the lilac as the official flower of Rochester brought with it a campaign of promotion and pageantry. A Lilac Time committee was established, headed by the Parks Director and the Director of the Public Service Bureau with a councilman appointed as honorary chairman.

Each year a stage was erected in front of the children's pavilion, and a program of entertainment was offered throughout the week. Local groups, both professional and amateur, performed, including the park band. All depended upon the weather. In 1948 Lilac Sunday fell on May 23rd. Saturday morning's newspaper announced, "even the weatherman is going to cooperate for Lilac Sunday: a mild sunny day with an afternoon temperature of 70°F is forecast for tomorrow." The Monday edition of the same paper reported, "a few moments before the band burst into the opening strains of *America* a torrential downpour began, as if on signal."

For succeeding Lilac Time entertainments dancing and singing groups were formed. "Lilacettes" and "Junior Lilacettes," young ladies recruited from various dance studios and high schools, rehearsed for several weeks prior to Lilac Time in preparation for their appearances. A Lilac Time contest was added, and a committee of judges toured the metropolitan area to determine which homeowner grew the best display of lilacs. Special days throughout the week also were observed, such as Garden Club Day, Public Officials' Day, Rotarians' Day, Nurseryman's Day, Veterans' Day and others.

Rochester Lilac

ONE SOMEWHAT unpretentious project, dating from 1948 when I was plant propagator, was the sowing of specially collected lilac seeds. As time passed, however, this project took on more significance, resulting in the selection of a lilac which appeared with superior flowering characteristics: slow-growing habit, erect clusters of pure white flowers. In 1963 this seedling was named 'Rochester.'



Rochester seedling raised by Fr. Fiala at Falconskeape, which he named in honor of LILACS editor's late mother, Gertrude Clark.

If the pre-World War II horticultural development of the Rochester Parks system is credited to John Dunbar, Barney Slavin and Richard Horsey, the post-war period belongs to Dick Fenicchia and Bernie Harkness: Fenicchia, the propagator, plant breeder, horticulturist and nurseryman; Harkness, the taxonomist, plant explorer, botanist and curator of the park herbarium and plant records. Actually there is much overlap between these categories. Dick, for example, was also an explorer, ever on the lookout for something different in the plant kingdom; while Bernie on many an occasion laid aside his studies and records to use his green thumb in a planting project. Through the plant and seed exchange program, coupled with his life-long correspondence with fellow horticulturists, Bernie brought many new plant materials to the Rochester parks.

Hybridizing at Highland Park

DICK FENICCHIA HAD WORKED with the park system under Barney Slavin from 1925 to 1931 owing to political change of city government. He returned in 1950 as plant propagator and was later promoted to superintendent of horticulture, the position he held until his retirement in 1978. Along with routine responsibilities Dick was involved in the hybridization of a wide range of plant materials, including crab apples, junipers, magnolias, maples and yews, among others. He made 280 crosses of rhododendrons alone. Of particular interest to us all, however, is Dick's development of a whole new strain of Rochester lilacs, sixteen of which have presently been named. These have resulted from his use of the cultivar 'Rochester.'

In 1956 park director Wilbur Wright and plant taxonomist Bernard Harkness planted lilacs taken from the park nursery to the South Gate of the White House lawn at Washington, D. C., and also at the Eisenhower farm at Gettysburg. About ten years later Dick Fenicchia and I took plants of 'Dwight D. Eisenhower' for planting in the National Arboretum.

In 1959 a new policy for the management of Lilac Time was established. The City of Rochester entered into an agreement with the Convention and Publicity Bureau whereby the latter would be responsible for publicizing Lilac Time, with emphasis on the lilacs themselves. With the cooperation of the Gannett newspapers, an annual Rochester Parks' Service award was established whereby an engraved silver tray was presented each year to a local citizen who had performed great service to the community in a field related to the parks. This award has been made a part of the opening ceremonies of Lilac Time. A second award recognizing individuals of national significance was added at Lilac Time in 1964.

In 1961 the long-discussed agreement whereby the County of Monroe would assume the operation of the larger city-owned park areas became a reality, and the new Monroe County Parks Department was formed. This action had been precipitated by the difficult financial circumstances in which the city had become immersed. Unfortunately County government also began to feel the impact as it took over more functions from the city. Because it received one hundred percent of its operating funds from County government without any matching funds from state or federal sources, such as is the case with welfare programs and the county airport, the parks budget was always a target for cutting. The department was forced to reduce or cut back some of its services or programs. Among these was Lilac Time.

Whether as Lilac Sunday or Lilac Time, an organized ceremony has always marked the annual blooming period of lilacs, providing a goal for the park staff. It stimulates activity throughout the year which results in better

groomed park areas, and it has a carry-over effect upon the other parks in the system by providing a challenge to the employees at those other parks to improve the quality of their areas. The lilac has been a worthy symbol for the Rochester arboretum.

The challenge now belongs to a new generation of park employees. One of these began employment as a seasonal laborer under Dick Fenicchia's supervision over twenty years ago and has succeeded him as superintendent of horticulture. He is with us this evening as host of this annual meeting of the Society. Bob Hoepfl, the challenge is to you.



Marcia and Bob Hoepfl among friends.

Monroe County Parks Lilac Collection

THE LILAC COLLECTION at Highland Botanical Park contains a great number of species, hybrids and cultivars of Lilacs, *Syringa*, in cultivation. An asterisk (*) indicates lilacs planted by John Dunbar in 1892. Cultivar names in boldface type were raised as seedlings in Highland Park.

