



The Pipeline

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IN RETROSPECT The weather man smiled, even laughed, on members attending the ILS annual meeting. Two glorious, sunny days with just enough light breeze to keep the air cool made walking and looking a pleasure.

At the Morton Arboretum the landscape was ablaze with redbuds and crabapples in quantity. Add flowering almonds, flowering quinces, some dogwoods, fothergillas and more and you have an idea of the beauty that was there for the looking. True, few of the lilacs were in flower but that was more than made up for when the group arrived at Lilacia Park in Lombard, where there was loads of lilac bloom, complemented by thousands of tulips in beds fronting the lilacs.

Visits to Cantigny and Oakbrook Shopping Center added interest to the well-planned meeting so ably chaired by Walter Eickhorst. Three cheers for him for all his hard work! Hip! Hip! Hooray! (or should we be singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow"?) Not only was the food super but every little detail spelled ILS--from the napkins with lilac sprays on them at the board meeting snack to the plain lilac napkins at the buffet dinner to the huge tulip planting of the society's initials at Lilacia.

THE BOARD MEETING--#1--You will, of course, receive the minutes of both board meetings when the Proceedings of the Annual Meeting are published. Meanwhile, here are the high spots.

That second piece of good news promised you in the last issue is that John Wister, chairman of the propagation committee has sent some 2 dozen cions of old, but excellent lilac cultivars to two propagators, Dr. Fred van Orden and Dr. David Reath, Vulcan MI who have agreed to graft them and make arrangements for ILS members to obtain grafts. In addition, Dr. Clark and Fr. Fiala have arranged with W. & J. Forsythe Nurseries, 25 Van Campen St., Dansville, NY to do the same for some of the newer and finer cultivars. In fact they have made arrangements for 700 plants to be propagated. Cions are to be forthcoming from various botanic gardens and arboreta.

Shipping of the new plants is scheduled for fall, '76. A list of cultivars sent to propagators by Dr. Wister is in Pres. Clark's hands and can be obtained from him.

FUTURE MEETINGS--The 1976 meeting will be in Rochester, NY again, the 3rd weekend in May, probably the 21st, 22nd and 23rd. Amherst, NH will be the scene of the 1977 meeting and in '78 it will be either in Washington, DC or Swarthmore PA, while the '79 meeting is tentatively scheduled for Medina OH.

PUBLICATIONS--The publications chairman reported that the Lilacs issue last fall of the 1974 annual meetings procedures cost (including mailing) \$979. An anonymous contribution of \$300 brought the cost to ILS down to \$679 but, at such a price, it will be impossible to get out 4 issues per year and stay within the society's means. Therefore no other issues were published.

Thus, in the future, the Pipeline becomes the continuing publication with a single issue of Lilacs scheduled to combine annual meeting procedures and research. (Parenthetically, the Pipeline "scooped" the New York Times on the item about air pollution causing leaf roll necrosis. The NYT carried an article about this in the 5/12/75 issue.)

On the listing of lilac cultivars, 90% of the articles are now being set by computer. Costs have so far been met privately. It is suggested by the chairman, Fr. Fiala, that 1000 copies be printed and suggested cost of publication is \$8 to members; \$10 to non-members.

The translation of Lilacs by Kolesnikov is now in the editing stages, translation by Fred Lape, with some assistance from Fr. Fiala, being completed. A modest printing should be ready by fall.

REGISTRATION ---President Clark has appointed Dr. Owen Rogers chairman of a registration committee of ILS to work closely with Freek Vrugtman, appointed by Dr. Leslie Laking to handle registrations for the Royal Botanical Gardens, previously designated official Syringa registrar by the International Horticultural Society.

NEW DIRECTORS--As you know, since you received a page listing all of them with a proxy at the bottom for your vote, the following members were nominated to replace 1/3 of the present board: John H. Alexander III, Dr. William Cumming, Alvin Grant, Prof. Albert Lumley, Clare E. Short, Orville M. Steward, Lois Utley, and Lourene Wishart. Dr. Cumming declined the nomination because of ill health. The board of directors substituted the name of Dr. Don Egolf of the National Arboretum.

