

Lilacs

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IN
THIS
ISSUE:

**Historic ILS Convention and
From the Registrar's Desk**



Tatiana Poliakova and Ol'ga Aladina
Photo Credit Myrna Walberg



Nadezhda Pronina shows off
with her new gardening gloves
Photo Credit Myrna Walberg

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Front Cover: Panoramic view of Nancy Botanical Gardens
Photo Credit Myrna Walberg

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ILS President's Message

Dear Lilac Aficionados,

The ILS Convention 2012 is now over but it will remain as one of the most memorable conventions in the history of ILS. It was the first time an ILS convention was held outside North America. Yes, we went to Europe to the delight of the ILS members living in that part of the world. We gathered in Nancy, one of the most beautiful cities of France in the Lorraine region. We saw the magnificent collection of Lemoine lilacs. All of us were amazed by the beauty of the Conservatoire and Jardins Botaniques of Nancy. Everything was groomed to perfection. The trees were spectacular. The lilac collection, perched on a hill, overlooked green spaces mowed to exact precision. Each flower bed was angled to give the best effect. The Alpine Garden was a treasure trove of rocks, ponds, plants, frogs and insects surrounding an ancient stone chapel. Above it, the turrets and roofs of a castle were seen peaking above a curtain of trees.

I had the privilege to have a preview of this beautiful arboretum thanks to Jean-François Gonot who gave me a grand tour upon my arrival in Nancy a day before the convention. I was anxious to see the lilacs. During my train ride from Paris to Nancy on the TGV, I was wondering if they were blooming. Yes they were blooming and to the max. They were glorious! My tour included seeing Victor Lemoine's house and a house he had built for one of his daughters. We stopped at Sainte Marie Parc to see a statue honoring him. Of course Lemoine lilacs along with some of the peonies he hybridized were planted there. Jean-François, a Nanceiens, knew everything about Nancy and the Lemoine Dynasty. He explained that the nursery Lemoine covered a huge amount of land so much so that years later many hectares were incorporated in the city of Nancy to expand its limits. The Lemoine lilacs are everywhere peering over walls of private homes. Many are hidden; the city blocks being squares and the gardens being in the centers of the blocks makes the lilacs difficult to see. My guide, Jean-François Gonot, explained how some houses have been built over the Lemoine's greenhouses and that often digging into the grounds produce shards of glass, vestiges of the history of the site.

The City of Nancy was one of the cities at the center of the Art Nouveau movement 1900-1918... Many great artists of the period lived there and worked producing beautiful objects but also building and decorating the exteriors of houses with stone carvings and rod iron balconies in the Art Nouveau style. The decorations were naturalistic motifs, The thistle plant being a favorite. It was marvelous to walk the streets of Nancy and discover all this art. We visited Le Musée de l'École de Nancy. Everything from the house to the furnishing to the most mundane objects reflects the Art Nouveau style. On the grounds another Art nouveau structure, a circular house, was actually an aquarium. In another part of the garden stood the very first Art Nouveau mausoleum built as the resting place of a young girl. It was just overwhelming to see so much

art from this period. Other artists produced affordable objects that all could enjoy in their homes. The stain glass windows, paintings etc. were decorated with botanical designs. The artists were very knowledgeable horticulturists or botanists. Monsieur Pierre Valck, past president of the Jardins Botaniques de Nancy, gave me a beautiful book on Emile Galle. It is a collection of Galle botanical writings and drawings. The well-known glass maker had study botany intensely. He described and drew each plant in the most infinite details. No wonder the motifs on the vases and other objects he fabricated in his factory are so beautiful and precisely executed. Nancy, France is world renown for La Place Stanislas it is on the UNESCO's WORLD HERITAGE LIST. The gilded rod Iron gates by John Lamour at the entrances of the square are magnificent. The buildings by Emmanuel Heru date from the 18 Century. The beautiful fountains are by Barthelemy Guibal. We had our Friday night banquet on the second floor of the Hotel de Ville, the former residence of King Stanislas, King of Poland and the benefactor of Nancy. The tables were set in the former ballroom, a beautiful room with painted ceilings, carvings and gilded woodworks. We dined in style and in the best company. After dinner, Karen McCauley, ILS Convention Chair, presented the awards to our European members who were delighted. Before leaving the doors to the grand balcony were opened and we got to step out to see the Place Stanislas at night. Beautiful!

Lectures were held at the Aquarium of Nancy the former site of the botanical garden, Jardin Gordon. Now it is used as a cultural center. Lovely flower beds trimmed in clipped boxwoods held more peonies from Victor Lemoine and spring flowers. On the outside of the building the names of the botanists, horticulturists and plant explorers who made Nancy the center of horticulture in the late 1800's and early 1900's were carved in the stone wall, forever to be remembered. The lectures were given in several languages greatly helped by a horticulture student Mathew Rees who translated for us. Our speakers talked about their lilac collections, the culture of lilacs, propagation practices etc. Dr. Giles Waines was one of our speakers. Tatiana Poliakova did her presentation in Russian with the help of Olga Aladina who translated. She showed us the beautiful lilacs being hybridized in her country and believe me they are beautiful! Her presentation ended with all the Russian ladies singing a charming Russian ballad.

In Paris I had the pleasure to accompany these ladies to the Jardin des Plantes, Paris Botanical Garden. The evening before we had walked to the Eiffel Tour. It was a fun adventure so I knew it would be the same when they invited me to join them again the next day. I was staying at the same hotel. It turn out to be a fun time for all of us. Olga Aladina and her daughter Anastasia spoke English so it was easy to communicate with all the others ladies.

The Jardin des Plantes created in 1626 for Louis XIII covers 69 acres. The layout is the typical layout of gardens of the 18th century when it was open to the public. It does have lilacs in the central alley. We played a little game with the

few lilacs lining the walks. We each rated the lilac perfume from 1 to 10 with ten being the most fragrant. It was great fun but obviously not very scientific. Still it was amazing how close we came in agreeing on a number. By far 'Josee' received a 10 from all of us. It was a fun exercise.

Our hosts in Nancy were wonderful. From Jean-François Gonot who had made a special trip to Ottawa, Canada to invite ILS to come to Nancy, to the Director of the Conservatoire et Jardins Botaniques de Nancy, Dr. Laurent Peru, to Corrine Denjean and Helen Tarantola who planned the convention with us, to the officials of the Urban Community of Big Nancy who came to greet us and attended our banquet, and to all the gardeners who work so hard to prepare the lilacs and the gardens and answered all our questions when we visited the Lemoine lilacs collection. To everyone a big thank you. We certainly had a perfect convention because of you.