- **Syringa* x *chinensis*, Rouen Lilac
- **S. chinensis* f. *alba*, White Rouen Lilac
- S. chinensis* cv. *Bicolor*
- S. chinensis* cv. *Le Progres*
- S. chinensis* f. *metensis*, Pale Rouen Lilac
- S. chinensis* cv. *Orchid Beauty*
- S. chinensis* cv. *President Hayes*
- **S. chinensis* f. *saugiana*, Violet Rouen Lilac
- **S. chinensis* cv. *Steenchrusii*
- S. x diversifolia* cv. *Nouveau*
- **S. emodi*, Himalayan Lilac
- S. emodi* cv. *Aurea*
- S. x henryi* cv. *Summer White*
- S. henryi* x *tomentella* cv. *Prairial*
- S. x josiflexa* cv. *Anna Amhoff*
- S. josiflexa* cv. *Guinevere*
- S. josiflexa* cv. *Royalty*
- S. julianae* (Hers Variety)
- S. julianae* cv. **George Eastman**
- S. komarowi*, Komarov Lilac
- S. laciniata*, Cutleaf Lilac
- S. laciniata* x *pinnatifolia*
- S. meyeri*
- S. microphylla*, Littleleaf Lilac
- S. microphylla* var. *minor*
- S. x nanceiana* cv. *Floreal*
- S. oblata*, Early Lilac
- S. oblata* var. *alba*
- S. oblata* cv. *Cheyenne*
- S. oblata* var. *dilatata*, Korean Lilac
- S. oblata* var. *dilatata* cv. *Annabel*
- S. oblata* var. *giraldii*
- S. patula* (*S. velutina*), Woolly Lilac
- S. patula* cv. *Excellens*
- S. patula* cv. *Miss Kim*
- S. pekinensis*, Peking Lilac
- S. pekinensis* f. *pendula*, Weeping Peking Lilac
- S. x persica*, Persian Lilac
- **S. persica* f. *alba*, White Persian Lilac
- S. pinetorum*
- S. pinnatifolia*, Pinnate Lilac
- S. pubescens*
- S. reticulata*, Japanese Tree Lilac
- S. reticulata*
- S. reticulata* var. *faurei*
- S. reticulata* var. *mandschurica*, Amur Lilac
- S. rhodopea*, Bulgarian Lilac
- S. x swegiflexa*
- S. sweginzowii* f. *albida*, White Chengtu Lilac

- S. sweginzowii* cv. *Lark Song*
- S. sweginzowii* cv. *Superba*
- S. tigerstedti*
- S. tomentella*, Felty Lilac
- S. tomentella* cv. *Kum Bum*
- S. uralensis*
- **S. villosa*, Shensi Lilac
- S. villosa* f. *aurea*, Yellow Shensi Lilac
- S. villosa* x *sweginzowii* cv. *Hedin*
- S. vulgaris* x *laciniata* cv. *Lavender Lady*
- S. wolfii*
- S. yunnanensis*, Yunnan Lilac
- S. yunnanensis* cv. *Prophecy*
- S. yunnanensis* f. *rosea*

Early Hybrid Lilacs

Syringa x *hyacinthiflora* cultivars

- Alice Eastwood
- Assessippi
- Berryer
- Blue Hyacinth
- Bountiful
- Buffon
- Catinat
- Charles Nordine
- Churchill
- Clarke's Giant
- Claude Bernard
- Daphne Pink
- Descartes
- Doctor Chadwick
- Esther Staley
- Evangeline
- Excel
- Fenelon
- Fraser
- Grace
- Hazel Opper
- Jewel
- Kate Sessions
- Lamartine
- Laurentian
- Louvois
- Maiden's Blush
- May Day
- Mirabeau
- Montesquieu
- Mount Baker



Syringa chinensis.

Nokomis
 Norah
 Orchid Chiffon
 Pascal
 Peggy
 Pink Cloud
 Pink Spray
 Plena
 Pocahontas
 Purple Gem
 Royal Purple
 Scotia
 Sister Justena
 Splendor
 Summer Skies
 Swarthmore
 The Bride
 Turgot
 Vauban

LILACS 1988

Common Lilacs

Syringa vulgaris cultivars and varieties

Syringa vulgaris
A. B. Lamberton
Adelaide Dunbar
Admiral Farragut
 var. alba
 *Alba Virginalis
 Aleksei Maresev
(Alexander Hamilton)
 Alice Rose Foster
 *Aline Mocqueris
 Allison Gray
 Alphonse Lavallee
 *Amethyst
 *Amoena
 Andenken on Ludwig Spaeth
 Anna Elizabeth Jaquet
 Anne Shiach
 Anne Tighe
 Arthur William Paul
 Astra
 Aucubaefolia
 *Aurea
 *Azurea Plena
 Banquise
Barney Slavin
 Belle de Nancy
 *Beranger
 Betty Opper
Bicentennial
 Bicolor
 Big Blue
Bishop Bernard McQuaid
 Bleuatre
 Blue Diamond
 Boussingault
Bright Centennial
 Burgomeester Loggers
Calvin C. Laney
 Campsie
 Capitaine Baltet
 Capitaine Perrault
 Carley
 Carmen
 Caroli
 Case's Frilled Pink
 Cavour
 C. B. Van Nes
 Champlain
 *Charlemagne
 Charles Joly
Charles Lindbergh
 Charles X
 Charlotte Morgan
 Chris
 Christophe Colomb
 City of Gresham
 City of Longview

Clara
 Clara Cochet
(Clarence D. vanZandt)
 Claude de Lorrain
 Clyde Heard
 Colbert
 *Colmariensis
 Colonel William R. Plum
 Comte Adrien de Montebello
 Comte de Kerchove
 *Comte Horace de Choiseul
 Condorcet
 Congo
 Corinne
 Crepuscule
 *Croix de Brahy
 Dame Blanche
 Dappled Dawn
 Dawn
 Decaisne
 De Croncels
 De Humboldt
 De Jussieu
 De Louvain
 De Miribel
 De Saussure
 Desfontaines
 Diderot
 Dillia
 Diplomate
 Doctor Charles Jacobs
 Doctor Lemke
 *Doctor Lindley
 Doctor Maillot
 Doctor Masters
 *Doctor Nobbe
 Doctor Troyanowsky
 *Doctor von Regel
 Downfield
 Duc de Massa
Dwight D. Eisenhower
 Edith Cavell
 Edmond About
 Edmond Boissier
 Edouard Andre
 Edward J. Gardner
 *Ekenholm
(Elihu Root)
 Ellen Willmott
 Emile Gentil
 Emile Lemoine
 *Erzherzog Johann
 Ethel Child
 Ethiopia
 Etna
 *Farrionensis
 Firmament
 Flora
 Flore - Plena
Flower City

Fraicheur
 Francisque Morel
 Frank Klager
 Frank Paterson
Frederick Douglass
Frederick Law Olmsted
 Fritz
 Fuerst Buelow
 Fuerst Liechtenstein
 Gaudichaud
 Geant des Batailles
 *Geheimrat Heyder
 Geheimrat Singelmann
 General Drouot
General Elwell S. Otis
General Grant
General John Pershing
(General Kitchener)
 General Pershing
General Sheridan
General Sherman
 Georges Bellair
George W. Aldridge
(George Ellwonger)
 Geraldine Smith
 *Gigantea
 *Gloire de la Rochelle
 *Gloire de Lorraine
 *Gloire de Moulins
 Glory
 Godron
 Goliath
 Grace MacKenzie
 Grace Orthwaite
 Grand-Duc Constantin
 Guizot
 Helen Palagge
 Helen Schloen
(Henry Clay)
 Henri Martin
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Henry Ward Beecher
 Herman Eilers
 Hippolyte Maringer
Hiram H. Edgerton
 Hosanna
 Hugo Koster
Independence
 *Jacques Callot
 James Booth
 James Stuart
 Jane Day
 Jan Van Tol
 Jean Bart
 Jean Mace
 Jeanne d'Arc
 Jessie Gardner
Joan Dunbar
(John Dunbar)
 Jules Ferry

