

Lilacs

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of the International Lilac Society

IN
THIS
ISSUE:

Beijing Bot. Garden, Part I
In Memoriam: Alvan R. Grant



Beautiful specimen of *Syringa reticulata*, planted 1981 at Bickelhaupt Arboretum
Photo Credit William Cornelius



Lilac Collection at Bickelhaupt Arboretum
Photo Credit William Cornelius

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Cover: Close up of unnamed hybrid of Robert Hoepfl referred to as 'FC 20'

Located in Highland Botanical Park

Photo Credit Charles Holetich

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International Lilac Society

President	Nicole Jordan Njordan236@aol.com 15500 Harrowgate Road, Chester, VA 23831
Executive Vice President	Bradley Bittorf bittorfbradley@yahoo.com 13902 East Placita Ocho Puntas, Vail, AZ 85641
Secretary	David Gressley 7556 Johnnycake Road, Mentor, OH 44060-7646
Treasurer	Karen McCauley 325 West 82nd Street, Chaska, MN 55318-3208
Assistant Treasurer	William F. Tschumi* 3 Paradise Court, Cohoes, New York 12047-1422 Phone: (518) 237-6107
Editor	Kent Millham kmillham@monroecounty.gov 253 Burnett Road, Webster, NY 14580

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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.

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Kent Millham, Editor, 253 Burnett Road, Webster, NY 14580

International Lilac Society Web Site Address:

www.InternationalLilacSociety.org

President's Message

Dear Lilac aficionados,

Voila! The lilac season is upon us. Are you ready to enjoy it? I heard on February 24th from Dr. Giles Waines in California. He wrote in his e-mail "The first lilacs came into bloom at Riverside a week ago. They are some of Louis Erickson's *Syringa x hyacinthiflora* selections, and are great on earliness and good on bloom size and form." So you see, mes amis, it is showtime! Little by little, region by region, lilacs are going to wake from their slumber and explode into beautiful colors and perfume the air. Are you ready for all the excitement? Flower shows are opening up and droves of people are going to catch a little bit of spring fever.

Kent Millham is forcing lilacs for two special events; one is the nationally recognized Gardenscape landscape exhibition, and the other is the Spring show at Lamberton Conservatory in Highland Botanical Park. Jack Alexander, Mary Lizotte and Aldona Kasper are going to take part in 136th New England Flower Show in Boston. They are going to distribute ILS brochures and talk to the visitors. Roger is doing a lilac propagation workshop. I too will speak in March to the Virginia Cut Flower society at Virginia State University, Petersburg, Virginia USA on growing lilacs for the cut flower market.

I asked Mr. Edward Pincus, owner of Third Branch Flower Company in Roxbury, Vermont USA, to explain the process to me. He has been in the trade for twenty years, and ships cut lilacs throughout the USA and Canada. He graciously explained to me in great detail how he manages his lilacs, how and when he harvests them, how he preserves the flowers, how he ships the blooms, etc. I look forward to this opportunity not only to speak about lilacs, but also about ILS. Two hundred people are expected to attend. Frank Moro, of Select Plus International Nursery, is at the Philadelphia Flower Show promoting his business, and looking into the possibility for ILS to have a booth there next year. I'm sure many other members on all continents are preparing for their own lilac events.

The ILS Convention on Mackinac Island is only a few months away. As I write this message, it is three months away to be exact. Everything is in place. Peter Ely, Convention Chairman, has made all the arrangements. Bill Horman, has collected wonderful lilac cultivars for the auction. Thank you to the generous donors. Have you seen the two pictures of the lilacs on Mackinac Island on the inside cover of *Lilacs* Vol. 36 No. 1 Winter 2007? I wish that all towns everywhere would look like this veritable lilac paradise! The tourist season is busy on the island and rooms are at a premium. So without delay make your reservations and register. I'm hoping that members from far away as Russia, Australia etc. will come to the convention. It is fun, we learn a lot about lilacs, and we make new friendships and renew old ones.

I hope you are reading the journal from cover to cover. Kent Millham our editor has produced another fine issue. There is something for everyone in these pages. The father of Corinna Moro wrote a wonderful article, "A Passion for Lilacs", about his daughter's interest in lilacs. Read and see what she has accomplished. Anthony Gardocki recalled in his article, "A Lilac Experience", how he remembered the lilacs of his childhood. He joined ILS after attending a lecture at a spring garden show. Tidbits from the International Lilac Robin are published for the first time in this issue. The articles on the lilacs at the University of Guelph and Hofstra University are detailed and very interesting. Of interest is the article and the list of hardy lilac cultivars for urban planting in Siberia. The remembrance of Robert Bickelhaupt, who did so much for ILS and the horticulture world, by Bill Horman was eloquent. Thank you to all the contributors. The new ILS brochures are out and they are beautiful. Contact Kent Millham; he will gladly send you a supply. They need to be distributed not only in the USA, but all over the world.

On February 24th, 2007 the board members had a second phone conference. I'm happy to report that all is going well with ILS. Are you checking our web page: www.InternationalLilacSociety.org? Our Webmaster, Jeff Young, is working diligently and adding to it. I'm pleased to report that the site is getting many visitors. Interest in lilacs worldwide is growing by leaps and bounds. I say it again: we are in the midst of a Lilac Renaissance. So as we embark on this new Lilac season, let us enjoy the lilacs. Let us spread the word about these wonderful shrubs. Give a lilac to someone as a birthday present. Think lilacs and take the opportunity to introduce young people to the world of lilacs.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the convention at Mackinac Island in June. If not, I know for sure I will see you somewhere on the Lilac Trail.

*Amities,
Nicole Jordan
ILS President
Chester, VA
March 1, 2007
Njordan236@aol.com*

Editor's Message

In the previous issue of *Lilacs*, for once lilacs were in the background, and pansies were featured in the foreground. To visitors of the annual Lilac Festival in Rochester, NY, the pansy bed is as eagerly anticipated as the spectacular blooming of the 1,200 lilac shrubs.

This annual tradition started in the early days of Highland Park, around 1904. Every year, pansies are grown by the Monroe County Parks Department for this display. The method of growing has changed along the way, and this change has occurred during my employment at Highland.

Previously, pansy seed was planted in outdoor frames in July; sown directly in a seeding area, and covered by a thin layer of milled sphagnum moss. After the seed germinated, and developed several sets of leaves, they were lined out in rows by cultivars. In the fall, they were covered by a thin layer of straw for protection, and overwintered in the outdoor growing area. The following April, they were then dug out, and transplanted to the display area.

In the 1980's, a serious fungal disease in the growing field made this method no longer feasible. Since then, we have started the seed in December in the growing greenhouses, and then transplanted them into cell packs of 36/flat. In mid-April, they are then transplanted in geometric designs into the display bed, and come into full bloom at lilac time. 12,000 to 16,000 pansies are packed in this bed that is 20' by 50', producing a spectacular display of color to complement the lilacs.

Also of note in the cover photo of the previous Winter issue is the rock directly adjacent to the pansy bed. This is a memorial rock to John Dunbar, the first horticulturist of Highland Park, and the hybridizer of many well-known cultivars of *Syringa*, such as the double purple 'Adelaide Dunbar'. One of the originals of this cultivar is just out of the photo, and is an old gnarled specimen about 90 years old.

In this issue, we are debuting the inclusion of color photographs in the interior of the journal. There is some extra cost to this feature, but I am hoping the membership will enjoy the extra color.

As always, I am requesting that members send a short article about their own lilacs. We like to know what all of our members are growing, and which are everyone's favorites.

Kent Millham
kmillham@monroecounty.gov
March 9, 2007

Alvan Grant, Parks Director, had a 'thirst for green'

Alvan Grant had a "thirst for green," says his daughter, Elizabeth Bernstein of Austin, Texas. Grant, 90, the former director of the Monroe County Parks Department, died in Tempe, Ariz., on Feb. 13.

He retired in 1977 after a dozen years as director and more than 30 with the parks system. "He had such a love of his field, he'd have done it for nothing," says Cassandra Petsos, president of People for Parks, a citizens advocacy group Grant founded just before his retirement.

Grant believed that public parks should refresh and restore the human spirit and must be preserved, maintained and defended against the periodic demands that parkland be sold off, paved over or turned into golf courses.

On his watch, the parks system grew from roughly 6,000 acres to just under 11,000 (the county's 21 parks occupy 12,000 acres today), as Northampton, Black Creek and Oatka Creek parks came onboard. Park expansion was his proudest accomplishment, his daughter says.

He graduated from Cornell University with a degree in horticulture in 1940, later served in the U.S. Army during World War II and then took a job for 85 cents an hour as a plant propagator at Highland Park.

He took immense pride in the park's lilac collection and heritage and, with horticulturist Dick Fenicchia, developed the 'Rochester' lilac, with its spectacular multipetaled ivory white blossoms.

Several years ago, Grant wrote a still unpublished history of the major personalities in Monroe County parks history. Says his friend Mike Kopicki of Webster, a landscaper and beekeeper and owner of Long Meadow Gardens landscaping service, the book is about the people who "led the Golden Age of Parks and he was the last of them."

Next to family, the parks were the love of his life, Bernstein says. But as the parks grew, the staff declined, from 204 to 162 workers over his last years. Toward the end, he said, he was working 60 or 70 hours a week and didn't have the support people he needed for even some routine functions like fielding citizen inquiries. He didn't feel he could contend with more cutbacks.

"I think, unfortunately, parks have always been considered frills by county legislators and by people making out budgets," he said before his retirement. "It's my contention that if you didn't have parks you'd have to have larger mental health facilities and larger police forces. Parks provide areas where people can dissolve their tensions and recharge their lives a little bit."

He formed People for Parks to help ordinary citizens lobby their lawmakers on

behalf of parks.

Grant did not believe it was important that parks attract big crowds, Petsos says. "Open space is not intended to be occupied by hundreds of thousands of people," she says. "It's where people go to escape the crush and appreciate nature."

