



The Pipeline

Editor: Mrs. Isabel Zucker, 708 West Long Lake Rd., Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, 48013

Vol. I No. 6

March 1975

GREETINGS

Happy birthday to you,
 Happy birthday to you.
 Happy birthday John Wister
 Happy birthday to you.

Whether this issue reaches you before or after March 19, that date is Dr. Wister's 88th birthday and all of us ILS members who know what he has done for the lilac and many other flowers wish him not only a happy birthday but also many happy returns of the day.

#

THE ANNUAL MEETING You must have received, within the last 10 days, pre-registration for hotel room and meeting as well as a program for the coming annual meeting. Don't let these papers lie on your desk--fill 'em out, add a check to the meeting pre-registration and return to Walter Eickhorst. You'll be sorry if you don't.

THE PLACES YOU'LL SEE Lectures will be held at the Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Ill. This beautiful place exists because of Joy Morton who, in 1874 when a young man of 19 visited the Arnold Arboretum with his father. Seeing the then 2-year-old Arboretum impressed him sufficiently to make him decide, then and there, that if he succeeded in business he would found a similar arboretum in the middle west.

Before 1917 Joy Morton began planning and in 1921 200 acres of the 1900 acre Morton Farm were set aside for the arboretum. Many of its rarest plants have come from the Arnold Arboretum which inspired it.

Nowadays the Arboretum includes almost 900 acres, a system of surfaced roads, many miles of trails and marked pathways and a collection of woody plants consisting of thousands of species, varieties and hybrids (you will find all these listed in a paperback book at the counter in the visitor's building). The object of the collection is to grow all woody plants able to survive the northern Illinois climate.

You will visit not only the lilac collection but also the garden of hedges, trials of over 100 different plants for this use, walk the path through the ground cover collection and get many ideas for your garden, stroll through tree and shrub plantings, enjoy the deep woods which have not been disturbed, and

marvel at the books in the beautiful library wing of the administration building. Perhaps you'll also visit the greenhouses and see some of the plant propagation going on there.

#

LILACIA PARK in Lombard, Ill. is the result of another man's generosity. Col. William R. Plum was graduated from Yale Law School in 1867, married the same year and came west to buy a large piece of property and build a home. This place is the nucleus of Lilacia Park.

The Plums liked traveling and, on one of their trips to Europe, they visited the famous hybridizer, Lemoine, in Nancy, France. His cultivars, the white Mme. Casimir Perier and the double, light purple Michel Buchner came home with them. These two lilacs began their collection. Varieties were added through the years until now there are about 1200 plants of almost 300 varieties for you to see!

Col. Plum died in 1927, leaving the entire property to the Village of Lombard, the residence to serve as a library in memory of his wife, who had preceded him in death, while the grounds were to become a public park.

Since then about 5 acres were added to the original 2½ acres, more lilacs added and the tract landscaped.

#

CANTIGNY in Wheaton, Ill. is the former estate of still another man--Col. Robert R. McCormick, a colonel in the U.S. Army and owner-publisher of the Chicago Tribune. The house, still existing, that was his home, is famous since it is one visited by both Abraham Lincoln and Winston Churchill.

Downhill from the residence is a Memorial Museum of World War I, dedicated to the men in the Colonel's old regiment and containing dioramas with sound effects and explanations as well as many WW I souvenirs. In front of the museum are samples of most of the mobile vehicles used in WW I.

The gardens are around the house and, while there is no collection of lilacs as such, there are plants here and there. There is a fine formal rose garden in which the cultivar, Chicago Peace, originated. And, quite new, are a number of small sections, each treated as an owner could do a suburban property. One is developed in prairie manner and all are designed by Franz Lipp, a landscape architect who has won many national awards for industrial designs and has a trick of using minimal materials for maximum effect.

#

AMBITIOUS PROJECT Mrs. Lourene Wishart, mid-western vice president of ILS has taken it upon herself to boost ILS and the annual meeting by sending a series of 3 letters to all garden clubs in the states in her region telling members of the meeting and arranging for a bus tour to include it.

She also is sending publicity about the meeting and the tour to publications in the surrounding states and generally acting as a real promoter for lilacs in general and ILS in particular.

Her own small garden will be open for visiting from May 1-10 to show the excellent blooms on her few, but fine lilacs.

#

INVITATION TO ILS MEMBERS John Trexler, a new ILS member, who is horticulturist at Skylands, the botanical garden of New Jersey, invites all members to visit Skylands and see its collection of over 200 plants, vulgaris and Preston hybrids plus several species.

Skylands was formerly the 1200 acre estate of Clarence McKenzie Lewis, who built the beautiful English castle. His great hobby was horticulture, and over a period of 28 years he collected plants from all parts of the world. These are in the 250 acre cultivated gardens.

The formal gardens were designed as a series of terraces, opening a view toward the distant hills and divided into lesser gardens. A cupid garden, a lilac garden, etc. are all to be seen.

There are magnolia-lined walks, a half-mile of flowering cherries, greenhouses, a moraine garden, a 5 acre wildflower garden, a pinetum and a collection of azaleas and rhododendrons.

Skylands is in Ringwood NJ., within the confines of Ringwood State Park, in Northern New Jersey, almost at the NY border, on Route 511. It is open from May to October, daily, and there is an entrance fee.

#

WHO IS DOING WHAT AT I.L.S. ... by C. Holetich.

Since one of our publications, "The Pipeline", became a reality and I accepted the duty of its distribution, there has been a great increase in the number of letters addressed to me from I.L.S. membership. Although I like to receive the letters, and have answered promptly each one, a number of the letters received should have been mailed to other I.L.S. officers. I assume that some of the I.L.S. members are not yet aware of who does what at I.L.S. and hopefully the following guidelines may be useful to them.

1. Mail cheques for membership renewal to Walter W. Oakes, I.L.S. Secretary, Box 315, Rumford, Maine, 04276. (Please indicate the type of membership required; regular, sustaining, etc.)
2. Regarding maintenance or cultural problems on lilacs write to Robert B. Clark, I.L.S. President, R.D. #1, Box 288, Meredith, N.H. 03253.
3. Contribution of technical articles and questions related to genus Syringa should be mailed to Fr. John L. Fiala, "Lilacs" Editor, 7359 Branch Road, Medina, Ohio. 44256.
4. Contributions of newsworthy articles of interest to general I.L.S. membership, information on what is happening in your region, etc., should be mailed to Mrs. Isabel Zucker, "The Pipeline" Editor, 708 West Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, 48013.
5. If you wish to obtain back issues of "The Pipeline" write to Mr. Charles Holetich, c/o Royal Botanical Gardens, Box 399, Stn. A, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. L8N 3H8.
6. Official address of the International Lilac Society Inc., is Devereaux Road, Clyde, N.Y. U.S.A., 14433; and not Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton. The address that you find on "The Pipeline" is simply a returning address for undelivered publications.

There are many other officers and directors within I.L.S., each one with a specific assignment. In one of the future issues of "Lilacs" or "The Pipeline" we will list them all for your information.