Jules Simon
 Julien Gerardin
 Justii
 Kate Harlin
 K. A. Timiryazev
 Katherine Havemeyer
 Kingsville
 Krasavitsa Moskvyy
 *Lamarck
 *Languis
 Lavrov
 *Le Gaulois
 *Lemoinei
 Le Notre
 Leon Gambetta
 *Leon Simon
 Leopold II
 Lewis Maddock
 *Lilarosa
 Linne
 Lucie Baltet
 Macrostachya
 Madeleine Lemaire
 Magellan
 Maiden's Blush
 Marc Micheli
 Marechal Foch
 Marechal Lannes
 Marengo
 *Marlyensis
 Marlyensis Pallida
 Marshal Zhukov
 Martha Kounze
 Mathieu de Dombasle
 Maurice Barres
 Maurice de Vilmorin
 Mauve Mist
 Maxime Cornu
 *Michel Buchner
 Midwest Gem
 Meczta
 Mireille
 Mademoiselle Fernande Viger
 Mademoiselle Melide Laurent
 Mme. Abel Chatenay
 Mme. A. J. Klettenberg
 Mme. Antoine Buchner
 Mme. Briot
 Mme. Casimir Perier
 Mme. Catherine Bruchet
 Mme. Fallieres
 Mme. Florent Stepman
 Mme. F. Morel
 Mme. Henri Guillaud
 *Mme. Jules Finger
 *Mme. Kreuter
 Mme. Lemoine
 Mme. Leon Simon
 *Mme. Moser
 Mme. R. Foyer

Monge
 Monique Lemoine
 Monsieur J. De Messemaeker
 Monsieur Lepage
 Montaigne
 Mont Blanc
 Montgolfier
 Monument Carnot
 Mood Indigo
 Moonglow
 Mountain Haze
 Mrs. Calvin Coolidge
 Mrs. Edward Harding
 Mrs. Harry Bickle
 Mrs. John S. Williams
 Mrs. W. E. Marshall
 My Favorite
 *Nana
 Nancy Frick
 Naudin
 Nebo Moskv
 *Nigricans
 Obelisque
 Ogni Donbassa
 Old Fashioned
 Olivier de Serres
 Ostrander
 Pamyat' o S. M. Kirove
 Pasteur
Patrick Henry
 Paul Deschanel
 Paul Robeson
 Paul Thirion
 Peau de Chamois
 Perle von Stuttgart
 Perle von Teltow
 Peterson's Unknown
 Philemon
 Pierre Joigneaux
 Pinkie
 Pink Mist
 President Carnot
 President Fallieres
 *President Grevy
(President Harding)
President John Adams
 President Lebrun
President Lincoln
 President Loubet
President Monroe
 President Poincare
President Roosevelt
 President Viger
 Primrose
 Prince de Beauvau
 *Prince Notger
 *Prince of Wales
 *Princess Alexandra
 *Princesse Camille de Rohan

Princesse Clementine
 Princesse Marie
 Priscilla
 Professor E. H. Wilson
 *Professor E. Stoeckhardt
 Professor Hoser
 Professor Jozef Brzezinski
 Professor Sargent
 Pyramidalis
 *Pyramidalis Alba
 *Quadricolor
 Reaumur
 Red Feather
 Red Giant
 Reine Marguerite
 Rene Jarry Desloges
 Renoncule
Rochester
 Roi Albert
 Romance
 Ronsard
 Rose a Grandes Fleures
 *Rosea Grandiflora
 Rouge de Trianon
 Royal Blue
 *Rubella Plena
 *Rubra Insignis
 Ruhm von Horstenstein
 Rus
 Sarah Sands
 Saturnale
 *Schermerhornii
 *Scipion Cochet
 *Senateur Volland
 Sensation
 Serene
Sesquicentennial
 Sibirica
 Siebold
 Silver King
 Snowflake
 Sobra
 Sorok Let Komsomola
 Souvenir de Claudius Graindorge
 Souvenir de Louis Chasset
 Souvenir de Simone
 Sovetskaya Arktika
 *Spectabilis
 Stadtgartner Rothpletz
 Sumerki
(Susan B. Anthony)
 Sweet Charity
 Taglioni
 Taras Bulba
Thomas A. Edison
Thomas Jefferson
 Thunberg
 Todmorden
 Tournefort

*Triomphe de Moulins
 Trimphe d'Orleans
 Triste Barbaro
 Valentina Grizodubova
 Valetteana
 Van Aerschott
 *Vergissmeinnicht
 *Versaliensis
 *Verschaffeltii
 Vestale
 Victor Lemoine
 *Ville de Limoges
 *Violacea
 Violetta
 Virginite
 Vivian Evans
 Vivand Morel
 Volcan
 Waldeck-Rousseau
 Weddle
 White Swan
William C. Barry
 William Robinson
William S. Riley
 W. K. Mills
 Woodland Blue
 Znamya Lenina
 Zukunft

Late Hybrid Lilacs

Syringa x

prestoniae cultivars

Agnes Smith
 Alice
 Calpurnia
 Canada Gem
 Charmian
 Donald Wyman
 Elinor
 Ethel M. Webster
 Fountain
 Freedom
 Handel
 Hecla
 Hiawatha
 Isabella
 James Macfarlane
 Juliet
 Miss Canada
 Nocturne
 Oberon
 Olivia
 Redwine
 Titania
 Ursula



Mr. Dunbar and granddaughter.

Publication Notice

Timber Press of Portland, Oregon, announces the publication of **Lilacs, the Genus Syringa** by Fr. John L. Faila. This 266-page 22x28.5 cm. volume is the first comprehensive study of lilacs since Mrs. McKelvey's monograph appeared in 1928. The present volume should appeal to amateurs and scientists alike. It is profusely illustrated in addition to one-hundred colored plates of lilacs by the author himself and are of professional quality. Eight new taxa are described. Completely indexed. Single copies are \$59.95 (US) and may be ordered through Ameri-Hort Research, Inc., P.O. Box 1529, Medina, Ohio 44258.