I must also say thank you to all the ILS members who came to this convention. It was so wonderful to meet all the members from Europe. Finally we can put a face with the name. I think nine different countries were represented. You were all so enthusiastic and truly exceptional. Our American delegation enjoyed the camaraderie, the lilacs and La Belle France. Some of us took the opportunity to visit others countries. I only wish that every ILS member could have come and attend this convention. Thank you to Karen McCauley, ILS Convention Chair, for planning the convention with the staff of the Conservatoire et Jardins Botaniques de Nancy, Nancy-Université and the Communauté Urban du Grand Nancy.

Yes, it was a great convention, an international convention! The ILS Board met and the ILS Annual Membership Meeting was attended by all with great participation by our European members. A new ILS logo was approved. We left Nancy, France knowing we had spent a special time in a wonderful city with wonderful people and we had seen a superb lilac collection. Thank you Victor Lemoine!

*Mes amities,
Nicole Jordan
ILS President, Chester, Virginia
Njordan236@aol.com*

Convention Corner Calendar

Sept 22, 2012

9:30-10:00 a.m.
10:00-11:30 a.m.
12:00-3:00 p.m.

ILS New England Fall Roundup

Arnold Arboretum Lecture Hall
Presented by the New England ILS members
Coffee & Treats Meet & Greet Time
Presentations
Lunch, Greenhouse Tour & Propagation Demo (Note: Space limited. Lunch will be \$10)

Sept 23, 2012

10:00-2:00

ILS New England Fall Roundup Part 2

“Let’s Talk Lilacs” casual get together
Syringa Plus Nursery

May 9-11, 2013

ILS Convention in Madison, Wisconsin

Nancy, France—what a fabulous venue. After many months of planning, struggling with language, cultural and monetary differences, it all fell in place like clockwork. We enjoyed fabulous food, excellent presentations, meeting new friends, sharing information and best of all a lilac collection in perfection with weather to match. This is what our annual get together is all about. There were members from nine countries in attendance, with seventeen members attending their first ILS Convention.

I would like to thank everyone at Nancy Botanic Garden, the University and City of Nancy for their concerted efforts in arranging the convention, especially Jean-Francois Gonot for maintaining an exquisite lilac collection. Also, a huge thank you goes to Carine Dreschler who acted as the liaison and translator. The New England group is gathering again. Evie King at Syringa Plus and Jack Alexander, New England Regional VP, are planning another get together on September 22 & 23. This year the main event on Saturday will be held at the Arnold Arboretum, on the first day of fall. Lectures, tour & demos are on the agenda. Space will be limited for the afternoon program, so if you’re interested in coming, contact Evie at 978.352.3301 or Jack at ilsnevpp@gmail.com to reserve lunch and a spot for the afternoon session. Sunday will be a casual gathering over coffee & treats to share information and talk lilacs.

Now, as we finish unpacking, it’s time to look ahead to next year. Deborah & Brent McCown will be the local hosts in Madison, Wisconsin. So as our memories of romantic France fade away, I hope all of you will start thinking about visiting the relaxed heartland of America in Madison. So here we go, the dates are finalized: May 9-11. Hope to see all of you over beer & brats in Madison.

If you’re contemplating having a convention in your area, please contact me. We’re always on the lookout for new sites and would welcome revisiting sites from decades past. Every city has something unique to offer.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Karen McCauley



International Lilac Society Convention

May 3-5, 2012, Nancy (France)

Wednesday, May 2nd, 2012

Welcoming conference in French for the congress and general public

by Nicole JORDAN: *L'odyssée des lilas du nouveau monde / The Odyssey of the Lilacs in the New World*

06:30 p.m.: at the Museum Aquarium de Nancy (Nancy's Museum Aquarium)

Thursday, May 3rd, 2012 / Meeting place: Nancy Botanical Garden

9:00 a.m.: Registration / welcoming

9:30 a.m.: Director's meeting (Board members only)

or visit of Nancy Botanical Garden (greenhouses or garden) with guides.

11:15 a.m.: **Thomas SOEDLER, Steinfurth/Germany**

Lilac-Leidenschaft - Steinfurth Flieder since more than 100 years

2:00 p.m.: Jean-François GONOT, Nancy/France (Conservatoire et Jardins Botaniques de Nancy)

Lilac's collection of Nancy Botanical Garden

2:45 p.m.: Visit of the collection

5:00 p.m.: Welcoming drink in the garden

Friday, May 4th, 2012 / Meeting place: Nancy's Museum-Aquarium

9:00 a.m.: Corinne CLEMENT, Beaufort-en-Vallée/France (Pépinières Minier)

Minier's Lilac: 36 years of breeding and selection in nursery for our nursery sales

10:30 a.m.: Daniel EPRON, Nancy/France (Université de Lorraine)

Plant phenology as a marker of climate change

11:00 a.m.: Annual meeting of ILS

2:00 p.m.: Virginie FUR, Bréal-sous-Montfort/France (Jardins de Brocéliande)

Brocéliande gardens, lilacs and much more...

2:30 p.m.: Giles WAINES, California/U.S. (Botanic Gardens, University of California Riverside)

A Pathway to Multiflora Lilacs

4:00 p.m.: Tatiana POLIAKOVA, Moscow/Russia

The best lilac cultivars of Russian breeders

7:30 p.m.: Banquet at the City Hall of Nancy

Saturday, May 5th, 2012 / Meeting place: Nancy's Museum-Aquarium

9:00 a.m.: Director's meeting / Visit of Museum Aquarium

10:00 a.m.: Didier DEBUT, Roville-aux-Chênes/France (Ecole d'Horticulture et de Paysage)

Horticulture from past and present, Victor Lemoine's inheritance

10:30 a.m.: Evelyne MARIS-BESSOU, Vitry-sur-Seine/France (Parc départemental des lilas)

Vitry-sur-Seine, from lilacs production to the collection birth

11:00 a.m.: W. MANNAERT, Lebbeke/Belgium (Boomkwekerij Zilverpar)

Lilacs as we grow them

2:00 p.m.: Visit of Nancy City, on enrollment, thematic walk Lemoine/Art nouveau (Sainte-Marie Parc, Lemoine street, Lemoine house, Museum of Ecole de Nancy ...)