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ANNUAL MEETING--After a delicious luncheon at Lilacia Park the nominees for board of directors, as given above, were elected. Freek Vrugtman then gave an excellent report on registration.

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THE BOARD MEETING--#2--Your editor did not attend this meeting so that the following was gleaned from several people who were there:

Motions were made, voted upon and passed that the minutes of the board meetings be distributed to board members within 1 month from the date of the last meeting.

that notices of time, place, date and agenda for each board meeting must reach directors 6 weeks prior to the date set for the meeting.

Election of officers gave ILS a new treasurer (following the resignation of Nancy Emerson, treasurer since the society started), namely Marie Chaykowski. Robert Clark continues as president, Walter Oakes as secretary and Lois Utley as recording secretary, all re-elected unanimously. There was no vote for vice-president.

President Clark appointed himself and Fr. Fiala to the propagation committee, which is also to handle distribution to members when plants are ready for sale.

Discussion of the fewer issues of Lilacs brought out the idea of having additional issues on cheaper paper, but with more material.

Charles Holetich presented a tentative form for evaluation of lilacs, which he had been asked to do at last fall's board meeting. He was named ad hoc chairman of a committee for evaluation and is to distribute copies of this form for criticism and opinions.

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FUN--It would be a shame not to let you in on some of the fun at the meeting. Floyd Swink, taxonomist at the Morton Arboretum, in his talk on "Amusing but Confusing: Antidotes for Taxonomic Anecdotes", was both serious and anything but. Pun followed pun and sometimes one of them took several seconds to register with the audience. One your ed remembers went with a picture on the screen of a honey bee on a flower. The punch line--"You'd sting too if somebody stolé your honey and nectar!"

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PERSONALS--Dr. Owen Rogers is currently on sabbatical leave from the University of New Hampshire and is said to be at Kew Gardens, England's great Botanical Garden checking lilac names.

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Mrs. Lourene Wishart, instead of attending the annual meeting, is hospitalized in Los Vegas with (depending on who is telling the story) a broken hip or a broken leg. The board members each signed a get-well card which was sent to her by the recording secretary.

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LILAC AUCTION--Yes, there was one with lots of plants and too few members to bid on them. So potted rooted cuttings of good cultivars and species were sold for as little as 25¢ per plant which certainly does not pay for the time and work of the propagator.

PLANT FINGERPRINTING--A symposium, sponsored jointly by the National Association of Plant Patent Owners and the Horticultural Research Institute was held recently to bring together scientists currently working in the area of plant fingerprinting.

This research program, conducted under the auspices of HRI and funded by NAPPO, is aimed at developing methods of distinguishing one plant clone from another. (A clone is a group of plants which comes from a single plant. Thus if you take cuttings, bud sticks and anything but seeds from a plant of Ludwig Spaeth, all the resulting plants constitute a clone.)

Progress reports on plant fingerprinting were made by the following:

Thomas A. Fretz, Hort. Dept., Ohio State U.
Charles Krause, USDA Agricultural Research Serv. Lab., Delaware OH
Robert G. McDaniel, Dept. of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, U of
Ariz., Tucson
Rainer W. Scora, Dept. of Plant Sciences, U of CA, Riverside, CA

It is easy to see the need for such research because, at present, only expert opinion is available--and isn't always correct, being a mere human opinion.

Plant fingerprinting would make it possible for parks like Lilacia to reidentify their lilacs when labels become lost or are stolen and would do the same for arboreta, botanical gardens and both nurserymen and landscape architects.

Proceedings from the plant fingerprinting symposium will be made available through the HRI to research scientists and other interested people. Inquiries should be sent to the Horticultural Research Institute, 230 Southern Bldg., Washington, DC 20005.

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