Grape Hill Gardens Dedication

SUNDAY NOON, May 22nd, ILS members joined Wayne County (NY) citizens and dignitaries in the dedication of Grape Hill Gardens, the recently chartered educational and research, not-for-profit institution founded by Bill and Lois Utley at 1232 Devereaux Road, Clyde, New York.

Lilacs were in full bloom and never looked better. Especially beautiful was "Catawba Pink" introduced by Grape Hill Gardens. The day was warm, and the sun shown through high clouds.

Fr. John Fiala gave the dedicatory address, recounting the recent history of Bill's and Lois' fulfillment of their long-cherished plan to perpetuate the Devereaux family farm as an educational and research horticultural and gardening institution.

The Honorable Frank Horton, M.C., drove up from Washington to extol the Utleys for their public spirited endeavors and to present them with a flag which had flown over the nation's Capitol the previous Independence Day 1987.

Following the ceremonies and introductions, a buffet luncheon was served on the lawn under 100-year-old trees.



Some of the guests attending Grape Hill Garden dedication ceremonies.



95

886

Other guests at the Grape Hill Gardens dedication ceremonies.

Grape Hill Gardens' Lilac Collection

VULGARES

S. Oblata

var. *dilitata*
Birchwood
Cheyenne

S. x hyacinthiflora

Alice Eastwood
Alice Chieppo
Anabel
Assessippi
Buffon
Clarke's Giant
Dr. Chadwick
Esther Staley
Evangeline
Grace
Mount Baker
Necker
Pocahontas
Purple Glory
Sister Justena
Swarthmore
Vauban
Pink Cloud

S. rhodopea

S. vulgaris

Alba
Agincourt Beauty
Albert F. Holden
Alexander Hamilton
Ambassadeur
A. M. Brandt
Amethyst
Ami Schott
Andenken an Ludwig Spaeth
Anne Tighe
Atheline Wilbur
Belle de Nancy
Beth Turner
Bicentennial
Blue Ice
Bright Centennial
Calvin C. Laney
Capitaine Baltet
Capitaine Perrault
Caroline Foley
Catawba Pink
Cavour
Champlain
Charm
Charles Baltet
Charles Joly
Christophe Colomb

City of Gresham

Clyde Lucie
Coerulea Superba
Congo
Cora Leyden
D. Nehru
Daphne
De Croncel
De Jussieu
De Miribel
De Saussure
Diplomate
Doctor John
Dr. Charles Jacobs
Dr. Kirkhaven
Dr. Lindley
Duc de Massa
Dwight D. Eisenhower
Edward J. Gardner
Ekenholm
Emile Lemoine
Ethiopia
Etna
Dawn
Etoile de Mai
Fiala seedling
Firmament
Flora
F. L. Olmsted
Francisque Morel
Frank Paterson
Fuerst Buelow
Geant des Batailles
General Grant
General Pershing
General Sheridan
General Sherman
George W. Aldridge
Georges Claude
Gerry Schoonenberg
Gismonda
Glacier
Glory
Hallelujah
Heather
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Henry Ward Beecher
Hippolyte Maringer
Hosanna
Hyperion
Indiya
J. & P. seedling (blue)
J. & P. seedling (blue)
J. & P. seedling (pink)
Jacques Callot
James Stuart
Jane Day

Jessie Gardner
Joan Dunbar
John Dunbar
Jules Simon
Katherine Havemeyer
Krasavitsa Moskv
Jean Mace
Kremlevskie Kuranty
Lady Lindsay
Lake Bled
Lavoisier
Lemoine seedling (Medina)
Lemoinei
Lena
Le Notre
Leon Gambetta
Lewis Maddox
Lilarosa
Lucie Baltet
Macrostacha
Maiden's Blush
Maiden's Blush seedling
Magellan
Marechal Foch
Marechal Lannes
Marie Finon
Massena
Maude Notcutt
Michele Buchner
Mechta
Minschanka
Miss Ellen Willmott
Mme. Antoine Buchner
Mme. Florent Stepman
Mme. F. Morel
Mme. Lemoine
Monge
Mons. LePage
Montaigne
Mont Blanc
Monument
Mood Indigo
Moonlight
Mr. Big
Mrs. A. Belmont
Mrs. Calvin Coolidge
Mrs. Edward Harding
Mrs. Elizabeth Peterson
Mrs. Flanders
Mrs. Watson Webb
Mrs. W. E. Marshall
Nadezhda
Night
Ogni Donbassa
Ogni Moskv
Olimpiada Kolesnikova
Olive Mae Cumming



Bill Utley and John King with Catawba Pink.

Olivier de Serres	Sobra	Miss Kim
Paul Thirion	Sonia Colfax	<i>S. x persica</i>
Partizanka	Sorok Let Komsomola	<i>S. Potanini</i>
Paul Deschanel	Sovietskaya Arktika	<i>S. "Tigerstedtii"</i>
Pat Pesata	Spring Parade	
Pink Mist	Stadtgaertner Rothpletz	
Pink Perfection	Sunset	Villosae
Polin seedling	Sweetheart	<i>S. Josikaea</i>
Polin white	Taglione	<i>S. x Josiflexa</i>
Pol Robson	Todmorden	seedlings
P. P. Konchalovskii	Toussaint-Louverture	<i>S. x Henryi 'Lutece'</i>
President Carnot	Triomphe d'Orleans	<i>S. x Nanceiana 'Rutilant'</i>
President Fallieres	Vestale	<i>S. Komarowii</i>
President Grevy	Victor Lemoine	<i>S. reflexa</i>
President Kennedy	Violet Glory	<i>S. Sweginzowii</i>
President Lincoln	Violetta	<i>Sweginzowii x villosa 'Hedin'</i>
President Poincare	Waldeck Rousseau	<i>S. villosa</i>
President Viger	White Swan	<i>S. x Prestoniae</i>
Primrose	William S. Riley	Agnes Smith
Prince of Wales	W. T. Lee	Constance
Priscilla	Znamya Lenina	Donald Wyman
Prodige	Zulu	Goplana
Professor Sargent		Hiawatha
Professor R. B. Clark	<i>S. x chinensis</i>	Jaga
Rene Jerry Desloges	Bicolor	Lark Song
Printemps	Metensis	Isabella
Princess Marie	President Hayes	Miss Canada
Rochester	Saugeana	Mrs. J. Herbert Alexander
Roi Albert		Nocturne
Ruhm von Horstenstein		Prophecy
Saint Joan	<i>Pubescentes</i>	Nike
Sarah Sands	<i>S. Julianae</i>	<i>S. yunnanensis</i>
Sensation	Hers	
Sesquicentennial	George Eastman	<i>Ligustrina</i>
Silver King	<i>S. Meyeri</i>	<i>S. pekinensis</i>
Slater's Elegance	Palibin	<i>S. reticulata</i>
Small Blue	<i>S. patula</i>	<i>reticulata</i> ex. N. Korea
Sonnet		Ivory Silk



The Ellwanger Gardens

WHEN GEORGE ELLWANGER, co-donor of Highland Park, deeded his house and gardens to the Landmark Society of Western New York, he stipulated that the gardens were to be kept up and open to the public.