7:30 p.m.: Dinner in a French restaurant

2012 ILS Convention Attendees

Aelbrecht, Frans Belgium
Aladina, Nastya Russia
Aladina, Ol'ga Russia
Balmisheva, Natasha Russia
Blackman, Linda Canada
Bond, Laurel Canada
Buchanan, Norm USA
Buchanan, Ruth USA
Cantalupo, Cathi USA
Culp, Bonnie Canada
Gonot, Jean-François France
Gossens, Kevin USA
Haase, Elke Germany
Jordan, Nicole USA
Kerr, Allan Canada
Kerr, Carol Canada
Kearns, Kathy Canada
Keiren, Emiel Netherlands
Keiren, Marta Netherlands
Kirk, John USA
Lizotte, Mary USA
Mannaert, Wim Belgium
Marchevskaya, Nadin Russia
McCauley, Karen USA
McCauley, Tim USA

McCown, Brent USA
McCown, Deborah USA
Okuneva, Irina Russia
Oster, Harald Austria
Plamann, Amy USA
Poliakova, Tatiana Russia
Polyakova, Natalya Russia
Pronina, Nadezhda Russia
Rack, Eugen Germany
Roskamp, Jurgen Germany
Roskamp, Waltraud Germany
Speirs, Joan Canada
Thurlow, Ellen USA
Veremieva, Tania Russia
Waines, John Giles USA
Walberg, Myrna Canada

Friday Only Lecture Attendees

BRIERE, Gerard France
Corinne CLEMENT
MINIER NURSERIES FRANCE
Patrick PINEAU
MINIER NURSERIES FRANCE
Jean-Noël NIVELLE
MINIER NURSERIES FRANCE

Editor's Deadline

Any submissions for the Fall issue of Lilacs
would be appreciated by September 15th

Thank you!

Highlights of the Lilac Convention in Nancy, France

In 1971, John C. Wister, one of the founders of the International Lilac Society wrote "But most, most, most of all we need to get together! We need to know each other and to enjoy the lilac flowers together so much that we will necessarily attract other gardeners to join us and speak our language. Together we can put the lilac in the important place in ...Horticulture that it does not have but we are convinced it deserves to have." Reprinted in LILACS Vol.38 #4 Fall 2009 page 137

Be assured Mr. Wister, that forty-one years later, the lilac has taken its place in Horticulture. Its popularity is increasing as new exciting cultivars are being developed here in North America, in Europe and in faraway places such as Russia, and it is establishing itself in history with the Lemoine Collection in Nancy, France and in many other collections. Yes, Mr. Wister, we finally got together from nine different countries, France, Russia, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Austria, UK, USA and Canada and we understood each other in our language - Lilac, Lilas, Siren', Lila, Flieder!

An historic occasion – yes - first time for a lilac convention in Europe and I clearly understood what Mr. Wister meant when he stated that members had to get together at least once a year to share their passion for lilacs - in fact this year I think all of us in our heightened state of excitement felt what he meant.

How enjoyable it was to meet our e-mailing lilac friends! No introductions necessary even though we had never met, it seemed we were already 'old friends' and we greeted each other with hugs and kisses. Yes, the biggest highlight was getting together from so many different countries!

The second biggest highlight was experiencing the lilacs in the Lemoine collection. The best of photos pale in contrast to viewing and experiencing the different cultivars in real time. They were at their peak of perfection as Mother Nature smiled down on us and the organizers, and she gave us pleasant weather for viewing and enjoying them, a memorable visit in an important cradle of lilac development!

Numerous beautiful, opulent bouquets of lilacs greeted us in the lecture rooms, the meeting rooms, the coffee areas and at the banquets. The bouquets consisted of many long stemmed lilacs (perhaps up to twenty inches long) placed in clear glass vases ten inches high with large clusters of flowers in different colors. The flowers towered over the vases falling gracefully in all directions. The bouquets drew attendees to them to touch and smell and to try to identify. Fortunately

some of the stems had an identification tag attached – so satisfying to know what lilac it was! As a lilac-starved Canadian whose lilacs are still too young to provide such opulent bouquets, and some years our springs are too cruelly short to pick lilacs, every bouquet impressed me— thrilled me— -and yes I did take photos of most of them. Each bouquet was an ‘in your face’ reminder of why we were there — not that we needed reminding but I did appreciate them!

International interest in lilacs was reaffirmed in presentations given by people from France, Germany, Belgium, USA and Russia. The first presenter on Thursday gave us a history of lilacs (fleider) in Germany. Jean-François Gonot spoke to us about acquiring the lilacs for the collection in Nancy. While the directors were meeting, we had an extensive tour of the botanical gardens and greenhouses. After lunch the group photo was taken in front of the collection and then we were set free to wander and lose ourselves among the glorious lilacs. We had ample time to enjoy, to smell, to photograph and share lilac experiences with others before we went to the welcoming drink in the garden at the end of the afternoon.

On Friday, lilac appreciation continued with five presenters who spoke about their collections, forcing lilacs, propagating lilacs, climate change and as a grand finale, Tatiana Poliakova gave a slide presentation, with commentary by Ol’ga Aladina of the best cultivars of Russian breeders— a celebration and a visual feast of beautiful lilacs!

The Saturday morning program consisted of three more presenters who spoke on the Lemoine inheritance, lilac production and collecting lilacs. Throughout all of the talks we had visual props (slides, charts etc.) and also handouts to read in English. In addition we had a horticultural student originally from the UK, Matthew Rees, who helped with translation when it was needed. It was a very interesting and well organized program!

Jean-François Gonot (the man who organized the conference and invited us to Nancy in Ottawa in 2009) took us on a walking tour in Nancy to see the house where Victor Lemoine lived and did his work. There is no plaque identifying the Lemoine house. It was three stories when the family occupied it. Now it has five stories and is used as a maternity hospital or birthing home. A more modern structure attached to the side of the house accommodates an elevator. A few streets before we arrived at the house, Jean-François explained that we were walking on the land that Victor used for his gardens. The entire area was cemented over with streets, sidewalks and houses. No sign of what had been. Nursery plots and gardens, which would have been sacred land to us Lemoine admirers, lilac lovers and gardeners, were no more. There is a street named for Victor Lemoine but the plaque marking it was too far from our walking tour so we did not see it.

We peeked through the gate of a house that had belonged to Victor Lemoine's daughter. Victor Lemoine had this house built on his land when his daughter married. Over the high fence we could see some of his original lilacs in bloom.

We walked through a park where a lively Saturday plant market was taking place. There were many lilacs among other plants for sale. A bust of Victor Lemoine is placed on a high pedestal in the center of the park overlooking the commercial activities. He seemed to be watching approvingly. Undoubtedly the Nanciens are proud of their native son and of what he contributed to Nancy and the world.