Alvan Grant was a purist, but also a realist. From his early years he wanted nothing more than to coax beauty from the soil. He didn't expect to win every battle, but he knew that fighting hard was important. And every time we visit Highland Park at lilac time or hike the river trails at Seneca Park or take in the scents and variety of Durand in summer, we should thank Alvan Grant for fighting the good fight – for knowing that our parks nourish the best in each of us.

Mark Hare

Democrat and Chronicle columnist

This article appeared in the Local section of the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle on 2/22/2007. Feel free to visit their web site at www.democratandchronicle.com.

In Memoriam: Alvan R. Grant

On February 13, 2007, Alvan Roger Grant passed away in Arizona at the age of 90. Although retired from his position as Director of Monroe County Parks for 30 years, a full house at South Presbyterian Church in Rochester, New York paid tribute to the man who recognized the value of parks to the human spirit. This memorial service was held on March 3, 2007, and was attended by many members of his family, church, friends, former fellow Parks employees, People for Parks colleagues, and many others from the Rochester area whose lives he greatly enriched with his works and his life.

To his family and community, Roger or "Rog", will be remembered as a gentle man with a code of morality that guided all of his actions constantly. At the South Presbyterian Church, he always created the Easter display of floral and plant arrangements, and even influenced the final choice of colors that went into the stained glass which lined the church on opposite sides of the pews. As a leader of youth in his church, he led them with a combination of gentle authority, kindness, and yet a sense of playfulness that allowed him to connect with old and young alike.

Mr. Grant's service to Monroe Community Hospital will be remembered fondly, as for years he lent his plant arrangement expertise to their annual fundraising

gala. Once a year, the Brass Chandelier Room at MCH was transformed into a stunning ballroom, decorated by his artful arrangement of tropical plants and beautiful flowers. I can recall several times bringing over palms and flowers from the growing greenhouses of Highland Park to be used in this event. Monroe Community Hospital is a large and unique nursing home in Rochester that serves patients with severe physical problems, and is aided in this service by a dedicated core of volunteers, and Mr. Grant's service was an important addition.

To his country, Alvan Grant will be remembered for his honorable service in World War II. While serving in the 4th Infantry Division on the European front, Mr. Grant received a severe concussion from the explosion of a nearby cannon shell. (It should be mentioned that when able to get some leave time, he would spend time at the Botanic Gardens at Cambridge; furthering his horticultural knowledge even in World War II, just as his future friend and horticultural comrade, Richard Fenicchia did when he could in the Asian theatre of World War II.)

To his family, Roger was an extremely devoted family man. His two daughters, and many of his grandchildren spoke eloquently of him at the service, painting the picture of a man who was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Although a dignified man at work at Highland Park and at the Monroe County Park Office, he could be found at home playing on the floor with his children, and later his grandchildren; entertaining them with his antics.

To Rochester and Monroe County, Mr. Grant will be fondly remembered for his long service from 1945-1977; serving as plant propagator, greenhouse foreman, assistant Superintendent of Parks, and Director of Parks. While serving as the director from 1965-1977, he expanded the park system to double in size, from 6,000 to over 12,000 acres. One acquisition, Irondequoit Bay East Park, is of special note to the International Lilac Society. This is where Richard Fenicchia grew and developed many of his renowned lilac hybrids, such as 'Alvan R. Grant', 'Martha Stewart', 'Richard A. Fenicchia', 'Frederick Law Olmsted' and many others.

Mr. Grant augmented his work in the parks after retirement, serving in the group People for Parks, a citizen advocacy group that fights for and helps the parks in these times of tight financial and budgetary constraints.

To the International Lilac Society, Alvan R. Grant will always be admired for his stellar contribution; the 'Rochester' lilac. This cultivar has been spoken of in *Lilacs* and other publications many times, because of its unique trait of florets that may exhibit radial doubling; a characteristic that may increase the number of petals radially up to 20-25. This trait has been further extended by Richard Fenicchia, Father John Fiala, and others, who have used 'Rochester' as a parent. This chance seedling of 'Edith Cavell' that Mr. Grant planted back in the beginning of his career in 1947 will forever be honored by ILS and Highland

Botanical Park as one of the best, most beautiful, and most influential cultivars ever developed.

Finally, I will always remember Mr. Grant fondly. In June 1975, almost 32 years ago, I had an interview with him for a job at Highland Park. I recall dressing up in a suit and reporting at his office, feeling somewhat nervous, but he quickly put me at ease as we talked about plants and our alma mater, Cornell University. Four months later, he called me personally to let me know that I had the position of Greenhouse Worker at the growing greenhouses, the same place that he started his career in Monroe County Parks; a call which transformed my life.

Several years later, during one of the many budget crises, my position was unfortunately eliminated. Mr. Grant, always an honorable and thoughtful man, rather than just letting me receive a pink slip in the mail, came to the greenhouses and talked to me personally. He found a way to hire me back as a seasonal worker immediately, and 2 weeks later, another full-time position miraculously opened up, and I was again a full-fledged member of the Highland Park horticultural team.

Finally, about 5 years ago, the last time that I saw Mr. Grant, he was recuperating from health problems, and undergoing rehab and recovery at St. John's Nursing Home (which is located directly next to Highland Park, and near the site where he developed the 'Rochester' lilac). Although Mr. Grant was suffering from his own physical ailments, our talk turned to my wife's severe health problems. His gentle and kind nature always came through, and forgetting his own problems, he spoke with me kindly about my wife, and once again I owed him great thanks and gratitude.

To his family, community, Monroe County Parks, the International Lilac Society, and to me, Alvan Roger Grant will be greatly missed, but always fondly remembered.

*Kent Millham
Highland Botanical Park
March 6, 2007*



Alvan R. Grant
1916-2007

Lilac Culture in Rochester

by Alvan R. Grant, Director of Parks

The story of Lilac Time in Rochester really began 75 years ago in the Spring of 1892 when John Dunbar planted the first collection of lilacs in a corner of Highland Park.

This collection consisted of 100 varieties[Editor's note; varieties are now referred to as cultivars, or cultivated varieties, with the exception of naturally occurring variations in nature such as *Syringa vulgaris* var. *alba*. Henceforth in this article,

cultivar will be substituted for the term variety.] and formed the nucleus for what is now one of the most famous and largest collections in the world. The first published comments about these plants appeared in 1897 when the 100 cultivars were in bloom. The annual report of the Rochester Park Commission for 1898 states that "on a balmy Sunday in May 1898, when the lilacs were in bloom, approximately 3,000 visitors gathered to view them, coming by foot or carriage to make the largest crowd yet seen at the park." This was indeed a genuine tribute to the lilacs for no announcement had heralded the display. The blossoms themselves, their fame passing from lip to lip were responsible for drawing the crowd. The popularity of these plants in many ways reinforced the plan of the park officials to make Highland Park a public arboretum.

Over the years many new lilacs have been planted and the collection has been extended far beyond the original corner of Highland Park. Presently there can be found 560 cultivars in several different species of lilacs and the total planting exceeds 1,500 bushes. As the collection has grown, so also has the popularity of the blossoms and every lilac time finds crowds of visitors coming to Highland Park.

Perhaps the popularity of the lilacs is due to the fact that they are so easy to grow. Almost every farm home in the northern states has several old lilacs in the yard. In fact in northern New England lilacs still mark the sites of houses which have long since vanished. Experts will suggest that lilacs be planted in a position with full sun and good drainage. The planting space for each bush should be carefully prepared. It is best to dig a big hole- one 2 to 3 feet deep and 5 or 6 feet or more across. This hole should be filled with good garden soil well enriched with manure and fertilizer, adding lime if the soil is acidic. Before planting, the bush should be pruned to eliminate weak growth and to make a well balanced plant. Efforts should be made to encourage the growth of six or more main stems rather than one or two.

This practice will pay dividends in case of an infestation of lilac borer. When the main stems are 8 or 10 years old, begin to cut out one or two of the heaviest each year and train up new young stems to take their places. In this way, you will keep the plant young and within bounds. The blossoms will be at a good viewing level and greater enjoyment will be realized from the bushes. Yearly applications of manure and fertilizer will pay dividends in good growth and good blooms- and by all means during the long periods of dry weather, supply the bushes with plenty of water.

Actually the above suggestions may sound like a lot of fuss and bother! Lilacs will probably grow if planted in any old way and left alone. The finest flowers, however, are not achieved by neglect.

Perhaps the one insect that poses the greatest danger to lilacs is the lilac borer which often attacks and kills old stems. Little piles of sawdust which appear in

early summer are indications that borers are working. Carbon disulfide* applied into the insect tunnels will kill the borers. If severe infestation has occurred, it is perhaps easier to cut out and burn the entire stem. Control can also be gained by spraying with DDT in May and again in early June.* [Editor's note: current recommendations in NY state are spraying in mid-May, early June, and 2 weeks later with Talstar, chlorpyrifos, endosulfan, or permethrin; all restricted-use pesticides. IPM methods include pruning out infected branches and use of pheromone traps to determine when to spray. DDT, of course, is no longer legal.]

Lilacs should be watched carefully for a gray encrustation which may appear on the stem of young plants and on new growth of older plants. This encrustation which can be scraped off is in reality a scale insect which can be controlled by spraying with a miscible oil or with lime-sulphur in early Spring before the leaf buds start to open. In June when the insects are hatching and moving about, spraying with a solution of nicotine-sulfate and soap or with Malathion will give control.*

Recently a small insect which works between the surfaces of the leaves has been prevalent in some areas. This leaf miner may be controlled by spraying with nicotine-sulfate and soap, or with lindane or malathion as soon as possible after the insect is discovered.*

Occasionally, in situations of poor air circulation, a white powder or mildew may appear on the leaves. This can be prevented by spraying with Mildex after flowering.*

If you have lilac plants that are several years old, and they have not grown more than several inches or a foot, it may be lack of lime in the soil. Several handfuls of lime placed around the roots of small sickly plants will not injure them, and may coax them into vigorous growth.