The ILS conventioners were invited to tour the ½-acre already restored perennial garden. Susan A. Maney, who is a horticultural specialist in perennial plant species, is in charge of the restoration. She graciously greeted the ILS visitors who lingered for an enjoyable memory time among the pink tree peonies and other plants that graced the gardens a hundred years ago.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING

President's Report

By Orville M. Steward, Plymouth, VT

DURING LILAC BLOOMING season last year Ellen and I visited several lilac collections. On Mothers' Day weekend, along with several ILS members, we attended the dedication ceremonies of the Kevin M. Harris memorial lilac walk in the F. R. Newman Arboretum of Cornell Plantations at Ithaca, New York. The arboretum also features an extensive shrub garden donated by our beloved Isabel Zucker, once editor and member of ILS's Board of Directors. Bob Clark spoke briefly on the several categories of lilacs, after which the many guests were entertained at luncheon given by Kevin's family.

Over the same weekend Ellen and I visited Grape Hill Gardens at Clyde, New York. Bill and Lois Utley have opened their excellent lilac collection to the public for many years, and now they have incorporated it as a not-for-profit horticultural institution for public enjoyment and horticultural study. It will be dedicated on Sunday, May 22, 1988 as the concluding event of our seventeenth annual meeting.

Also last spring we visited the George Landis Arboretum at Esperance, New York. Their lilac collection seems to be neglected.

Last summer Ellen and I visited the Mount Pisgah Arboretum of the University of Oregon at Eugene. It is a fine, large arboretum doing everything right, with all monies coming from private voluntary sources.

On our way back from Montana we stopped at Meadowlark Hill, Ogallala, Nebraska, the home of Max and Darlene Peterson and family, in that awe-inspiring country with that superior collection of lilacs. Our Society members would have benefited greatly to have seen it following the Denver meeting. It's a MUST to see.

In Iowa we stopped in on Bill and Kay Heard at Johnston who run a thriving nursery and landscape business. A few miles away is located the landscaped headquarters of the Men's Garden Club of America which we visited.

In the fall back in Vermont we visited the Kate-Brook Nursery at Hardwick with its basically unique conifer arboretum containing a large border of Lemoine lilacs. We also visited the Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences (VINS) nature center at Woodstock.

And this spring we drove out to Ohio to visit Fr. Fiala's fabulous Falconskeape lilacs and other horticultural novelties and hybrids. This garden is now operated by Ameri-Hort Research Corporation whose resident supervisors, Peter and Karen Murray, will act as hosts to our

eighteenth annual meeting next May. Plan now to attend this must-see garden with its unique lilacs.

Besides meeting ILS members in their own gardens throughout the year, we met an Amish farmer-woodworker in remote Montana who had grown up in Iowa and who professed an abiding love of lilacs. Amy Lowell is right: "Lilacs, you are everywhere."

In summary I made more than seventy phone calls, wrote more than one hundred letters and visited ten horticultural institutions. We are initiating certain activities at this "convention": group pictures of registrants and speakers, taped recordings of speakers and committee reports, educational bulletin published and distributed by the Monroe County Parks Department, treasurer's report audited, and certain committee reports presented. Consequently I wish to thank each one who has contributed so generously to the success of this historic annual meeting.

Report of the Executive Vice-President

THE DAY AFTER the Denver convention in 1987, instead of going on the side trip to the mountains, your Executive Vice-President went to visit Max and Darlene Peterson's extensive collection of lilacs. This should have been a must for everyone. To have been so near yet not to visit this extraordinary syringetum was to have missed a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

On my way back to the airport, I had an automobile accident which derailed my plans to visit Lourene Wishart at Lincoln, Nebraska. Lourene is a founding member, past director, past Regional Vice-President and a life member. She is no longer able to attend our meetings. I felt cheated to have missed visiting her.

Orville Steward, accompanied by Dr. Robert Clark, came to Grape Hill Gardens in August. As Executive Vice-President I worked with President Steward to help make a smooth transition in taking up his new duties. Committee appointments were planned and most of the year's work was outlined.

Later in the fall, I drove to Plymouth, Vermont, to further the planning. In all I made two more trips to confer with President Steward.

The Saturday before the Rochester Convention I drove to Medina, Ohio to visit and confer with Father Fiala. It has been a fruitful year.

Respectfully submitted
/s/ William Utley

*Arch McKean at
Falconskeape
with cluster of
the Arch McKean
lilac.*



TREASURER'S REPORT

May 20, 1988

Checking Acct. — Naper Bank, N.A., Naperville, Il. 60566

Balance brought forward — 5/1/87		\$ 3,232.31
John Carvill (contribution)	\$ 50.00	
John Carvill (auction — Denver)	826.00	
Green Thumb publication (Sales — Denver)	54.00	
Funds received from Secretary (5/1/87-4/30/88)	3,276.00	
Total funds received (5/1/87-4/30/88)	\$ 4,206.00	\$ 4,206.00
Total available funds — Checking Acct. 5/1/87-4/30/88		\$ 7,438.31

DISBURSEMENTS (5/1/87-4/30/88)

Merk Jewelers & Trophies	\$ 411.75
Wedge Nurseries (UPS charges)	71.25



Left to right: Treasurer Walter E. Eickhorst, Arch McKean with lilac, Max Peterson.