One cannot neglect to mention in the highlights of the Nancy Lilac Convention the marvelous culinary experience we had at the banquets. As you know, food preparation and presentation are raised to very high levels of artistic and creative expression in the French culture, nourishing the soul as well as the body. We were the benefactors of a memorable culinary fun experience. The first banquet was held in the elegant ballroom of King Stanislas's palace, now used as City Hall and situated on the beautiful Stanislas Square, which was declared a World Heritage Site in 1983.

On arrival we were presented with a glass of wine and beautiful hors d'oeuvres. After a short period of chatting and mingling we had welcoming speeches from representatives from the City of Greater Nancy, and the University of Lorraine (Nancy). Again, Matthew did the translation. We were seated at five large round tables. A pink dome shaped light in the middle of each table helped the lighting from the chandeliers around the room.

Then, the dramatic first course! Waiters brought trays of tall slender glasses - with dramatic white smoke billowing out of each glass- you could not see the contents! The smoke gradually subsided and through the clear liquid in the glass, was revealed a test tube with a dark liquid content. With trepidation (and trust of course) we sipped the content of the test tube through a bent straw — ahh wonderful! I know not what it was—possibly a type of melon drink. Perhaps the dramatic presentation was a nod to or an acknowledgment of the sciences of Nancy University. The presentation merited photos and many attendees reached for their cameras to capture the event!

The next three courses came in three tiered clear glass dishes arranged pyramidal style. A server explained to me the contents. The smallest dish on top contained very young leaves of flavored salad ingredients, arugula, watercress, green and purple perrilla. No dressing needed as the flavor was already in the tender leaves. The second dish was a creamy custard made with their famous 'pâté de foie gras de canard (duck liver paté). It sounds so much better in French! A

very thin layer of beet red topped the custard— delicious and rich! The third dish had about six or seven pieces of tomatoes in a balsamic vinaigrette. Each tomato was of a different type. There was a yellow, a brown, a pink and several different types of red tomato. If you paid attention you could taste the subtle differences from one tomato to another. (Being a hobby grower of heritage tomatoes, this was an especially delightful dish for me.)

The main course came on a white rectangular plate. It consisted of a piece of fish with lobster sauce arranged artistically with two spears of white asparagus, a strip of yellow squash and a mini crepe of vegetable puree. A small dish of mini green patty pan squashes with a spear of fennel accompanied the plate.

Dessert was another intriguing culinary experience. It came in a metal bowl with a citrus juicer sitting on it like a lid. In the juicer were two halves of a passion fruit. One half had been squeezed so that the juice would drain into the bowl beneath and perhaps strain out the seeds. The other half was left for us to juice. Laurel Bond, from Canada, who was sitting at our table, said she had enjoyed passion fruit in Australia where she grew up and as children they would eat the seeds because they were very crunchy. So we tried the seeds too and yes they were crunchy! When we lifted the juicer off of the dish we saw a ring of sliced strawberries on white custard. In the middle of the strawberry ring were carefully arranged raspberries and under the white custard was a flavorful layer of raspberries in raspberry gelatin.

The Saturday night banquet at a restaurant was more modest in its culinary presentation. However, every table had a huge bouquet of lilacs for a center piece emphasizing our reason for being there and abundantly providing more nourishment and joy for the soul! Again red and white wine flowed. We had an appetizer of goat cheese served on little rounds of bread accompanied by salad greens. The main meal was served in what looked like a small version of a black cast iron pot. In the pot were pieces of chicken and morel mushrooms on a bed of noodles with a delicious sauce (morels are the ultimate in mushrooms!). A creamy cake and another good coffee rounded off the meal. At both banquets, Karen McCauley did a fine job of announcing and giving out certificates of honor and other prizes.

Then, alas, we had to say our goodbyes because the following morning people were again catching their transportation to return home or to continue their vacations. Undoubtedly, everyone left filled to overflowing with warm memories of a beautiful city, the wonderful hospitality of the Nanceiens, the kindred spirit of lilac people, and glorious lilacs in full bloom!

*Myrna Wahlberg
Quebec, Canada*



Along the lilac walk at Nancy
Photo Credit Myrna Walberg



Alpine Garden and Chapel at Nancy Botanical Garden
Photo Credit Myrna Walberg



Learning about lilacs is the same world over
Photo Courtesy of Jean-François Gonot



Joan Speirs examining a Lemoine hybrid
Photo courtesy of Jean-François Gonot

ILS Central Region Meeting

Beautiful sunny weather welcomed those who attended the 1st Annual ILS Region meeting held in Michigan on May 18, 2012 from 10 AM until 6 PM.

The small group of ILS members met at the Capac Historical Society Community Building. They were greeted by Bill Horman. Most attending were Michigan residents, while Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Valthausen came from North Royalton, Ohio. Also from out of state was Peter Ely of Elgin, Illinois.

Bill Horman spoke about this being the first lilac festival for our Central Region. This year the International Lilac society Convention met in Nancy, France. Bill asked that if anyone had any questions on lilacs, the ILS, or planting etc. to be sure to inquire. Peter Ely gave a slide presentation with pictures of the early members of the ILS, and also pictures of many lilacs.

Lunch included Subway sandwiches which were picked up while others had brought their own lunch. The lunch was enjoyed in the sun or under the shade of an apple tree at the nearby residence of the gracious hosts Paul and Danielle Camarie, who had set up a beautiful picnic area. It was a delight to see their two small sons (their older son was at school). After an inspection of Paul and Danielle's recent landscaping and their lilac collection, the group was off to Sunny Fields Botanical Park.. A tour of the park was enjoyed by all. Most of the crabapple collection and many of the lilacs had finished blooming, but if you went on a walking tour you could see many of the late lilacs in flower such as 'Royalty', 'Lark Song', 'Prairie' and others. These are the lilacs which are loved by all kinds of butterflies.

Returning to the cabin, all were treated to beverages and a cake decorated in the colors of lilacs and inscribed "The ILS Central Region First Annual Meeting-May 18, 2012".

As Bill told me, "Even if it was a small group, we know that big things develop from small things-remember the acorn."

Members started to leave about 6 PM, as they knew Bill had a busy weekend scheduled May 19-20 2012, the lilac festival. Saturday and Sunday Bill greeted about 500 visitors, but that is another story.

Sincerely,
Irene Stark
ILS Central Region Vice President



Bill Horman carves the cake celebrating the ILS Central Region
1st Annual Meeting as Jim Stark looks on
Photo Credit Irene Stark



Top Row: Jim Stark, Joseph Valthausen, and Paul Camarie
Front Row: Irene Stark, Cordetta Valthausen, Peter Ely, and Bill Horman
Photo Credit Bill Horman

A Happy 100th Birthday to Walter Eickhorst!