Plants that fail to produce blossoms may be the victims of too much shade. If they are in full sun and still do not blossom, try root pruning with a sharp spade. This will often result in improved blossoming within the next year or two.

For a listing of some of the cultivars of lilacs which have enjoyed the most popularity among visitors to Highland Park, obtain a Lilac time brochure from the Garden Center or from the Park Office.

This article was published by the Garden Center of Rochester, Inc.; now called the Rochester Civic Garden Center, and appeared in Volume 22, No. 9; May, 1967 issue of The Garden Center Bulletin.

*Editor's Note: For all current chemical controls of diseases and pests of lilacs, consult your local extension service for the current recommendations in your area. Several of the controls mentioned in this article, which were used in 1965, are no longer legal.

The Bickelhaupt Arboretum

Last year after my father, Bob Bickelhaupt died at age 92, I was contacted by Bill Horman, longtime friend of my parents, for information on my father's death. Bill and Ed Hasselkus, board member, friend and curator of the Arboretum collaborated on a fine tribute to my father in the Winter 2007 Quarterly Journal of the International Lilac Society. In February, Kent Millham invited me to write an article for the Journal.

As a child, I loved the fragrance in church on Lilac Sunday; I felt very grown up when I accompanied family members to the Cemetery on Memorial Day to place lilacs on the graves and I wanted most of all to grow tall enough to pick them. My great-grandmother (the second of the five generations of my mother, Frances Kershner Bickelhaupt's family to live in Clinton, Iowa) had lilacs behind her house, as did my grandmother. The old lilacs were always too tall to smell, yet they were great places to play in the branches, as there were no leaves at the bottom. I saw my relatives cutting bouquets from the second story windows as we children picked them up in a basket!

I have grown taller now and today's lilacs are pruned annually and are not urged to grow to the rooftops. The flowers are close enough to enjoy and there are no leafless branches at the bottom. This is such an advantage as I watch my grandchildren admiring and sniffing the blooms in May and June on the grounds of the Bickelhaupt Arboretum in Clinton, Iowa.

Truly, lilacs are an intergenerational plant. Many are the calls we receive from middle-aged visitors to our community who want to know "What is the best time to see all the lilacs in bloom?" They have returned to visit parents who now are in senior care facilities or the old family home and lilacs are a part of memories. I have learned to welcome them to the Arboretum with a gentle explanation that it is important to have seasonal display, so our lilacs have been selected to bloom throughout May and June. I hope some visitors will understand that this is the reason we urge homeowners to plant different cultivars, so they have longer bloom. There is not one day for lilacs, but each weekend another group is featured at the Arboretum.

David Horst, horticulturist at the Bickelhaupt: "When I first came to work at the Arboretum more than 20 years ago, Mr. and Mrs. 'B.' spent many hours showing me the proper way to prune the *Syringa* so that visitors could experience the blooms and the fragrance and still show a plant with low maintenance at a reasonable price. Our Board and Staff agree that the future of this genus looks bright with the recent introduction of many excellent dwarf lilacs."

Several years ago, we recognized that the straight lines on a rather steep hill of the past collections might not fit into carrying out the mission of the Bickelhaupt. At the time they had been planted for ease of maintenance and plant identification study. With a mission to "serve as a connection between

people and plants through a better understanding of horticulture by developing and maintaining a well documented collection of plants for education and enjoyment." And with a goal to provide visitor comfort and ease in wayfinding, we turned to Dennis Buettner, FASLA of Buettner and Associates of Fox Point, WI who designed the master plan for the arboretum. He suggested a serpentine path through the lilacs to create a gentler grade and unify the collection. This was the connection between our mission and the collection! My parents frequently enjoyed riding through the lilacs in the electric cart last season. We are able to guide the elderly visitor on the new paths past each of the lilacs so they could read the labels, enjoy the fragrance and the ride among the *Syringa*. Children loved to move up and down the winding path. Each of our plants is labeled on an ultraviolet resistant label with the scientific, common and accession data on them. Our visitors are learning that their grandmother's *Syringa* had more of a name than "lilac."

"The rolling terrain and hillsides, which frame this intimate and peaceful stream valley, provide a wonderful setting to display diverse plant collections", Dennis said, and then added "Ed Hasselkus has been selecting the best cultivars for display. Working on the master plan with co-founders, Ed and the staff was a real joy. The Bickelhaupt keeps improving as new additions and improvements are made. The arboretum is beautiful in all seasons."

Arboretum tour guides (among our 86 volunteers here at the Arboretum) have told me the delight many of the 27,000 annual visitors find in the new names: THUMBELINA™, PRINCE CHARMING™, SUGAR PLUM FAIRY™, and TINKERBELLE™.

We invite readers to visit our 35-year-old arboretum for the *Syringa*, as well as our American Hosta Society display garden, Heartland Garden conifers (recognized as one of the top public collections of dwarf conifers in the country), Native Prairie, Flowering Trees, Ornamental shrubs, Pinetum, Stout Medal Daylilies, Annuals, Perennials, Herbs and specialty gardens: Rock, Butterfly, Wildflower and Peony. We are open dawn to dusk, free of charge, daily. Visit us at www.bickarb.org.

Framcie Hill
Executive Director
Bickelhaupt Arboretum
February 22, 2007

Syringa Collection of Bickelhaupt Arboretum

Syringa x chinensis

Syringa x chinensis 'Lilac Sunday'

Syringa x chinensis 'Saugeana'

Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Anabel'

Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Asessippi'

Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Blanche Sweet'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Esther Staley'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Evangeline'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Forrest Kresser Smith'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Mount Baker'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Pocahontas'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Royal Purple'
Syringa x laciniata
Syringa meyeri 'Palibin'
Syringa oblata 'Betsy Ross'
Syringa pekinensis BEIJING GOLD™
Syringa pekinensis 'Morton'
Syringa x prestoniae 'Donald Wyman'
Syringa pubescens subsp. *julianae* 'Hers'
Syringa pubescens subsp. *julianae* 'Karen'
Syringa pubescens subsp. *microphylla* 'Superba'
Syringa pubescens subsp. *patula* 'Klmone'
Syringa pubescens subsp. *patula* 'Miss Kim' (2)
Syringa reticulata
Syringa reticulata subsp. *reticulata* 'Ivory Silk' (2)
Syringa vulgaris 'Agincourt Beauty'
Syringa vulgaris 'Atheline Wilbur' (2)
Syringa vulgaris 'Aucubaefolia'
Syringa vulgaris 'Avalanche'
Syringa vulgaris 'Congo'
Syringa vulgaris 'Edith Cavell'
Syringa vulgaris 'Fiala Remembrance'
Syringa vulgaris 'Firmament'
Syringa vulgaris 'Katherine Havemeyer'
Syringa vulgaris 'Martha Stewart'
Syringa vulgaris 'Monge'
Syringa vulgaris 'Président Grèvy'
Syringa vulgaris 'Président Poincaré'
Syringa vulgaris 'Sweetheart'
Syringa vulgaris 'Victor Lemoine'
Syringa vulgaris 'Wonderblue'
Syringa 'Bailbelle' (3) (TINKERBELLE™)
Syringa 'Bailina' (THUMBELINA™)
Syringa 'Bailming' (2) (PRINCE CHARMING™)
Syringa 'Bailsugar' (4) (SUGAR PLUM FAIRY™)

ILS International Connections in China – Oct 2006

Heading on a vacation is another excuse to visit another lilac collection. Just plan your trip and then squeeze in a lilac collection to visit. Well, that is what we did this fall (Oct.2006). In October we traveled to China and our first stop was 3 days in Beijing.

From my days as Curator of the Royal Botanical Gardens Lilac Collection I emailed many other lilac contacts and one of these contacts was Cui Hongxia, Beijing Botanical Garden, Institute of Botany, Beijing. She was now on my visitation list!

I discovered from Freek Vrugtman, prior to my trip, that Tatiana Poliakova, Regional Vice President for Russia and Asia was also heading for Beijing as well. Wow! Could this really happen that we meet! After looking at our tour schedules and emailing back and forth we were one week different in arriving in Beijing. There was nothing we could do to change our pre-scheduled tours. As it turned out, Cui would have to meet us each on our own and that was great no matter how it happened. After emailing her back and forth we were able to sort out a time to visit.

Upon arriving in Beijing we started to play the tourist and visited Forbidden City on our first afternoon – (after our 13 hours flight direct from Toronto). Our vacations are not restful! We found lilacs planted in the Forbidden City areas outside the Imperial Garden (Yu Hua Yuan). One was very old and twisted and was planted in a raised stone planting bed. I am not aware of how old this *Syringa vulgaris* was but the Imperial Garden was first constructed in 1420 and there are several hundred year old pines, cypresses and wisterias growing in the nearby garden areas.

The next day we met with Ms. Hongxia at the Academy of Botany and the Lilac Collection. As a Lilac lover and Horticulturist I have learned to imagine what a lilac collection would be like during the off-bloom time. None of us have time to travel when the lilacs are in bloom as we are too busy with our own lilacs, so it is an art that traveling horticulturists learn to envision.

For the very short time that our party of 4 were visiting, Cui was very welcoming and forthcoming with many of the ways that she operates her department at the BBG. Cui mentioned that she was the successor of the BBG Lilac Collection from Shu-ying Zang, Professor and Horticulturist at BBG. She had introduced and registered many lilacs into the International Lilac Register through Freek Vrugtman. Cui and I have exchanged lilac scions of many of her registered cultivars over the years. Some of these cultivars are in my own backyard collection but that is a topic for another story.

Many thanks to Cui Hongxia for taking time out of her very obviously busy schedule to tour us around the green lilac collection. But in our minds, the blooms were overwhelmingly fragrant and the colours were beautiful and wonderful on a wonderful sunny day. IMAGINE!