Wm. Heard (Ballot printing, postage, etc.)	124.40	
Pauline Fiala (Mailing \$390 - mailing permit \$50 - envelopes \$56.01 - phone \$10 - postage \$22.80) Advance	500.00	
Walter W. Oakes (Postage \$117.76 - stationery \$56.00)	173.76	
Arrow Printing, Inc. (Don Wedge) (Membership application forms \$126.45 - info brochure \$334.00 - tax \$27.63)	488.08	
Owen M. Rogers (Newsletter printing) \$308.99 - \$599.46 - \$366.96	1,275.41	
ILS Eastern Canada Region (Charles Holetich)	100.00	
M.M. Acct. — Transfer of Funds	151.00	
Nat'l Council of State Garden Clubs (Membership)	15.00	
Robert E. Hoepfl (Conference advance)	500.00	
Total disbursements (5/1/87-4/30/88)	\$ 3,810.69	\$ 3,810.69
Funds on hand 4/30/88		\$3,627.62

Money Market Acct. — Naper Bank, N.A., Naperville, Il. 60566		
Balance carried forward 4/30/87		\$18,868.50
Interest credit (4/27/87-4/26/88)	\$ 1,232.11	
Publications (Denver)	171.50	
Publications 4/30/87-4/30/88	303.50	
Mrs. Wishart (Propagation/Distribution Fund)	500.00	
John Wister Memorial Fund	25.00	
Bank-One, Akron, OH (CD Transfer)	4,566.77	
Special Account	10.00	
M.M. Acct. Credit 4/30/87-4/30/88	\$ 6,808.88	\$ 6,808.88
Total Funds Available — M.M. Acct. 4/26/88		\$25,677.38

DISBURSEMENTS (4/26/87-4/26/88) none

FUNDS BEING HELD IN SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

Life Memberships — 30		
(22 at \$100 - 7 at \$150 - 1 at \$180)	\$ 3,430.00	
C.C. Clark Memorial Fund (\$40.60)	816.00	
John C. Wister Memorial Fund (\$25.00 + \$12)	243.30	
Hans Conreed Memorial Fund (\$2.40)	57.50	
Arch McKean (Plt. Prop./Dist. Fund) (\$262.00)	5,262.00	
Mrs. Wishart (Plt. Prop./Dist. Fund (\$26.00)	526.00	
Reva Ballreich (Special Purpose — Printing Fund) (Designated 4/16/86) (\$11.50)	233.00	
Education/Research (\$138.03)	2,771.00	
Publications (Upton Scrap Books etc.) (minus \$186.14) (\$475.50 \$15.14)	304.50	
Interest Distributed (Special Accounts)	\$1,232.00	
Total Funds being held in Special Accounts	\$13,643.30	
Total Funds Available — M.M. Acct. 4/26/88		\$25,677.38
Total Funds Being Held in Special Accounts		13,643.30
Total General Funds Available in M.M. Account		\$12,034.08

**RECONCILIATION
OF ALL ILS FUNDS (5/1/87-4/30/88)**

Funds in Various Accounts (4/30/88)

Checking Account	\$ 3,627.62	
General Funds in M.M. Account	12,034.08	
General Funds Available (4/30/88)	\$15,661.70	\$15,661.70
Special Accounts in M.M. Account	13,643.30	13,643.30
Total Funds Available 4/30/88	<u>\$29,305.00</u>	<u>\$29,305.00</u>

*Respectfully submitted 5/20/88
/s/ Walter E. Eickhorst, Treas.*

Auditing Committee Report

The Auditing Committee has gone over the books of the Treasurer of the International Lilac Society, including those of the Eastern Canadian Region, for the year 1987-88 with the Treasurer, Walter E. Eickhorst, and from the books of Charles D. Holetich and find the accounts in good order.

The committee wishes to compliment Walter E. Eickhorst on his fine financial record keeping.

Auditors /s/ Owen M. Rogers and Don Wedge



Lilacs and dogwoods at Falconskeape.

Conference Chairman's Report

Rochester, New York

May 1988

Checks and service charge	\$ 16.75
Convention packets — folders, post cards	78.90
Postage	15.00
Ribbons	46.81
Speaker's gift	26.75
Hospitality room drinks	79.84
Hospitality room snacks	50.42
Wheelchair rental	20.00
Transportation for Friday, Saturday, Sunday	1530.00
Rochester Brew Pub lunch Friday; Dinner Friday and Saturday	3704.00
Vases for table arrangements	36.00
George Eastman House fee	97.50
Wayfaring Twig — Rochester General Hospital (Donation Hallick Gar.)	100.00
Landmark Society — Ellwanger Garden Donation	100.00
Sonnenberg Garden fee	164.00
Total Expenditures	\$6065.97
Income from Registration	5603.00
I.L.S. advance	500.00
Total Income	\$6103.00
Refund from bus reserved for Sunday	225.00
Returned to I.L.S. Treasurer	\$ 262.03

*Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Robert E. Hoepfl*



(Left to right): Daniel Ryniec, Lois Utley, Peter Ely, Marcia and Bob Hoepfl and Mabel Harkness.



Don Wedge and Bill Heard with Mark Eaton among lilacs at Grape Hill Gardens.

1988 Lilac Auction Report

I would like to thank all who assisted at Rochester for a most successful Lilac Auction held in a tent under rainy skies. Our total receipts were \$2,367 from a total of 131 cultivars.

Contributions were received from William Heard, Royal Botanical Gardens, Rochester Dept. of Parks and E.J. Gardener Gardens in the Buffalo area. Also a pair of plates with Lilac design from a Canadian member, a Needlepoint of Lilacs donated by Pauline Fiala and a copy of Lilacs for America donated by Gertrude Wister.

Walter Eickhorst most ably assisted in the auctioneering with me. Max Peterson and Dan Cohen displayed the plants and delivered them to the buyers. Pauline Fiala, Marie Chaykowski and Marcia Hoepfl kept track of buyers and collected the money.

Charles Holetich provided wonderful assistance in describing the Lilacs and pronouncing the names of them. A special thanks to Robert Hoepfl for having everything arranged and available that we needed.

Finally an auction can only be as successful as the wonderful support of the members and guests who did the bidding and purchasing.

*Respectfully submitted,
/s/ John C. Carvill, Chairman*

Publications Committee Report

Since the last editor's report, twelve issues of the Lilac Newsletter, totaling 134 pages have been published. The topic distribution was as follows:

Cover and current officers	25 pages
Society news and lilac information	70½ pages
Letters from members	7 pages
Addresses of vice-presidents	9 pages
Welcome new members	6½ pages
General garden information	8 pages
Advertisements	8 pages

We still do not have a permanent editor, and so the newsletter continues to be of slender size. We have, however, had a new suggestion, and I present it to you for your comment. Is there a person with a typewriter who could act as editor producing a mocked up copy of the newsletter? The University of New Hampshire would then produce the mimeograph stencils, run off and collate the copies and get them to Pauline Fiala and Charles Holetich, who mail them to members. This split of duties would take care of my problem of lack of time to solicit and set up articles and still provide the machinery (stencil maker, mimeograph, staples) that not too many potential editors have lying around the house. If anyone is excited about the idea, please contact me for details.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Owen M. Rogers, Chairman

Lilac Evaluation Committee

Lilac evaluation, mainly manifesting itself in collection of descriptive and photographic data of lilac cultivars, continues at R.B.G. at rate as funds and labor force permits. The committee is anxiously awaiting the final results of superior lilac cultivars ad hoc committee so that set aside funds may be put in motion of propagation and promotion of better cultivars — old and new.