Congratulations to Walter Eickhorst of Illinois. He turned 100 years old on July 17, 2012. He became a Charter Member of ILS in 1972 and remained active as an Officer or Director until his retirement as Treasurer in 1996. He has attended all but a few Conventions since 1972, until a few years ago. Walter's responsibilities have included: President 1976, Exec. VP, Editor, long time Board Director, member of numerous committees and Treasurer from 1985-1996.

He has received several ILS awards for his work and dedication to the principles of ILS. He was employed at Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Illinois for 47 years and for several years after that he had a radio talk show answering questions about general plant information and of course lilacs.

Walter is now retired and resides in Lisle, Illinois. I have visited with him and he enjoys hearing about ILS work and from members he has known.

Birthday greetings from ILS members may be sent to Walter Eickhorst c/o of Diane Piper, his granddaughter, 24529 Royal Portrush Drive Naperville, Illinois 60564. Should you rather send an email greeting to Walter, it can be sent to me, Peter Ely, and I will deliver it to him personally. email: cricketely@comcast.net

Thank you, Peter Ely



Walter Eickhorst, with Marymae Meyer(ILS), Duane Henry(village of Lisle), Doris Taylor (Morton Arboretum) and Rose Roth (ILS)

Photo courtesy of Marymae Meyer

Plans for 2013 ILS Meeting in Madison, WI

We are starting to do some serious organizing for the 2013 meeting in Madison May 9 (Thursday) to May 11 (Saturday). I am negotiating with the hotel for rooms reserved Wednesday thru Saturday nights.

Some of you have expressed interest in Frank Lloyd Wright and his home, Taliesin, in Spring Green. This is about a 30 mile drive from downtown Madison. West of Madison are a couple of other possible tourist attractions. House on the Rock is very close to Taliesin and is very unusual and worth a visit (I have done it and it is downright bizarre). Also on the way is Wollersheim Winery, probably Wisconsin oldest and best known winery and it just took several top prizes in a California wine competition. These stops will require a full day and thus will have to be either a pre-tour on Wednesday or a post-tour on Sunday.

I've started to some initial pricing. Taliesin costs \$42.00 for a group rate (over 21 people) and you should know that they do not accept children under 12. House on the Rock doesn't seem to have a group rate and it costs \$28.50/adult. Wollersheim Winery is free. I have an initial quote on a bus - this is for a coach that holds 40+ people so if the group is smaller we may get by with a smaller (and presumable cheaper bus) but the price is somewhere around \$800. If we do have 40 people who want to go that's \$20/person. When I get lunch in there it is going to be \$100-\$110. Both Taliesin and House on the Rock have websites you can visit.

I don't want to spend more time on this if there isn't the interest, so . . . how many people would be likely to sign-up and which day would be your preferred tour day. If I've missed some questions, let me know.

*Deborah McCown, President
Knight Hollow Nursery, Inc.
7911 Forsythia Court
Middleton, WI 53562
Phone 608-831-5570
Fax 608-831-3099
www.knighthollownursery.com*

Editor's Deadline for Fall Issue

Any submissions for the Fall issue of Lilacs

would be appreciated by September 15

Madison's Olbrich Botanical Gardens

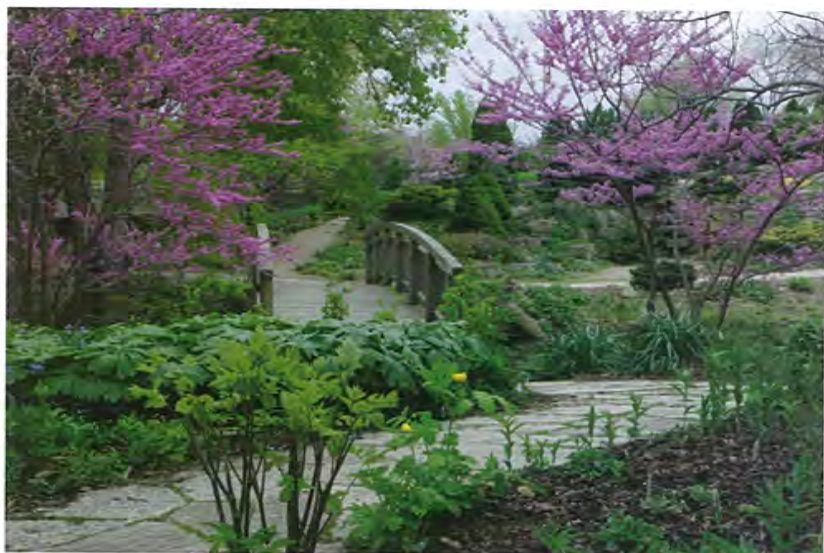
Madison's Olbrich Botanical Gardens has been chosen as one of the top 20 public gardens in the United States by Country Gardens magazine, and Better Homes and Gardens Special Interest Publication. This "top 20" list puts Olbrich in the company of some of the most prestigious and biggest botanical gardens in the United States – Longwood, Missouri, Chicago, New York and more. Olbrich is one of the smallest public gardens on the list but it is such a special place. The gardens are well-designed, artful and meticulously cared for. All visitors appreciate the interesting places and plant combinations, in fact, Olbrich is one of Madison's most popular wedding locations.

Olbrich will be one of our premier tours for the May 2013 International Lilac Society meeting.

*Deborah McCown, President
Knight Hollow Nursery, Inc.
7911 Forsythia Court
Middleton, WI 53562
Phone 608-831-5570
Fax 608-831-3099
www.knighthollownursery.com*



Olbrich Botanical Garden
Photo Credit Jeff Epping, Director of Horticulture, OBG



Wildflower Garden at Olbrich Botanical Garden
Photo Credit Jeff Epping



Rose Garden Tower from Donor's Arbor
Photo Credit Jeff Epping

INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 4, 2012

Nancy, France

President Jordan called the annual meeting of the ILS to order at 11:15am Friday, May 4, 2012.

She expressed an enthusiastic thank you to all of the Nancy Botanical Garden personnel for a wonderful visit. She also recognized the members of the Board of Directors.

Karen McCauley, Treasurer, reported that the society has \$84K in the bank and nearly \$40K in the Life Endowment Fund. The auction at the 2011 meeting in Lombard, Il was the main fund raiser for the year, bringing in \$6385.00. There was no auction in Nancy.