Bruce Peart
December 2006

Trip from Moscow to Beijing Botanical Garden

My flight from Moscow to Beijing took only 8 hours – 5 hours less than Bruce's flight from Canada, and after arriving at the Beijing airport at 7 am, I just dropped in at the hotel for a minute and then headed straight to the "Temple of Heaven" park, where I had an appointment with Tai Chi master Van Yaodzoun. The first thing I noticed at the park was lilacs, of course. There were a lot of lilacs, indeed, and many of the bushes were supplied with the labels of local and Latin names.

The purpose of my visit was to attend the master-classes of Chinese Tai Chi masters, and I had trainings in various parts of Beijing, and everywhere I saw lilacs – old bushes at the parks, monasteries and in houtuns, young plants – at the streets and in city gardens.

On the 5th day of the journey my friends (the group of 16 people) and I went to the Botanical Garden to meet Miss Cui Hongxia. I started to prepare for this visit in advance, while I was in Moscow, by asking myself – what would I like to get as a present from a lilac enthusiast from another country? Information about lilacs, of course! I brought with me 3 new books – two of them were published in spring 2006 (*Lilac* by Irina Okuneva and *Lilac* - almanac of the Westnik Tsvetovoda (*Floriculturist Bulletin* magazine)). I also burned a CD with photos of Russian varieties. The day before departure to China I visited Irina Okuneva at the Moscow BG and she shared with me the scionwood of 12 of the best Russian varieties, such as 'Mulatka', 'Nevesta', 'Kruzhevitsa' and others.

I would like to thank Mrs. Cui Hongxia for her warm hospitality – the excursion she held for us was very interesting and the dinner that she invited all of our group to was one of the best meals we had during our stay in China. But most of all I am grateful to her for the scionwood of the varieties that were bred at the Beijing Botanical Garden.

Bruce in his note has proposed to imagine the Chinese lilac in bloom; for those who failed to do that I am glad to offer the photographs of the Beijing BG lilac collection taken in spring, kindly provided by Cui Hongxia.

Postscript- At the end of February we met another colleague from China.

Jinyong Chen, Senior Horticulturist Botanist from BBG, visited Moscow BG. Dr. Irina Okuneva, lilac curator, and I acquainted him to the collection (only by photos, unfortunately). We took a walk through the collection, but with about 50 cm. of snow and -28° Celsius (-18.4° F) it looked more like extreme sport. Jinyong, whose name is translated as "Brave", bravely dove into the snowdrifts to cut the scions, and our short excursion ended up at the greenhouse for tropical plants, where we were warming up for two hours. By the way, Jinyong is the first living man I know who saw *Syringa pinetorum* in nature and to have picked up the seeds!

Tatiana Paliakova
Executive VP
Russia and rest of Asia
February 25, 2007

The T. A. Havemeyer Lilac Collection of NYBG

At The New York Botanical Garden, there are 50 gardens and collections to explore across the 250-acre National Historic Landmark landscape. Every year more than 800,000 visitors from around the world visit the gardens and collections and to see special exhibitions such as *The Orchid Show* and the *Holiday Train Show*. Since its founding in 1891, the Botanical Garden has been dedicated to scientific research, education, and display of the diversity of plant life. An extensive education department offering hundreds of programs a year provides hands-on learning for all ages. The Garden's scientific research programs are centered in the William and Lynda Steere Herbarium (the fourth largest herbarium in the world), the LuEsther T. Mertz Library, and the Pfizer Plant Research Laboratory. The Enid A. Haupt Conservatory, the nation's preeminent Victorian-style glasshouse, offers ecotours of the world's plants, including New World rain forests; palms of the Americas; American and African deserts; carnivorous plants; and aquatic plants in temperate and tropical pools. Spreading out across the Garden grounds are many collections and displays, including conifers; deciduous trees, such as flowering cherries, crabapples, and maples; flowering shrubs; the Jane Watson Irwin Perennial Garden, Nancy Bryan Luce Herb Garden, Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden, Home Gardening Center; and a 50-acre native Forest.

As the cold winter months draw to a close, visitors to the Garden can explore the fresh green foliage, delicate spring blossoms, and pleasant fragrances of the living collections. A springtime walk through the Garden includes glimpses of mature magnolias, flowering cherries, and carpets of daffodils. A sweet treasure tucked into the hillside just north of the Rockefeller Rose Garden, the T. A. Havemeyer Lilac Collection is first noticed by its fragrance. As visitors climb to the crest of a small hill, the magnificent display of flowers appears. In spring, the slopes down to the Rose Garden and northward are filled with this colorful, fragrant, and ever-popular display.

History of Lilac Collections at The New York Botanical Garden

Lilacs are among the oldest living collections of ornamental woody plants at The New York Botanical Garden. The earliest lilac planting began in 1896 in the Fruticetum, the first systematic ornamental shrub collection at the Botanical Garden. The lilac planting continued to expand, and by 1925 there were 560 plants representing 186 taxa in the collection.

Theodore A. Havemeyer was an important figure at the Garden in the early 1900s. In 1912, he donated a group of lilacs (Fig. 1), which was planted out on the edge of the just-established conifer collection. Not only was he an active

nurseryman, breeding, growing, and distributing lilacs, but he also frequented the flower exhibitions presented at the Garden in cooperation with the Horticultural Society of New York. In May 1913, he won first prize. "The collection of lilacs shown by Mr. T.A. Havemeyer, forming a part of his entry of flowers of shrubs and trees, was much admired. There were some striking forms among these, perhaps the most notable being *Syringa vulgaris* 'Pasteur' (1903, Lemoine), with flowers of the deepest red-purple, fully one and a quarter inches in diameter." The inspiration that Havemeyer drew from Victor Lemoine is evident throughout the Garden's history and in the collection today, which contains several mature specimens of Lemoine introductions.

On April 21, 1932, the Garden received a large donation of lilacs from Bernard H. Slavin, Superintendent of the Bureau of Parks, Rochester, N.Y. The donation consisted of 425 plants of 175 different taxa. These joined Havemeyer's plants among the spruce collection. Strategically placed, the lilac planting greeted visitors entering the Garden from the Harlem-Hudson Line of the New York Central Railroad.

In late 1948, T. H. Everett, the Garden's Horticulturist, accepted a large donation of lilacs from Havemeyer's diverse collection of 20,000 lilac plants at his Cedar Hill Nursery Estate in Brookville, N.Y. The Garden's horticulture staff selected and moved 550 lilacs to form the new collection, which was dedicated by Mrs. Havemeyer in her husband's memory. The plaque embedded in a boulder within the collection reads, "Theodore A. Havemeyer (1868–1936) Distinguished horticulturist, originator and introducer of many new lilacs."

A new site for the expanded collection was chosen on the sloping hillside just above the Beatrix Farrand-designed Rose Garden. Site preparations began in spring 1949; a total of 65 trees were removed and planting beds were created under the instruction of garden designer Marian Cruger Coffin. Her intent was to unify the rose and lilac collections. She also designed the R. H. Montgomery Conifer Collection (now called the Benenson Ornamental Conifers), located to the southwest of the lilac collection. The broad, sloping valley was an excellent site, enabling her to tier and showcase the diverse plantings of *Syringa*.

The Lilac Collection Today

Today, the collection consists of a similar tiered display on the slopes above the Peggy Rockefeller Rose Garden (Fig. 2). The Rose Garden itself was completely rebuilt and replanted in 1988 to Beatrix Farrand's original design. The lilac collection features a mix of species, hybrids, and cultivars. The lilac season starts with the early blooming *Syringa x hyacinthiflora* selections at the end of April. This introductory show is followed by a burst of color and fragrance in the first two weeks of May, when the mid-season *Syringa vulgaris* cultivars are in full bloom. Next, the late-season *Syringa x prestoniae* and *Syringa reticulata* cultivars reach their peak in early to mid-June.



Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Luo Lan Zi' at BBG
Photo courtesy of Cui Hongxia



Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Xiang Xue' at BBG
Photo courtesy of Cui Hongxia



Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Zi Yun' at BBG
Photo courtesy of Cui Hongxia



Wild Distribution of *Syringa* near Beijing Botanical Garden
Photo courtesy of Cui Hongxia



Lilac Collection in bloom at Beijing
Photo courtesy of Cui Hongxia



Institute of Botany at Beijing Botanical Garden
Photo Credit Bruce Peart



Old lilac with gnarled trunk at Beijing
Photo Credit Bruce Peart



Cui Hongxia, Tatiana Poliakova, and friends at Beijing Botanical Garden
Provided by Tatiana Poliakova



Bruce Peart and Cui Hongxia at BBG
Provided by Bruce Peart



Dr. Irena Okuneva of Moscow BG with Jinyong Chen of BBG
at Moscow Botanical Garden
Provided by Tatiana Poliakova

Each spring, the flowering sequence of the tree and shrub collections across the Garden's landscape has a delightfully hypnotic rhythm. For example, the flowering cherries near the lilac collection are in full bloom when the *Syringa x hyacinthiflora* selections begin to flower. Visitors can walk from under the canopy of pink cherry blossoms into the lilac collection. This is followed by the *Syringa vulgaris* cultivars, complemented by the collection of tree peonies and herbaceous peonies that are also nearby. Just as the *Syringa vulgaris* flowers begin to fade, the fragrant heritage roses in the Rose Garden begin to show their soft pink and red flowers. The spring scents and colorful blossoms in this area of the Garden are spectacular.

The lilac collection currently contains 150 plants of 87 different taxa; a list of taxa is provided in Table 1. Currently, the majority of the collection is arranged within large curvilinear beds according to species or hybrid group. In recent years, the staff horticulturists have started a sequence of rejuvenation pruning to promote the health and vigor of the mature collection. Wherever possible, specimens are displayed individually to promote individual specimen health. Additions to the collection will be planted separately instead of in large mulch beds.