Our reputation as a society is at stake; hence, selection of first one, two or three cultivars should be chosen carefully. As time goes on we may expand at greater pace and with greater experience.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Charles D. Holetich, Chairman



Your editor among Rochester strain lilacs bred by Fr. Faila at Falconskeape.

Nominations Committee Report

For ten weeks and after numerous letters and telephone calls your nominations committee was able to present the following slate of members for the Board of Directors for 1988 to 1991: Riva Ballreich of Beverly Hills, Ca., Daniel Cohen of Greensboro, Vt., Walter E. Eickhorst of Naperville, Il., Robert E. Hoepfl of Rochester, NY, Robert Gilbert of Hyde Park, NY, William Horman of Detroit, Mi., Roger Vick of Edmonton, Alta. and William A. Utley of Clyde, NY.

Your committee welcomes suggestions of potential candidates to the Board of Directors.

*Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Robert B. Clark, Chairman*

Research Committee Report

The Research Committee recommends that Dr. Craig Hibben, director of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden Kitchewan Laboratory, be awarded a research grant in the amount of \$1,000 to continue his investigation of diseases of lilac. Previous grants to Dr. Hibben have produced progress in our understanding of microplasma-like organisms (MLO), findings which he has published in the Society's proceedings.

*Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Owen M. Rogers, Chairman*

Publicity, Promotion and Public Relations Committee Report

I want to report that my activities and those of the members of the committee were very successful. There were six insertions of announcements of our annual meeting at Rochester, as well as eight of my Lilac Show at Margaretten Park, in magazines and local newspapers. We had more than a thousand people attending the open house in spite of the weather and a poor showing of the lilacs due to the bad weather from November till May. We turned many people away who called because of that. Those we couldn't contact came and enjoyed the lilacs that weathered heat, wind, hail and rain when the buds had opened, then freezing temperatures and three feet of snow.

From the seminars and shows we should be getting a lot of new members. Those who couldn't come to the open house May 16th and 17th saw an hour of my slides that gave them an idea of how well lilacs can do in this climate.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Joel Margaretten, Chairman

Region II Report

During the past season I presented three talk and slide shows to different garden clubs. To those offering contributions in appreciation, I suggested that they send them directly to Walter Oakes, our membership secretary. After each slide show I passed out our information leaflet and membership application forms.

I have donated a copy of Fr. Fiala's soon-to-be-published book on lilacs to the Town of Colonie library. The book will give many readers an awareness, pleasure and beauty regarding lilacs.

At a recent church plant sale I donated twenty lilac shrubs. Through this program many more in my area are beginning to appreciate lilacs.

As a result of a letter from Charles Holetich regarding unpaid memberships, I sent a letter to all in my region. I received a reply from one member paying his dues for two years and a request of where to buy lilacs. Another member called me on the telephone saying he was forwarding his dues together with a new application for membership. One other letter was returned for insufficient address.

I am still trying, without success, to contact the George Landis Arboretum at Esperance, NY, regarding their lilac program.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ John C. Carvill, Vice-President



*Hosts for
Eighteenth
Annual Meeting at
Medina, Ohio,
May 12-14, 1989:
Fr. Fiala and
Dr. Karen Murray.*

Convention Committee Report

Next year (1989) we are scheduled to hold our convention at Medina, Ohio, as guests of Ameri-hort and Falconskeape Gardens. We will also be visiting the Holden Arboretum.

For 1990, we have been invited by the Montreal Botanical Gardens to hold our convention at Montreal, Quebec. This will be our first convention in a city where the language is not English.

We have invitations from several other places, and plans are being formulated. We hope soon to have a tentative list of conventions for the next five years.

*Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Bill Utley, Chairman*



Holden Arboretum hosts flanked by ILS officials at Falconskeape (l to r): Orville Steward, Eliot Paine, Pauline Fiala, Holden propagator, Peter Bristol and Robert Clark.

Membership Committee Report

I.L.S. Membership as of April 30, 1988:

In U.S.A.	293
In Canada	46
Overseas	15
	354

Number of Members who Failed to Renew 1987 I.L.S. Membership:

In U.S.A.	54
In Canada	5
Overseas	0
	59

Besides billings, reminder notices were mailed to each member who failed to renew his 1987 membership. Response was good (about 30%) but not good enough.

A list of nonrenewals as of March 10, 1988 was mailed to each vice-president for further action and to find reasons why we as a society are in constant struggle to hold onto our members.

Perhaps a centerfold pull-out questionnaire survey form in our Lilac Newsletter may help us direct our efforts as a society and cater in areas most needed, expected and appreciated.

Respectfully submitted
/s/ Charles D. Holetich, Chairman



Pauline Fiala with Ben and Marie Chaykowski at Grape Hill Gardens.



Riva Ballreich with Walter W. Oakes and David Gressley.

May 1988

THE HONOR AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

is presented to

WALTER W. OAKES

of Dixfield, Maine

A Founding Member of the International Lilac Society . . . For seventeen years of faithful, dedicated and distinguished service as Secretary to the Society and a Member of its Board of Directors . . . For promoting the Society and newer cultivars of lilacs . . . For opening his lilac garden to the public . . . For promoting newer cultivars and introducing his beautiful cultivar, 'Melissa Oakes.'



Bill and Lois Utley.

THE HONOR AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

is presented to

WILLIAM A. AND LOIS D. UTLEY

of Clyde, N.Y.

Founding Members of the International Lilac Society . . . For their distinguished service to the Society: his as Executive Vice-President; hers as Secretary to the Board of Trustees; to both as Members of the Board of Trustees . . . For their preeminent lilac collection which annually attracts the public from far and nearby Wayne and adjoining counties of New York State . . . For introducing to horticulture two new pink lilac cultivars, "Clyde Lucie" and "Catawba Pink."