President Jordan addressed the rising cost of international postage of the Quarterly Journal to countries outside North America. Karen McCauley asked the Russian delegation if they would prefer receiving an electronic version of the Quarterly Journal. Wim Mannaert from Brussels said he would pay for a hard copy. Cathi Cantalupo suggested the idea of multi-formats like the New York Times. Wim Mannaert inquired about bulk shipping to one location and reposting them. Karen McCauley said that Society members were too spread out over Europe and Russia to make this a feasible solution. Joan Spiers asked the German and Russian members present if translation isn't easier to do with an on-line subscription. They indicated this was not the case and they wanted a hard copy of the Quarterly Journal and were willing to pay to receive it. Cathi Cantalupo inquired about raising dues. Karen McCauley said we had done that a few years ago. No one present wanted an on-line copy only. The problem was unresolved.

President Jordan said the Quarterly Journal editor is having trouble getting enough material to fill an issue. She asked that everyone write about the Nancy meeting & send pictures. Deborah McCown will start writing about the 2013 Madison meeting and include appropriate pictures.

Current membership is 298 and 107 of those are Life Members. The Society needs more young members. President Jordan congratulated Tatiana Poliakova for her recruiting measures in Russia. Everyone – recruit new members.

The 2013 convention will be in Madison, Wisconsin May 9 – 11. The 2014 convention will be in Cleveland, Ohio May 1 – 3. No convention sites are planned after 2014.

Deborah McCown gave a preview of Madison and two of the sites on the proposed tour. President Jordan gave a special thank you to Karen McCauley for organizing the Nancy meeting long-distance.

There was a call for new business. There was none.

Cathi Cantalupo proposed raising dues \$5.00 per year. There was no response.

President Jordan adjourned the meeting at 11:55am.

*Respectfully submitted,
Deborah McCown*

ILS Awards for 2012

Distinguished Recognition- Dr. Owen Rogers

Award of Honor and Achievement-Tatiana Poliakova

President's Award- Conservatoire et Jardins
Botaniques De Nancy

Award of Merit- Jean-François Gonot

Award of Merit- Vesna de Vinca

Award of Merit- Nadezhda Pronia

Award of Merit- Sergei Aladin

Award of Merit- Roger Coggeshall

Award of Merit- Evie King

Award of Merit- Kent Millham

Treasurer's Report 2012

Fiscal Year 4/1/11 - 3/31/12

KeyBank Checking Account Balance 4/1/12	\$ 20,946.98
KeyBank Certificate of Deposit .11%	6,722.48
Edward Jones Company Investments:	
HSBC Finance 5.00%	5,000.00
Tennessee Valley Auth Gbr Pwr 4.65%	20,000.00
FHLMC Note 5.625%	18,000.00
South Broward HDFB Municipal Bond 6.978%	5,000.00
Franklin Adj US Govt Secs	8,000.00
Money Market/Cash	495.18
TOTAL	<u>\$ 84,164.64</u>

Special Accounts (Included in the above total)

Life Member/Endowment Fund	\$ 39,886.24
Plant Propagation Fund (Laurene Wishart)	1,668.89
Education & Research	3,242.68
Youth Program Fund	1,298.48
Reva Ballereich Memorial Fund	267.09
Total Funds in Special Accounts	\$ 46,363.38
Total Funds in General Accounts	\$ 37,801.26
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ 84,164.64

Income

Membership Dues	\$ 7,332.77
Contributions to ILS	250.00
Interest Income	2,547.88
Auction Income	6,385.00
Misc Income (Royalties, Old Journals, CD & Lilac Bkit sales)	1,610.81
Convention Earnings	462.66
2012 Convention Registrations	7,400.00
Total Income	\$ 25,989.12

Expenses

Journal	\$ 7,992.18
Postage	846.52
Bank Fees	518.26
Web site expenses	0.00
Awards	423.57
Insurance	367.50
Office Supplies	95.97
2011 Convention Expense	500.00
Misc Expenses	578.13
Total Expenses	\$ 11,322.13

Net Income (Loss)

\$ 14,666.99

NOTE: The C.C. Clark Memorial Fund, Arch McKean Fund and the Colored Photo Separation funds were consolidated under the General Accounts. The balance of the Publications (other than journal) fund was transferred to the General Accounts for the new Lilac booklet.

Submitted 4/15/12 by Karen McCauley, ILS Treasurer

Memorials & Gifts

4/1/2011 – 3/31/12

I would like to thank our members who, this past fiscal year, gave above and beyond with additional support. With our interest revenue down, and not having auction income this year, the contributions are extremely welcome. Every donation, no matter how small, helps in this troubled economy. Donations were received in memoriam for Warren Oakes and also for the general fund. All donations now go into the general fund and not separate memorial funds.

- Jane & Woody Barnes
- Marcia & Robert Hoepfl
- H. G. Latimer
- Carolyn & Howard Merrill
- Diane Reinke
- Irene & Jim Stark
- Ellen & John Thurlow
- Giles Waines

Thank you for going the extra mile with your personal gift. We value your commitment to, and support of, the ILS.

Karen McCauley, Treasurer

Congratulations to the New Board Members

5 new board members have been selected to serve until 2015

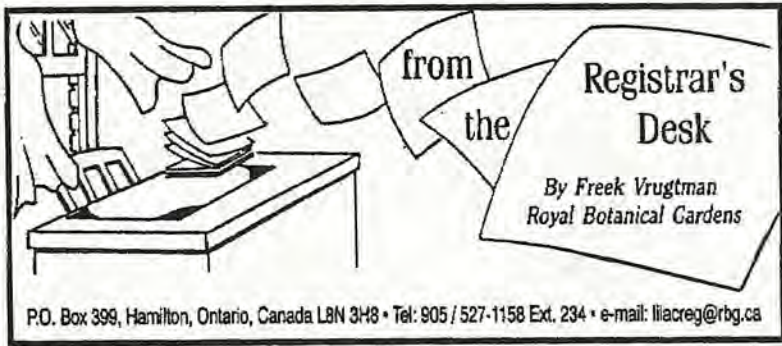
Harry Latimer

Tim McCauley

Deb McCown

Gloria Schreiber

Giles Waines



FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK

Syringa 'Yi Guan' - A new cultivar
from China?

by Freek Vrugtman and Hongxia Cui
January 26, 2012

Plant societies are networks comprised of people with a common interest; the International Lilac Society is no exception. Observant members using internet communication can broaden our knowledge about lilacs. Tatiana Poliakova, in Moscow, spotted a news item on ScienceNet about a lilac found in the city of Harbin, Heilongjiang province, and named in 2008 by professor Shaoquan Nie of Northeast Forestry University. Ms Hongxia Cui, PhD, of the Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, obtained more detailed information from Ms Mingxia Bai.