Table 1. Taxa of the Lilac Collection

Syringa 'Colby's Wishing Star'
Syringa 'Josée'
Syringa josikaea
Syringa komarowii
Syringa meyeri
Syringa meyeri 'Palibin'
Syringa 'Minuet'
Syringa pinnatifolia var. *alashanensis*
Syringa pubescens
Syringa reticulata 'Ivory Silk'
Syringa reticulata subsp. *amurensis*
Syringa reticulata subsp. *reticulata*
Syringa tomentella
Syringa vulgaris
Syringa vulgaris 'A. M. Brand'
Syringa vulgaris 'Alphonse Lavallée'
Syringa vulgaris 'Andenken an Ludwig Späth'
Syringa vulgaris 'Azurea Plena'
Syringa vulgaris 'Bleuâtre'
Syringa vulgaris 'Cavour'
Syringa vulgaris 'Charles Joly'
Syringa vulgaris 'Charles X'
Syringa vulgaris 'Charm'
Syringa vulgaris 'Colmariensis'

Syringa vulgaris 'Congo'
Syringa vulgaris 'Edith Cavell'
Syringa vulgaris 'Edmond Boissier'
Syringa vulgaris 'Firmament'
Syringa vulgaris 'Georges Bellair'
Syringa vulgaris 'Henri Robert'
Syringa vulgaris 'Hippolyte Maringer'
Syringa vulgaris 'Hugo Koster'
Syringa vulgaris 'Jules Ferry'
Syringa vulgaris 'Katherine Havemeyer'
Syringa vulgaris 'Krasavitsa Moskvj'
Syringa vulgaris 'Lady Lindsay'
Syringa vulgaris 'Lilarosa'
Syringa vulgaris 'Macrostachya'
Syringa vulgaris 'Marie Finon'
Syringa vulgaris 'Mauve Mist'
Syringa vulgaris 'Michel Buchner'
Syringa vulgaris 'Miss Ellen Willmott'
Syringa vulgaris 'Mme F. Morel'
Syringa vulgaris 'Mme. Antoine Buchner'
Syringa vulgaris 'Mme. Casimir Périer'
Syringa vulgaris 'Mme. Florent Stepman'
Syringa vulgaris 'Mme. Lemoine'
Syringa vulgaris 'Montaigne'
Syringa vulgaris 'Mrs. Edward Harding'
Syringa vulgaris 'Mrs. Harry Bickle'
Syringa vulgaris 'Nadezhda'
Syringa vulgaris 'Paul Thirion'
Syringa vulgaris 'President Harding'
Syringa vulgaris 'President Lincoln'
Syringa vulgaris 'President Poincaré'
Syringa vulgaris 'Primrose'
Syringa vulgaris 'Priscilla'
Syringa vulgaris 'Président Grévy'
Syringa vulgaris 'Reaumur'
Syringa vulgaris 'Redbud'
Syringa vulgaris 'Rhodopea'
Syringa vulgaris 'Ruhm von Horstenstein'
Syringa vulgaris 'Sensation'
Syringa vulgaris 'Silver King'
Syringa vulgaris 'Vestale'
Syringa vulgaris 'Volcan'
Syringa vulgaris 'William Robinson'
Syringa wolfii

Syringa x chinensis 'Lilac Sunday'
Syringa x chinensis 'Red Rothomagensis'
Syringa x henryi 'Lutèce'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Angel White'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Bountiful'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Catinat'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Churchill'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Esther Staley'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Lamartine'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Lewis Maddock'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Mirabeau'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Pocahontas'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Sunset'
Syringa x hyacinthiflora 'Swarthmore'
Syringa x josiflexa 'James Macfarlane'
Syringa x laciniata
Syringa x persica 'Rubra'
Syringa x prestoniae 'Donald Wyman'
Syringa x prestoniae 'Hecla'

There are several noteworthy species within the collection, including *Syringa wolfii*, the Manchurian lilac noted for its spreading, shrubby habit, flowers in long panicles, and tolerance to drought. The two *Syringa tomentella* within the collection are small trees with broad panicles of rosy-pink flowers. They were grown from seed from the University of Wageningen Botanical Garden, the Netherlands, and accessioned September 19, 1935. Another species represented within the collection is *Syringa reticulata* subsp. *amurensis*, dating back to Mrs. T.A. Havemeyer's donation in 1948.

Syringa x persica 'Rubra' is among the more noteworthy specimens in the collection. It is rare in cultivation and is noted for its beautiful, dark pink flowers (shown in Fig. 3). The mature specimen of *Syringa vulgaris* 'Azurea Plena' was added to the collection as part of the Rochester Bureau of Parks donation in 1932. Besides its age, this selection's claim to fame is that it is a parent of Victor Lemoine's first *Syringa x hyacinthiflora* cross, called *Syringa hyacinthiflora* 'Hyacinthiflora Plena' (1878). *Syringa x hyacinthiflora* 'Lamartine', *Syringa x hyacinthiflora* 'Catinat', *Syringa vulgaris* 'Katherine Havemeyer', *Syringa x hyacinthiflora* 'Mirabeau', and *Syringa vulgaris* 'Jules Ferry' are among the best of Lemoine introductions given to the Garden from Havemeyer's Cedar Hill Nursery Estate. *Syringa vulgaris* 'Macrostachya', an old Lafievre introduction from 1874, was also part of the Havemeyer donation.

The Future of the Lilac Collection

New additions to the collection will include *Syringa x chinensis* 'Lilac Sunday', *Syringa* 'Josée', *Syringa* 'Colby's Wishing Star', and *Syringa pinnatifolia* var. *alashanensis*. A new dimension for the collection is a planting of eight *Syringa x*

chinensis 'Red Rothomagensis' from Dr. David Wolfe of Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. These lilacs are part of the USA National Phenological Network that is working to facilitate the collection and sharing of phenological data to support global climate change research. Phenological data for these plants at the Garden will be evaluated with data collected all over the world for *Syringa x chinensis* 'Red Rothomagensis'. Such data are considered indicators of the impact that global climate change has on the local environment and Earth's biosphere. By participating in such a study, the Garden hopes to contribute to the documentation of how global climate change is impacting plant life.

There is a long history of growing lilacs at The New York Botanical Garden, and the future holds promise for collection expansion and development. Future plantings will result in opportunities to expand the overall diversity of the collection and to highlight the work of specific hybridizers, particularly T. A. Havemeyer and Victor Lemoine. We hope to replace specimens lost from the original collection in order to continue to represent the best of Havemeyer's work and to present the history of lilac selection and introduction from all over the world, including many of the Russian and Canadian introductions. In addition, displaying new introductions along with older selections will increase the educational value of the collection. Where possible, the addition of botanical taxa of known wild provenance will increase the research and conservation value of the collection in combination with the preservation of heirloom cultivars. The gathering of phenological data directly connects the collection to current scientific research. Through their popularity, beauty, and scientific importance, lilacs will continue to thrive and maintain their presence as an important element of the diverse living collections of The New York Botanical Garden.

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Images

Fig. 1. Provided by The New York Botanical Garden Archives. 1912.

Fig. 2. Provided by The New York Botanical Garden Communications Department, taken by Joseph De Sciose.

Fig. 3. Provided by The New York Botanical Garden Communications Department, taken by Muriel Weinerman.

Contact Information

jarcate@nybg.org

718. 817 8061

Travel Directions to Mackinac Island

Mackinac Island is easily accessible by either car or plane. If you wish to fly, Pellston, Michigan is the closest major airport. Fly from most places to Detroit on an airline of your choice. From Detroit, Arrange to fly to Pellston, MI via Northwest Airlines (1-800-225-2525). From Pellston airport there is taxi/shuttle service to the Mackinaw City Ferry Docks (about 25 miles) by either the Mackinac Shuttle (1-888-349-8294) or the Wolverine Stages (1-800-825-1450) where you will be taken to the ferry for Mackinac Island. Both are located at Pellston airport, costing about \$45, round trip and be sure to arrange this transportation ahead of time. Ferry information will be in a future issue of the Journal.

Arnold Ferry

Charter airline service to Mackinac Island Airport (1-906-847-3231) via Great Lakes Airlines (1-906-643-7165) can be arranged from Pellston, about \$85, or from St. Ignace, MI, to Mackinac Island for about \$25. Also, you may fly a private plane into Mackinac Island airport from your home (1-906-847-3231 airport) and (1-906-847-3778).

By car, I-75 is an excellent, direct route from the south (Toledo, Ohio and Detroit, MI) or from the north (Sault Ste. Marie, Canada) to Mackinaw City. Watch for the well-marked exit signs to the Ferry Docks in Mackinaw City along the road. A ferry to Mackinac Island also leaves from St. Ignace. There is ample parking at the Ferry Docks.

A free guide to Michigan travel, including a map and information, can be requested from the Michigan Travel Bureau (1-800-543-2937). The Mackinac Island Tourist Bureau is happy to assist in making your travel to, and stay, at their island most enjoyable. Feel free to call them at (1-800-454-5227).

Peter Ely
cricketely@comcast.net
Convention Chairman

ILS Convention June 6-9, 2007 Schedule

Mackinac Island, Michigan

Tentative Program* subject to change

Wednesday June 6

All day Leave from Arnold Ferry dock in Mackinaw City on mainland to the Island.