THE PRESIDENTS' AWARD

is presented to

HIGHLAND BOTANICAL PARK

Rochester, N.Y.

on its Centennial Anniversary

For its leadership in horticulture by its continuing succession of outstanding horticulturists . . . For its superb plant collections; especially noteworthy is its twenty-two acre collection of lilacs, including cultivars raised by John Dunbar, Alvan R. Grant and Richard A. Fenicchia . . . For its year-round displays open to the public, which include the Spring Lilac Festival.

is presented to

DEAN SPONG

DIRECTOR OF MONROE COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT

For his concern for the maintenance and development of the Highland Park lilac collection of international renown, which attracts many thousands of visitors to Rochester . . . For hosting the 17th Annual Convention of the International Lilac Society.

AWARD OF MERIT

is presented to

RICHARD A. FENICCHIA

of Webster, N. Y.

(former Superintendent of Horticulture)

MONROE COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT

For introducing the "Rochester Strain" of lilacs and especially for his newest introduction "Flower City."

is presented to

ROBERT E. HOEPFL

Superintendent of Horticulture

MONROE COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT

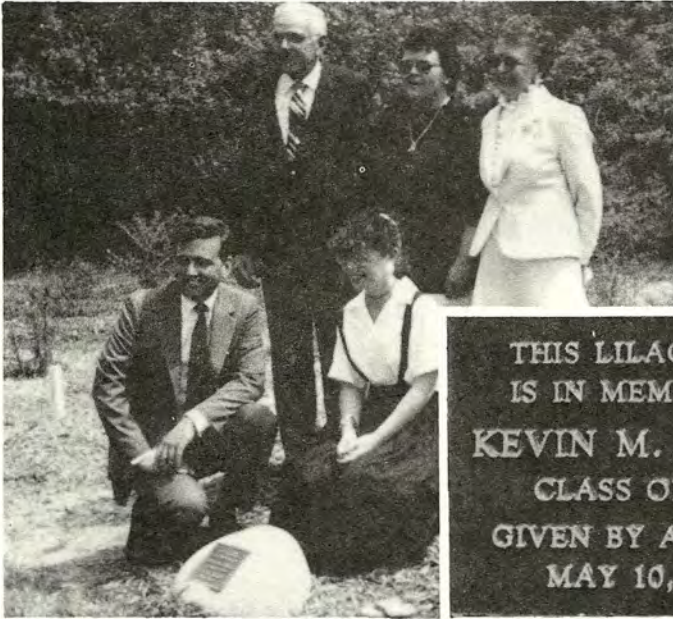
For his devotion to the maintenance and improvement of Highland Park and its horticultural collections, which include its world-renowned lilac collection . . . For serving as Chairman of the 17th Annual Convention of the International Lilac Society.

is presented to

THE F. R. NEWMAN ARBORETUM

of Cornell (University) Plantation, Ithaca, N. Y.

For establishing the "Kevin M. Harris Memorial Lilac Walk" in May of 1987. Although modest in number of plants, the collection represents selected species and noteworthy cultivars for student instruction and public enjoyment.



*Harris family
(above)*

*(below)
Guests
at
dedication
ceremony.*

THIS LILAC WALK
IS IN MEMORY OF
KEVIN M. HARRIS
CLASS OF 1972
GIVEN BY A FRIEND
MAY 10, 1987



is presented to
JOHN CARVILL
of Latham, N.Y.

For his continued dedication to the International Lilac Society for many years . . .
For his service to the Society in assisting in its annual lilac auctions, making them
a success and thereby enabling members to obtain rare and beautiful cultivars of
lilacs.

THE ARCH McKEAN AWARD

is presented to
ELIOT F. TOZER, JR.

For his comprehensive horticultural narrative of notable lilac collections of the
New England states, including Highland Park, Rochester, N.Y., The Arnold Ar-
boretum and the Royal Botanical Garden, Hamilton, Ontario, which was published
in the May 1987 issue of YANKEE magazine and which attracted visitors to these
several gardens mentioned in his article.





UPPER LEFT:
Grape Hill Gardens Dedication

ABOVE:
*Orville and Ellen Steward
with Fr. Faila.
Photographer: Walter Oakes*

LEFT:
Eastman Residence, Rochester

BOTTOM LEFT:
*Headquarters and old home-
stead of Hulda Klager Gardens*

BELOW:
*Tenant House driveway.
Alba, lilarosa*



Board of Directors

1988 - 1989

TERM EXPIRES 1989:

John C. Carvill 138 Old Loudon Rd., Latham, N.Y. 12110
Nancy Emerson Rt. 1, Box 433, Delhi, N.Y. 13753
Fr. John Fiala 45 Never Bend Dr., Meadow Wood Farms 2
Ocala, Fla. 32675
Pauline Fiala 6995 Congress Rd., Spencer, Ohio 44275
Winfried Martin Holden Arboretum, Mentor, Ohio 44060
Andrew Pierce . Denver Bot. Gard., 909 York St., Denver, Col. 80206
Wilson Stampe 2227 Lorton Rd., Davenport, Iowa 52803
Mary Pat Cohen Greensboro, Vermont

TERM EXPIRES 1990:

Robert B. Clark Cattle Landing Rd., Meredith, N.H. 03253
Dr. Joel Margaretten 38570 Bouquet Canyon Rd.
Leona Valley, Calif. 93550
Max Peterson R.R. 1, Box 273, Ogallala, Neb. 69153
Daniel Ryniec Brooklyn Bot. Gard., 1000 Washington Ave.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11225
Mary Smith Rte. 2, Bellevue, Iowa 52031
Orville Steward Box 33, Plymouth, Vermont 05056
Lois Utley 1232 Devereaux Rd., Clyde, N.Y. 14433
Don Wedge Rte. 2, Albert Lee, Minn. 56007

TERM EXPIRES 1991:

Riva Ballreich Beverly Hills, Calif.
Daniel Cohen Greensboro, Vermont
Walter Eickhorst 140 W. Douglas Ave.
Naperville, Ill. 60540
Robert Gilbert Box 83, Hyde Park, N.Y. 12538
Robert Hoepfl Monroe Co. Parks Dept., 375 Westfall Rd.
Rochester, N.Y. 14620
William Horman 246 Chalmers, Detroit, Mich. 48215
William Utley 1232 Devereaux Rd., Clyde, N.Y. 14433
Roger Vick Devonian Bot. Gard., U. of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E9



TOP LEFT:
Flower City

TOP RIGHT:
Krasavitza Moskey

ABOVE:
*Frederick Law
Olmsted*

LEFT:
Znamia Lenina

FRONT COVER:
*Catawba Pink introduced
by Grape Hill Gardens*