According to a news item in the Harbin Daily Time of 7 July 2008 a citizen of Harbin reported seeing a lilac flowering in early July; in that region lilacs flower normally late April to late May. This lilac appeared to be unique because of its late flowering and because of having florets with four to ten petals. The neighborhood where the lilac was discovered was landscaped about 2000. Plants used for landscape projects of this sort are usually nursery-grown from seed, the seed having been gathered from open pollinated plants of unknown origin.

Syringa 'Yi Guan' appears to belong in the series Pubescentes, perhaps in *S. pubescens* subsp. *microphylla*, but it could be a hybrid. The original plant is still in existence. Although it was discovered and named in 2008, it appears that it has not yet been propagated. Efforts will be made in 2012 to obtain propagules and get plants established at Beijing Botanical Gardens.

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK

Lilac Registration - What is it?

by Freek Vrugtman, International Lilac
Registrar

February 21, 2012

There are three different types of registration concerning cultivated plants in general, and lilacs in particular. From time to time every serious grower of lilacs will have to deal with these three different registrations. In the following writeup I attempt to clear up confusion that exists about cultivar name registration, statutory plant registration, and trademark registration; I am also adding a note about trade designations.

Cultivar name registration

Frequent users of the *International Register and Checklist of Cultivar Names in the Genus Syringa*, the *Lilac Register* for short, will have noticed that some cultivar names appear in **bold characters** while others appear in normal characters. Cultivar names in **bold characters** have been registered under the provisions of the *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP)*, also referred to as the *Cultivated Plant Code*. Responsibility for the *Cultivated Plant Code* is with the International Commission for the Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS). The purpose of the *Code* is to provide a stable method of naming cultivars, avoiding and rejecting names that may cause error or ambiguity. The *Code* is intended to prevent the use of two or

more different names for one cultivar, and the use of one name for two or more distinct cultivars. People naming new cultivars are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the *Code* and follow its recommendations. Although members of the Editorial Committee have simplified the language of the Eighth Edition of the *Code*, technical terms cannot be completely avoided; an extensive glossary tries to overcome these hurdles.

To be worthy of a cultivar name a new lilac selection should be a notable improvement over already existing cultivars.

The assessment of the true qualities of a lilac should be based on observations over several seasons of bloom, preferably in different climatic areas. Naming a new cultivar on the basis of color alone simply does not take into consideration questions of the plant's growth, disease resistance, ultimate height, and many other necessary garden qualities. The International Lilac Registrar is available for consultations and can assist in drawing up applications for registration of cultivar names. Prior to applying for registration of a new cultivar name, registrants should check with the Registrar, whether the proposed new name can be accepted under the provisions of the *Code*. Commencing in 2011 cultivar name registrations are published, appearing in print in *HANBURYANA - A serial for horticultural taxonomy and nomenclature*, published by the Science Department, The Royal Horticultural Society. Copies of earlier registrations lists, published since 1976, have been posted on the Internet for easy consultation.

Statutory plant registration

Statutory plant registrations protect the rights of the breeders, such as the rights to control propagation and to collect royalties from the sales of plants they have introduced. Statutory plant registration authorities are organizations established by legal enactment of individual countries or by a legal treaty between countries. Examples of statutory plant registration authorities that have registered lilac plants are the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the State Commission of the Russian Federation for Selection Achievements Test and Protection, The Plant Breeders' Rights Office (Canada), and the Research Center for Cultivar Testing (Poland). The international plant registration authority established by legal treaty between member countries is the

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (Union Internationale pour la Protection des Obtentions Végétales; UPOV). Statutory epithets (cultivar names) recognized and listed by a statutory plant registration authority are accepted as registered cultivar names under the provisions of the *Cultivated Plant Code*. Legislation covering statutory plant registration may vary from one country to another. For instance, Plant Patent registration in the United States requires certification that the cultivar is a new and distinct invention. Statutory plant registration authorities of certain other countries require a given number of plants of the new selection to be subjected to a DUS Test. Distinctness, Uniformity and Stability (DUS) are the criteria by which new cultivars are examined for the purposes of granting Plant Breeders' Rights or being added to a National List. The UPOV is an international organization and aims for the establishment of international rules (including DUS Tests) by its member countries. For the past few years Ms Hongxia Cui, PhD, of Beijing Botanical Gardens, Chinese Academy of Sciences, has been working on a draft proposal for the DUS Test for Lilacs. The draft proposal has circulated to UPOV member countries where it is being scrutinized by plant breeders' rights examiners who are familiar with lilacs and who may have to deal with new lilac cultivars sometime in the future; following that, the proposal is being discussed at annual meetings arranged by UPOV. The democratic process is slow; it may take a few more years for the regulations for lilacs to be finalized and accepted.

Trademark registration

A trademark is any sign—made from words, letters, numbers, or other devices such as logotypes—that individualizes the goods of a given enterprise and distinguishes them from the goods of its competitors. Registered trademarks are those that have been formally accepted by a statutory trademark authority; they are usually distinguished by the international symbol ®. In the United States a trademark may be registered at the state level, or federally, or both. Trademarks established and maintained by use, but not registered, are usually distinguished by the symbol ™. In practice, however, usage of the symbols ® and ™ is not consistent; plants

of a cultivar with a registered trademark in one jurisdiction may be sold with an identical label in another jurisdiction where the trademark is not registered.

Trademarks are not names. Trademarks and trade designations are marketing devices that create revenue for their owners. Unfortunately trademarks are often poorly understood and can be confusing to the gardening public and even to professional horticulturists.

Although a cultivar must have only one cultivar name, it may have a number of different trademarks attached to it. Here is a good example. *Rosa* (Floribunda Group) 'KORcasima' is a registered cultivar name; this rose was introduced by Wilhelm Kordes Nursery, Germany, in 2007. In Germany 'KORcasima' rose is marketed as Rotkäppchen®, in France as Chaperon Rouge®, and in Italy as Maranello Rose®. In the USA 'KORcasima' has a Plant Patent, # PP20732, and is marketed as Red Riding Hood®, and in Canada it is The 1812 Rose™. Too often it shows up as the Red Riding Hood Rose. Good marketing ethics requires that this rose be listed with the cultivar name alongside the trademark as *Rosa* 'KORcasima' Red Riding Hood®.