2:00-7:00 PM Registration—Murray Hotel

10:00-2:30 PM Board of Directors meeting—Murray Hotel

*check with President Nicole Jordan for time changes

3:00-5:00 PM Welcome Party for all ILS convention attendees
Home of Mrs. McIntyre, next to Public Library on the Boardwalk

7:00-10:00 PM Hospitality Suite open—Murray Hotel

Thursday, June 7

Breakfast at your Hotel

8:30 AM Welcoming Address—Murray Hotel

Speaker

Speaker

Speaker

10:45-12:15 PM ILS Annual Meeting—Murray Hotel

12:30-2:00 PM Lunch and Speaker—Murray Hotel

3:00-5:00 PM Lilac Auction

Free Time

7:00-8:30 PM Presidents Dinner with Speaker

9:00-10:30 PM Hospitality Suite open

Friday, June 8

Breakfast at your hotel

7:00-8:00 AM Board of Directors Meeting

9:00-12:00 PM Walking tour of Island lilacs on Main Street,

Garden Talk-Hotel Iroquois

Carriage Tour of Island

12:30-1:45 PM Lunch at Fort Mackinac, overlooking Haldimand Bay

2:00-4:00 PM Tour of Lilac Gardens at Grand Hotel

5:00-7:00 PM Free time

7:00-9:00 PM Awards Banquet with Award Presentations

9:15-10:30 PM Hospitality Suite open

Saturday, June 9

Breakfast at your Hotel

Morning Farewell and Departure

*This is truly a tentative program and some changes may be made before June 6.

There will be an up-to-date program in your package when you arrive on Mackinac Island.

2007 Convention and Beyond

June 6-9 2007—Mackinac Island, Michigan

Arrive at the Arnold Transit Company ferry line dock located on the mainland in Mackinaw City. Park for free in their lot, proceed to the ticket office, give your name and you will receive a free round trip ticket to the Mackinac Island convention. Use only the Arnold Ferry for your free ticket. Contact Arnold Transit @ 906-847-3351 or www.arnoldline.com for sailing schedule (normal hours of operation have been 7 AM-7 PM, daily with departures about every 20 mins.)

Plan to arrive at your hotel on Wed. June 6, 2007 in time to attend the Welcome party between the hours of 305 PM, given by and Island resident, Margaret McIntyre, among her beautiful gardens overlooking Haldimand Bay. The party is being held in her home which is located next to the Public Library, on the Boardwalk, near the end of town.

Obtain directions at the Murray Hotel, across the street from the Arnold Ferry arrival dok. ILS has a Hospitality room for your convenience and R&R at the Murray Hotel during the Convention. Lunch and dinner on Wed. will be on your own. Official convention activities begin Thurs. morning and conclude with the Banquet on Friday evening. Remember, this ILS convention is being held from Wed. 0 Friday Only, with departure on Sat. morning. Consider bringing a few articles of clothing in case of rain or cooler temperatures. Most of the meals and meetings will be held at the Murray Hotel. Call the Mackinac Island Tourist Bureau @ 1-800-4LILACS or www.mackinacisland.org, or your hotel at 1-800-462-2546 for any information or questions you may have regarding your stay. If you have special diet requests, please call the Murray Hotel and speak with Nisa Sultan @ 1-800-462-2546.

2008—Minneapolis, Minnesota area

Please contact Karen McCauley, ILS convention coordinator, for details.

2009—and after

Some considerations are:

Ottawa, Canada; Spokane, Washington/Moscow, Idaho; Pennsylvania/Longwood Gardens; Chicago Botanical Garden/Morton Arboretum, Illinois; Montreal Botanical Gardens, Canada

Please contact President, Nicole Jordan, for information about future conventions. Peter Ely, Convention chairman, for the past 8 years, has resigned, effective after the 2007 convention, and another Chairman is being sought. Contact President Nicole Jordan or Executive VP Brad Bittorf if you are interested in being a member of the ILS Convention Committee.

Peter Ely, Convention Chairman

Tentative 2007 Auction List of Lilacs at Mackinac Island

Cultivar Name	Type, Color	species
'Aucubaefolia'	D III	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Avalanche'	S I	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Albert F. Holden'	S II-VII	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Al Lumley'	I-II	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Andenken an Ludwig Späth'	S VII	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Atheline Wilbur'	D VI	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Archevêque'	D VII	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Belle de Nancy'	D V	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Bertha Phair'	D VII	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Bill Heard'		<i>vulgaris</i>
'Bright Centennial'	S VI	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Buffon'	S V	<i>x hyacinthiflora</i>
'Celestial Blue'	S III	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Charles Baltet'	D IV	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Cheyenne'	S III	<i>oblata dilatata</i>
'Clarke's Giant'	S III	<i>x hyacinthiflora</i>
'Clyde Heard'	S VI	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Colby's Wishing Star'	S V	int. sp. hybrid
'Cora Brandt'	D I	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Declaration'	S VI	<i>x hyacinthiflora</i>
'Dusk'	S VII	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Edith Cavell'	D I	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Edith Groneau'	S VI	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Excel'	S IV	<i>x hyacinthiflora</i>
'Fernand L. Pegot'	D VI	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Fiala Remembrance'	D I	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Forrest Kressler Smith'	S IV	<i>x hyacinthiflora</i>
'Frank's Fancy'	S VII	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Frederick Law Olmsted'	S I	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Gaudichaud'	D III	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Glory'	S VI	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Independence'	S I	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Jules Simon'	D III	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Katherine Havemeyer'	D V	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Lake Bled'	S VI	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Lavender Lady'	S VII	<i>x hyacinthiflora</i>
'Leon Gambetta'	D IV	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Lilac Sunday'	S VII	<i>x chinensis</i>
'Lutèce'	S II	<i>x henryi</i>

'Macrostachya'	S V	vulgaris
'Maiden's Blush'	S V	x <i>hyacinthiflora</i>
'Margaret Fenicchia'	S VII/II	vulgaris
'Mary Gardner'	S III	x <i>hyacinthiflora</i>
'Mary Short'	D V	x <i>hyacinthiflora</i>
'Max Löbner'	S VII	x <i>hyacinthiflora</i>
'Max Peterson'	D VI-IV	vulgaris
'Mechta'	S III-IV	vulgaris
'Michel Buchner'	D IV	vulgaris
'Mirabeau'	S IV	x <i>hyacinthiflora</i>
'Mme. Casimer Périer'	D I	vulgaris
'Mme. F. Morel'	S VI	vulgaris
'Mme. Lemoine'	D I	vulgaris
'Monge'	S VII	vulgaris
'Monique Lemoine'	D I	vulgaris
'Monore' (Blue Skies™)	S III/VII	vulgaris
'Montaigne'	D V	vulgaris
'Mount Baker'	S I	vulgaris
'Mrs. Edward Harding'	D VI	vulgaris
'Mrs. Harry Bickle'	S V	vulgaris
'My Favorite'	D VI	vulgaris
'Nadezhda'	D III	vulgaris
'Nancy Frick'	S V	vulgaris
'Night'	S VII	vulgaris
'Oakes Double White'	D I	vulgaris
subsp. <i>dilatata</i> 'Alba'	S I	oblata
'Old Glory'	S III	x <i>hyacinthiflora</i>
'Olive May Cummings'	D V-VII	vulgaris
'Pamyat o S. M. Kirove'	D IV	vulgaris
'Paradise'	S VII	vulgaris
'Pat Pesata'	S III	vulgaris
'Paul Thirion'	D VI	vulgaris
'Peacock'	S V	vulgaris
'Porcelain Blue'	S III	vulgaris
'Président Fallières'	D IV	vulgaris
'Président Grèvy'	D III	vulgaris
'President Roosevelt'	S VII	vulgaris
'Primrose'	S I	vulgaris
'Prof. E. H. Wilson'	D I	vulgaris
'Purple Haze'	S VII	<i>protolaciniata</i>
'Purple Mystery'	S VII	vulgaris
'Ralph W. Stone'	S VII	vulgaris
'Rochester'	S I	vulgaris
'Royal Purple'	D VII	x <i>hyacinthiflora</i>
'Sensation'	S VII & I	vulgaris

'Sesquicentennial'	S II	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Sholokhov'	S IV-V	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Silver King'	S III	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Sonia Colfax'	S I	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Spring Parade'	S IV	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Sweetheart'	D VI	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Taras Bul'ba'	D IV	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Vauban'	D V	<i>x hyacinthiflora</i>
'Vesper Song'	S II	<i>x hyacinthiflora</i>
'Virginia Becker'	S V	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Volcan'	S VII	<i>vulgaris</i>
'Wedgwood Blue'	S III	<i>vulgaris</i>
'White Swan'	S I	<i>vulgaris</i>
'subsp. dilatata 'Wild Fire'	S IV	<i>oblata</i>
'Wonderblue'	S III	<i>vulgaris</i>

The Joy of Hybridizing: 'Flower City' Hybrids

In the autumn of 1984 I harvested open pollinated seed from the original *Syringa vulgaris* 'Flower City', which I'd registered the previous year. 'Flower City' is a product of the Rochester Strain of Lilacs that were first crossed by Richard A. Fenicchia using 'Rochester' as the female parent.

This collected seed was cleaned and sown with expected germination in the spring. During the winter of 1986 the resulting seedlings were transplanted into containers to continue their growth. The 40 surviving seedlings were then out planted in the Highland Park Nursery and given individual numbers for proper identification. After making good growth many of these lilacs commenced flowering during the spring of 1991 at which time I started taking notes and photos. As the plants continued to flourish I became quite critical of these selections, noting the flower color, size, quality, location on the plant and timing, as well as the over all growth habit, foliage and suckering.

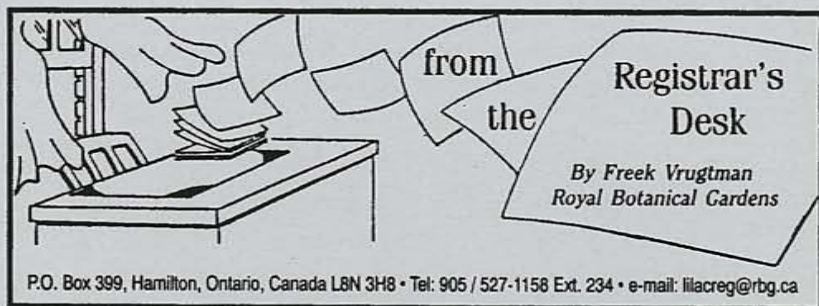
During the planting season of 1995, fifteen of these selections were transplanted to the Festival site in Highland Park where they continue to enhance this busy part of the Park during the annual Lilac Festival. In the fall of 1997 just before I retired thirteen of the most promising selections were planted on a high point in the Highland Park lilac collection. Just as this baker's dozen were establishing themselves a storm, producing 70 miles per hour winds, cut a path through the Park. In the wake of this Labor Day storm many mature trees came down, including a 100 plus year old *Platanus orientalis* that unfortunately landed on these lilacs. Of this select group four were severely trampled during the clean up

process and three others didn't respond due to the extensive pruning required.