Trade designations

I should note here that trade designations are also names, but like trademarks, they are not cultivar names. Sometimes they are translations of cultivar names, such as BEAUTY OF MOSCOW for *Syringa vulgaris* 'Krasavitsa Moskvyy'. Another well-known example of a trade designation for a lilac cultivar is *S. vulgaris* LUDWIG SPAETH. (In many volumes, trade designations of plants appear in SMALL CAPITAL letters, distinguishing them from cultivar names.) The German nursery founded by Ludwig Späth originated and introduced this plant under the name *S. vulgaris* 'Andenken an Ludwig Späth' in 1883. The cultivar name was established and accepted under the rules of the ICNCP. Because the alternative designation "Ludwig Spaeth" has been used by North American nurserymen for more than a century, LUDWIG SPAETH has been designated a trade designation for this cultivar, but it is not a cultivar name, and therefore it is not a synonym of 'Andenken an Ludwig Späth'. Trade designations that are used without disclosing the original cultivar name are applied to confuse the buyer.

Sources of information

Readers can find additional information about cultivar name registration, statutory plant registration, and trademark registration in several places. The book *Lilacs: A Gardener's Encyclopedia* (Fiala & Vrugtman 2008) includes a section about trade designations and trademarks. Detailed information about trade designation status of cultivars; the choice, re-use, and rejection of names; and the registration of names can be found in the Eighth Edition of the *ICNCP* (2009) which is online at <www.actahort.org/chronica/pdf/sh_10.pdf>.

The International Lilac Society's web site at <www.internationallilacsociety.org> provides a link to the *Lilac Register* and related materials, and a link to a list of lilac registrations from 1976 onward. General information about cultivar name registration appears on the Royal Botanical Gardens' website at <www.rbg.ca/Page.aspx?pid=327>.

Finally, as noted above, in my role as International Lilac Registrar, I can be reached for consultations and for assistance in drawing up applications for registration of cultivar names.

Freek Vrugtman
International Lilac Registrar
Royal Botanical Gardens
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Hamilton ON
CANADA L8N 3H8
E-mail: <lilacreg@rbg.ca>

Acknowledgments:

Comments and suggestions by Claire Fouquet and Barry Brucklacher were greatly appreciated.

Contribution No. 202, Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

THE HORTICULTURAL ODYSSEY OF ISABELLA PRESTON

In 1987 Ms Edwinna von Baeyer wrote an article on The Horticultural Odyssey of Isabella Preston. The article appeared in volume 1, number 3, pages 125 through 175 of Canadian Horticultural History (CHH), an interdisciplinary journal published by the Centre for Canadian Horticultural Studies (CCHHS) at Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG), Burlington and Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Since distribution of the journal was primarily to botanical and horticultural libraries, few ILS members had the opportunity to read it at the time.

The Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) project has now completed the digitization of Canadian Horticultural History and is offering access to the complete eight-issue set on-line, free of charge.

One can reach the bibliographic information for the journal at BHL and access the on-line scans at:

<http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/bibliography/60850>

The on-line BHL system allows downloading and printing of the scanned pages of the journal, or as OCR text as well.

Canadian Horticultural History was produced from 1985 through 1995 by RBG and CCHHS; Ms Ina Vrugtman was Curator CCHHS, Editor CHH, and Librarian RBG. The copy of CHH that has been scanned is housed in the Peter H. Raven Library at Missouri Botanical Garden. Scanning was completed at St. Louis at the end of June 2012.

FV, July 17, 2012

Early Peak Bloom in Highland Park? Part II

In Lilacs #1:2 I reported that extremely warm weather in March had brought on very early blooming of some *hyacinthiflora* lilacs. I predicted that the peak bloom this year would break the previous record (April 29th) easily. That was not the case however, since for the first time in Rochester, the average temperature in March was warmer than the average temperature in April! The peak bloom occurred a few days later; about May 3.

In fact, what started out to be a very promising display of lilacs, judging by the early lilacs, turned out to be extremely disappointing. A similar scenario occurred in 2012 to what happened in Rochester in 1945. The extremely warm March temperatures initiated early blooms in the early lilacs, and bud elongation in the mid-season lilacs. Unfortunately, the mid-season lilac buds were exposed to 3 or 4 killing frosts. The resulting blooms were either very small in floret size, or only half-opened, or in some cases had a mixture on the inflorescences of opened, unopened, and aborted buds.

By March 26th, Rochester NY had already 138.5 growing degree days (GDD), enough for many of the *xyacinthiflora* lilacs to be partially in bloom. On March 27th, a killing frost occurred of 25 degrees F; enough to damage developing flower buds. Because of the advanced development of many of the *vulgaris* lilacs' flower buds, many were damaged. Several other frosts hit on later dates of March 30 (28F), April 1 (29F), April 6 (29F), and April 7 (28F). Not only was lilac flowering damaged, but more importantly for local growers, flowers of apple, cherry, and peach crops were severely damaged, and total or large percentage losses of this years fruit crop took place.

After all of this stress, on April 23rd, 2.6" of heavy wet snow fell, breaking about 5% of lilac limbs. Several days of pruning and chipping were necessary to clean up the damage before the upcoming lilac festival. By the time the Lilac Festival had started on May 11th, the unseasonably warm weather had returned again, and we already had 285 GDD. There were few lilac blooms left to be seen for the festival.

Now this summer, the stress continues for the lilacs and other plants, since we are in the midst of a drought, combined with very hot temperatures. Many established lilacs are showing signs of water stress, and I watered our new section of lilacs to prevent any death from lack of water. However, I still expect next year to be thrilled once again with the blooms of 1200 lilacs along Highland Avenue!

Kent Millham
Highland Botanical Park
July 2012



S. vulgaris 'Rochester' showing some open florets
along with aborted flower buds
Photo Credit Kent Millham



Lilacs open early along with snowfall April 27th
Photo Credit Kent Millham



An example of branches breaking under heavy snow load
Photo Credit Kent Millham



Broken limbs from snowfall in massive piles ready for chipping
Photo Credit Kent Millham

International Lilac Society

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Membership Secretary.....Gloria Schreiber Assistant Treasurer.....William F. Tschumi
Editor.....Kent Millham

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3. South.....Nicole Jordan 7. Pacific.....Elizabeth Kilcoyne 10.Western Canada.....L. Blackman
4. Central.....Irene Stark 8a. S.W. Mts.....Bradley Bittorf

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For Russia & the rest of Asia.....Tatiana Poliakova

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2013

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2014

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2015

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NOMINATIONS.....
ELECTIONS.....Nancy Latimer, Chairman
YOUTH.....



Vesna da Vinca (right) proudly displays her Award of Merit with new member Radmila Toknokovich looking on
Photo Courtesy of Tatiana Poliakova



Jean-François seems to be enjoying himself!
Photo Credit Myrna Walberg



ILS Convention Attendees assemble at the Nancy lilac collection
Photo Courtesy of Jean-François Gonot