During the first couple of years that these lilacs flowered nothing much really caught my eye, but when the shrubs started to burst forth with multiple flowers and the plants took shape I noticed some unique characteristics.. Some plants exhibited similarities to the female parent 'Flower City' with different colorations. The foliage of one emerges almost red and retains this reddish hue until its dark purple flowers fade. Another is double with florets that when fully open are a flat square. One I call a quad flower as it has four sets of petals with the corolla tube visible in between. Many exhibit radial doubling unique to the Rochester strain and the petals appear streaked as if painted by an artist. These are just a few of the qualities I have observed in this particular cross. I continue to scrutinize the selections as Dick instilled in me the importance of being overly critical of naming lilacs due to the great number of cultivars already in the trade.

Since the late 1980's I have made many other crosses that are growing at Fenicchia Farms, where I am also involved in the commercial sales of some of the Rochester hybrids as well as other select cultivars.

Bob Hoepfl
Former Supt. of Horticulture
Monroe County Parks



Syringa villosa 'Legacy', USDA-NRCS Bismarck 1999

by Freek Vrugtman

This cultivar, accession ND-83, USDA P.I. 540443, is not a clone, but a topovariant propagated from seed. The International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants-2004, Article 2.15 reads, "An assemblage of plants grown from

seed that is repeatedly collected from a particular provenance and that is clearly distinguishable by one or more characters (a topovariant) may form a cultivar".

History

In 1956 three pounds of seed was collected from established plants of *Syringa villosa* at the Agriculture Canada Research Station, Morden, Manitoba, Canada. The Morden accession numbers and the original sources of these plants have not been recorded. Plants raised from these seeds were grown and evaluated for the United States Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) at 61 locations in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota during the period 1968 to 1999 and released as 'Legacy' late lilac in 1999. Adaptation and performance of 'Legacy' appears to have been tested at USDA-NRCS sites in Manhattan, Kansas; Quicksand, Kentucky; and East Lansing, Michigan, although no reports have been located.

Description

Upright dense shrub to 2.5 m (8 ft); no sucker growth. Foliage larger than that of *Syringa vulgaris*, deeply veined. Flowers in compact pyramidal thyrses, 7.5 - 18 cm (3 - 7 inches) long; florets pink, fading to white. There appear to be no distinguishable morphological differences between 'Legacy' and the nominate species, *S. villosa*. Winter hardiness range USDA Zones 2 -7; long-lived and fully winterhardy in North Dakota, surrounding states and Canadian prairie provinces. Diseases and insect pests on *S. villosa* have not been reported from these regions.

Recommended use

Plants of 'Legacy' late lilac appear to be well suited for planting in multi-row farmstead and field shelterbelts, wildlife habitat, and for recreational site plantings.

Plants of 'Legacy', and *Syringa villosa* in general, perform best on loam, silt loam and silty clay loam soils with a soil pH range of 5.5 to 8.0; late lilac will survive on sandy loam soils, but tends to show less vigor.

Availability

The primary distribution site for plants of *Syringa villosa* 'Legacy' is Lincoln-Oakes Nurseries, P.O. Box 1601, Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-1601, USA. Owned and operated by the North Dakota Association of Soil Conservation Districts, Lincoln-Oakes Nurseries produces plants primarily for use in conservation, wildlife, and restoration plantings in the Central and Northern United States.

Certified breeder's seed of *Syringa villosa* 'Legacy' is distributed by the USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center, 3308 University Drive, Bismarck, North Dakota 58504, USA.

Literature and web sites consulted

Chang, Mei-Chen, and Peter S. Green. 1996. *Syringa L.* In: *Flora Reipublicae Popularis Sinicae* (Flora of the People's Republic of China) Volume 15, p. 282. (English translation; St Louis; Missouri Botanical Garden). <<http://flora.huh.harvard.edu/china/PDF/PDF15/syringa.pdf>> and <http://mobot.mobot.org/cgi-bin/search_vast>

<<http://plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/pubs/ndpmcrnsyvi3lega.pdf>> Data to support release of 'Legacy', assembled by Michael J. Knudson, Assistant Plant Materials Center Manager, Russell J. Haas, Plant Materials Specialist, and Dwight A. Tober, Plant Materials Center Manager, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bismarck, North Dakota. May 1998.

<<http://plant-materials.nrcs.usda.gov/pubs/ndpmcbrsyvi3lega.pdf>> Announcing the release of 'Legacy' late lilac. April 2000.

<<http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/acc/search.pl?accid=540443>> (November 10, 2006) USDA, ARS, National Genetic Resources Program. Germplasm Resources Information Network - (GRIN). [Online Database].

Member Section and ILS News

Western Canada 2006 Lilac Season

Excellent weather and magnificent blooms in early June attracted almost 100 visitors to the Sixth Annual Lilac Walk and Tea in the Robson Valley of Central British Columbia. For the second year in a row we had a wonderful show and many lilacs bloomed for us for the first time. Can we attribute this to the warm fall days and moisture in October and November of the previous seasons?

The walk was the grand finale to our lilac days of 2006. In April, Bonnie Culp (ILS member) and I traveled to Woodland, WA to attend our first convention. It was a pleasure to meet all the new members who we had only known through the Quarterly Journal. After the convention we drove to Walla Walla to visit the amazing collection of Charles and Connie Sherer. Our hosts offered us such friendly hospitality and the sight of their lilacs and crabapples was out of this world. Thank you Connie and Charles for sharing your garden with us.

Many gardeners in our small area are developing lilac collections of their own. Our Zone 3 climate suits these beautiful shrubs and they are really thriving here. This year the tree lilacs put on a great show. An 'Ivory Silk' that was planted as a 3 foot shrub in 1997 is now 25 feet tall and completely covered in bloom this

year.

I would like to invite all Western Canada members to either contact me with information about their collections or better yet send an article into the Journal. Everyone who happens to be in central British Columbia the beginning of June is invited to attend our seventh Annual Lilac Walk and Tea and visit our collections.

Canada Post has just issued two lilac stamps to celebrate spring. The stamps are of two Canadian lilacs, *Syringa vulgaris* 'Princess Alexandra' and *Syringa x prestoniae* 'Isabella'. The lilacs were photographed at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa, Ontario. Two stamped postcards that can be mailed from Canada to anywhere in the world are also available. Check them out at your local post office in Canada or their website: www.canadapost.ca/collecting.

Linda Blackman, Western Canada VP
Email: blackman@vis.bc.ca

Sensory gardens for handicapped children

2002 was a turning point in our lives. Colby our 6th child was born with Down's Syndrome and we did not know it as many parents until birth.

After two long years of adapting our lives to Colby's needs we began to realize what little there was for adapted parks for special needs children. In May 2004 we created a non-profit organization called Colby's Wishing Star Park. The Park would be created for handicapped children and their families in mind for a magical day of learning and stimulation. Structures that are properly adapted, theme gardens, texture gardens will be amongst the ideas that would be developed. The goal is to create an educational and recreational atmosphere for the children. The park will be wheelchair accessible also.

The sensory gardens will include many fragrant plants thus lilacs since our company is so involved with them. The ultimate plan is to have approximately 800 lilacs planted. The initial planting has started with about 150 lilacs, over 100 daylilies, 50 peonies and all kinds of perennials and evergreens. There are 7 cultivars of magnolias and a rose garden has taken root. The lilacs are spread out over 3 large plantings and some hedges. The planning was a big thing for us. Was it to be done by year, hybridizer or country? What it finally came down to was that there must be an eye catching lilac always within view of another in order for people to continue the journey through the lilacs. Information panels will be put up in the future to explain lilacs, colours, flower times etc. Also the most important will be to have during flower season a few tent areas with floral displays in water to present interest. The terrain is flat and sandy, thus making a great area for lilacs and people to walk around. Our biggest jewel is the area that is left natural which hosts some 200 specimens of lady slippers.

Summer 2007 will represent phase 2 with another huge garden going in with fragrant perennials and shrubs, the first basic pieces of the park; pergola, picnic tables, one huge sand box in the theme of a pirate ship and 2 smaller kids playhouses. My biggest pet peeve is the outdoor train set I am to set up. I guess this takes me back to my 1961 Lionel train set that I still have and is functional.

Our annual fundraiser will see its second year this June with a huge 40 x 60' tent for vendors.

Last year we received over 1100 visitors over the weekend for the event. We even had Jean Francois Gonot from the conservatory and Botanical Park of Nancy, France come over to give demonstrations and lectures on lilacs. For those who may not be aware of this Botanical Park, it is where the Lemoine Family did all their work.

Sara and I are managing to turn our wonderful collection into something we never envisioned. Something therapeutic for children who so much have needs today. It is of the utmost importance that we research and put funds into all diseases but we must not forget that the children do need some immediate support where they can just be kids and their parents can enjoy seeing them explore, smile and laugh.

We are always looking for donations and would appreciate any help offered.

The park has its own website at www.colbywishingstarpark.8m.com. For those without internet service, the number is 450-477-3797.

On a last note, our children have been just so supportive helping us in any way they can. Most of the planting, weeding, and watering has been done by Corinna, Cameo, Jordan, Ricky and Alex when he sees fit. Colby has had his hand in the soil, planting 3 magnolias with us on his birthday in 2006. It is a ritual that 1 major plant is planted for Colby on each birthday, and the nursery is officially closed on April 30th. Everyone stays home from school and we spend a magical Colby day together.

Sara and Frank Moro

International Lilac Robin

Bloom Report

3/14/2007- Brad Bittorf reports: "Tonight I spoke to a Mr. O'Leary here in Tucson. On his property is a twenty-year old lilac, probably *Syringa x chinensis*, which is now in bloom. According to Mr. O'Leary, the plant was there when they bought the house. It is not on an irrigation system, though they do water it sometimes. This particular lilac has already been featured in some of the presentations that Bruce Peart and I did, since there are both grapefruit trees and

palm trees nearby to serve as photo background.

It is in full bloom now, March 13. I have a small blossom here with me. It's great to be smelling lilacs again. According to Mr. O'Leary, it began blooming late last week-approximately March 9. this would be a full week earlier than the earliest bloom I've recorded to date.

Brad Bittorf
USDA Plant Zone 8b, though the lilac
described is probably in Zone 9a.

Board of Directors Nominations for 2007-2009 Term

Franklin (Woody) Barnes-----California
Evelyn King-----Massachusetts
Nancy Latimer-----Virginia
Warren Oakes-----Maine
Gary Parton-----California
Max Peterson-----Nebraska

The above six names have agreed to serve as members of the Board of Directors if elected by the membership. During April/May2007, each qualified member of ILS, in good standing, will receive an official ballot to vote for up to five (5) members to serve on the Board. Please be sure that your dues are up to date in order to be qualified to vote. Follow the instructions on the ballot and send it in the envelope provided. This is your opportunity to exercise your right to have a say in the leadership and direction of ILS.



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Kilcoyne Lilac Farm

Kilcoyne Lilac Farm is located in the high desert of Antelope Valley in the small town of Acton. Situated just 50 miles north of downtown Los Angeles, we are in an ideal location for raising lilacs. Nestled up against Parker Mountain, our farm is at an elevation of about 2,800 feet. With the winter chill from living at this height, and the natural alkaline soil we grow in, the lilacs thrive here. We grow specialty lilacs for wholesale and retail cut flower sales. We also offer a variety of potted lilacs for retail sales. Currently, we have about 3,000 plants that cover our 6-acre farm. As with all farming, our season depends on the weather. Usually, we expect to start harvesting about the last week of March or the first week of April.

My husband Dennis and I started this farming venture in 1992 when we were both working full time down in Los Angeles. We put in 200 *Syringa vulgaris* (Common Lilac) our first planting. We continued working our full time jobs and added more lilacs each spring.

In 1997, the apparel company that I worked for moved to The City of Commerce, increasing my commute to 75 miles, one way. I was also expecting a baby that year. I knew that there wasn't much demand for Pattern Makers in the Acton area and like all new mothers, I was determined to try and stay home, raise our children and earn an income, even if that meant reinventing me. We then made the decision to aggressively pursue the flower operation we had been nurturing the past several years.

The first spring I sold flowers, I had no idea how I was going to get rid of all these flowers. Before this, my only concerns were water, gophers and weeds. It did start out slow, selling at the corner, out of my Nissan hatchback, handing out business cards to get our name out there. I still wasn't moving enough flowers so I decided to make cold calls down at the Los Angeles Flower District with sample bunches. Many of the venders were receptive and gave me their cards, some would say no before I could even get the words out. I left that day with 10 business cards and one order for 50 bunches. Once I got my foot into the wholesale market, I wasn't able to do the corner sales anymore. I had to be at the farm, supervising the crew that I had to hire to get the flowers off in a timely fashion.

We now sell hundreds of bunches to wholesalers in Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Besides selling retail and wholesale, we have been offering our flowers at three weekly farmers markets in Santa Barbara and will be adding two weekly markets in Ventura this season. The majority of our cut flowers are available in a few different varieties: The Common, also known as Old Fashioned, has the traditional lavender color with single florets and is considered the most fragrant and most requested variety by our retail and farmers market customers. Our biggest seller with the florists and commercial wholesalers are the magenta, burgundy varieties of 'Monge', 'Andenken an

Ludwig Späth' and 'Charles Joly'. We also have 'Tom Taylor', a pinkish-violet variety with double florets that are quite fragrant, available by special order because of limited supply. In response to the many requests we get for white, we will be planting 200 'Avalanche' this spring.

I feel very fortunate to have been blessed with this opportunity to have a career in the flower industry. The most satisfying aspect of farming lilacs is the chance to share the love of the fragrant flower with the public. When I would sell at the corner, people would get so excited about them, usually relating them to a special person, place or time in their lives. I wasn't just selling them flowers, I was reminding them of a happy memory. Many of those people who bought from me on the street have found their way to our farm and continue to come every year to visit and buy flowers and potted plants.

I am excited to say that in spring of '03 we started our official collection. I call it official because it is in a designated area. In the lilac world, things aren't always what they seem to be. We have had several surprises when our three-year-old lilacs would bloom and we would end up with quite a few different varieties in the fields. So when I wanted to show these to someone, I would have to walk them all over the farm. Now we have a spot where we planted more than 100 different varieties, given to us by our dear friend and lilac collector Reva Ballreich. They are doing great and many bloomed last season. Needless to say, I love these flowers, and now I won't have to wear people out looking for that one exquisite specimen that will melt their heart.

Cultivars in our collection:

'Alice Chieppo'		'Alice Franklin'
'Andenken an Ludwig Späth'		'Atheline Wilbur'
'Asessippi'		'Beth Turner'
'Bill Heard'		'Bill Utley'?*
'Bill Wiley'?*		'Blanche Sweet'
'Blue Boy'		'Blue Delft'
'Blue Delight'		'Bountiful'
'Carolyn Mae'		'Celestial Blue'
'Charles Joly'		'Chris Berdeen'
'Clarke's Giant'		'Clyde Lucie'
'Colmariensis'		
'Congo'		"Common White"
'Dappled Dawn'	('Angel White')	'Descanso Angel White'?*
'Descanso Lavender Lady'?* ('Lav. Lady)		'Descanso Princess'
'Downfield'		'Dorothy Ramsden'
'Drifting Dream'		'Dr. Brethour'
'Dr. John Rankin'		'Dr. Masters'
'Emile Lemoine'		'Ellie Marie'
'Eventide'		'Fiala Remembrance'
'Flora'		'Florence Christine'

'Flower City'
 'Glacier'
 'Hosanna'
 'Indiya'
 'Irene'
 'Jessie Gardner'
 'Karla'
 'Knight'?* ('Night')
 'Kosmos'
 'Krasnaya' ['Krasnaya Moskva']
 'Leone Gardner'
 'L'Oncle Tom'
 'Lover City'?* ('Flower City')
 'Max Peterson'
 'Maréchal Foch'
 'McMaster Centennial'
 'Monument'
 'Mrs. Watson Webb'
 'Night'
 'Olivier de Serres'
 'Our Candy Queen'?*
 'Partizanka'
 'Pioneer'
 'Polly Hill'
 'President Lincoln'
 'Professor Robert B. Clark'
 'Reva Ballreich'
 'Rochester'
 'Russian Pom Pom'?* (prob. 'Pom Pom')
 'Dzhavarharlal Neru'
 'Snow Shower'
 'Sonia'?*
 'Sonnet'
 'Spellbinder'
 'Spring Parade'
 'Star Light'
 'Tiffany Blue'
 'Tourine'?*
 'Valentina Grizodubova'
 'White Cloud'
 'Yankee Doodle'
 ?* not listed in current register

'Gortenziya'
 'Godron'
 'Idyllwild'
 'Gertrude Child'
 'James Stewart'
 'Joel'
 'Klager's Double Blue'
 'Komsomolka'
 'Krasavitsa Moskvyy'
 'Lady Lucille'
 'Letha E. House'
 'Lourene Wishart'
 'Marie Frances'
 'Mark Drie'?*
 'Mauve Mist'
 'Monge'
 'Mrs. Calvin Coolidge'
 'Night Song'
 'Ogni Moskvyy'
 'Orchid Chiffon'
 'Paradise'
 'Pat Pesata'
 'Pink Diamond'
 'Pol Robson'
 'Prof. E. H. Wilson'
 'Purple Mystery'
 'Rhapsody'
 'Romance'
 'Sacrament'
 'Sensation'
 'Sobra'
 'Sonia Colfax'
 'Souvenir de Mme Louis Gielis'
 'Spokane'
 'St. Joan'
 'Sumerki'
 'Tom Taylor'
 'Valentina Gasbonnda'?*
 'Victory'
 'Wonderblue'

Elizabeth Kilcoyne
 Regional VP, Pacific Region

International Lilac Society
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Fig 1. 1912 Lilac Planting donated by T. Havemeyer
Courtesy of NYBG archives



Fig. 2 The T. A. Havemeyer Lilac Collection
Photo Credit Joseph De Sciose

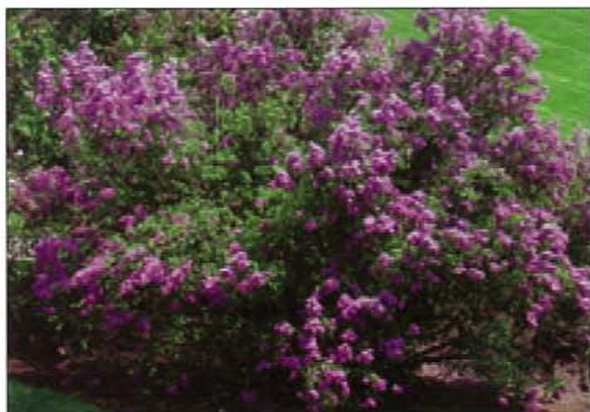


Fig. 3 *Syringa x persica* 'Rubra'
Photo Credit Muriel Weinerman



Syringa vulgaris 'FC 20' at Highland Park
Photo Credit Charles Holetich



Syringa vulgaris 'FC 12'
Photo Credit Robert Hoepfl



Syringa vulgaris 'FC 09'
Photo Credit Robert Hoepfl