



Lilac Newsletter

Vol. IX, No. 8, August, 1983

INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY

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.

Articles printed in this publication are the views and opinions of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent those of the editor or the *International Lilac Society*.

This publication, *LILAC NEWSLETTER* (formerly *THE PIPELINE*) is issued monthly. Back copies are available by writing to the International Lilac Society, c/o Mr. Charles Holetich, Royal Botanical Gardens, Box 399, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. L8N 3H8. Please send 50 cents for each copy requested.

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INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY,
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MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION

Single annual	\$ 7.50
Family	10.00
Sustaining	15.00
Institutional/Commercial	20.00
Life	150.00

*Mail membership dues to I.L.S. Secretary

A GOOD MEETING IN MADISON

Our thanks and appreciation go to Kenneth Wood and Prof. Ed Hasselkus for another memorable Lilac Convention held in Madison, Wisconsin May 12 through 15, 1983.

Frederick Center, situated on the banks of Lake Mendota at the University of Wisconsin campus, provided comfortable lodging and excellent food for the group of lilac people who journeyed from Canada, The Northwest, California and the Midwest to see, talk and learn about lilacs.

Skies were overcast most of the time but Ken prevailed upon the powers that be to hold off the rain during our outing. He was not successful, however, in convincing the lilacs to bloom before they had a mind to. Our Midwest weather, sometimes unpredictable, accounted for the late bloom.

During the forenoons there were papers and talks presented -- these will be covered in the Lilacs Proceedings of the 12th Annual Convention to be published at a later date.

Afternoons were devoted to tours of the Longnecker Horticultural Gardens at the University of Wisconsin Arboretum. Also visits to the Wingra Gallistel Woods to see wildflowers and Indian Mounds, to the Curtis Prairie and to the Grady-Tract Greene Prairie, also located at the 1,200 acre Arboretum. Katharine T. Bradley, director of the Arboretum along with her staff and volunteers, welcomed us and made our visit pleasant.

The President's dinner was held on Friday evening and on Saturday evening awards were presented. (These will be listed in the Lilac Proceedings). About 8:00 p.m. Saturday, auctioneer Colonel Schenker in his usual good form, conducted the lilac auction. As reported in the July Newsletter, the auction was a success and brought \$1,457.00 to the ILS treasury.

Marian Dunn, of the Friends of the Arboretum, greeted registrants and presented each with an original design "Mad About Lilacs" button with name included. My button attracted a few comments when I wore it to meetings after I returned to Bellevue. The motif was carried through in the program covers. Our special thanks to those who designed and prepared the program and buttons. Our auctioneer appeared in an original T-shirt which also carried the "Mad About Lilacs" emblem. A number of these were auctioned off in short order. Arrangements of lilacs and spring flowers by the Arbor Hills Garden Club added a nice touch to the reception hall and dining room.

Officers and Directors met early mornings and before dinner to discuss and conduct business matters. Meetings were accented by shouts from the coxswains directing their crews at practice : nearby on the lake.

At the meeting it was proposed to set up a means of advertising in our monthly Newsletter. (See sample ads in this issue). There was also discussion concerning a list or lists of desirable lilacs to make available to our members, many of whom have requested such information. Other highlights covered will be reported here next month and/or in the Lilac Proceedings.

Those who attended the 12th Annual Meeting were enthusiastic, glad to renew friendships and make new ones. I think I even saw Tushka wag approval -- it was the seventh ILS convention for the Vrugtman's dog. (Airedale Terrier)

Mary C. Smith

THE DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER LILAC

by Robert B. Clark

Meredith, NH

The outstanding lilac at Birchwood this spring has been Dick Fenicchia's 'Dwight D. Eisenhower', a 'Rochester' seedling described in 1972. Its florets are large, many with five petals, a pale sky-blue which does not fade. The florets are borne on a long erect thyrse which stands up in spite of rains. I am struck by the similarity of its inflorescences to the topmost ones of 'Edith Cavell', its maternal grandparent.

About 1963, when Alvan R. Grant was superintendent of horticulture at Highland Park, grew seedlings of 'Edith Cavell'. One of these, a slow-growing white-flowered plant, was named 'Rochester'. In this instance white begat white. Dick Fenicchia used 'Rochester' as seed parent and several late Lemoine lilacs as pollinizers, among them 'Mme. Charles Souchet', an intense blue. This cross produced 'Dwight D. Eisenhower' and 'John Dunbar', also a pale sky blue.

I do not know if 'Edith Cavell' has otherwise been used in lilac breeding. I do see a striking resemblance in inflorescences.

Mrs. McKelvey, in "The Lilac", page 294, says in part: "Clusters open, spreading, long or extra-long, showy. Leaves are frequently present at base of the subdivisions of the inflorescence. A fine double-flowered white lilac". Theodore A. Havemeyer, in "Lilac Land descriptive list", 1954, says even more: "Extra large milk white flowers in extra large, long clusters, have made this variety the most wanted of all double whites...At its best we consider none finer; but with us it blooms only

sparingly about two out of three years, although occasionally a few out-of-season blossoms appear in early fall".

* * * * *

The annual Lilac Festival was held in Spokane WA May 14th through the 22nd. Barbara VanderVanter reported that, as usual, it was a big celebration and attracts thousands and thousands of visitors. The Lilac Festival is the pride of Spokane and they invite us all to attend next year.

From Minnesota, Mabel Franklin of Minnetonka writes that Lilac bloom was in its glory for Memorial Day. The blooming season in Minnesota varies, she says, and she's been in Duluth when lilacs were blooming on the 4th of July. Miss Franklin's father imported lilacs from Lemoine in 1929.

We thank Mabel for the color photo she sent from her 90th birthday. It's a pleasure to hear from devoted lilac enthusiasts.

It is not too soon to send notice of lilac festivals or open gardens scheduled in 1984. We will print your date in the Newsletter so that vacationing friends can make plans to enjoy your lilacs.

Editor.

CHIVALRY IS ALIVE AND WELL IN ILS

Mr. Walter Oakes
Box 315
Rumford, ME

Dear Mr. Oakes,

Enclosed is a cheque for my dues (at last! Sorry I'm so late). Please also send me the book Lilac Study by Joseph Dvorak Jr..

Last year you may recall, I wrote and told you of my misadventure at the Des Moines auction, when my 'Krasavitsa Moskvy' which I had just purchased, apparently developed feet and walked off. A short time later, I received a letter from Mr. Holetich saying that you had told him about it and offering to bring another one for me to the auction in Madison.

I have been wanting very much to go to another auction, and also to the meetings, so with that kind of incentive I sure was planning to go to Madison! However, fate intervened, as usual, and I had to stay home. Much to my pleasure and surprise, Max Peterson delivered my plant, so I now have it. It was a lovely large plant, and I put it in a favored location, well protected and mulched. It seems happy in its new home, happier than I am maybe as our weather has been, in a word, awful. So far the lilac doesn't seem to mind, though.

Thanks so much to all three of you generous and considerate members of the Lilac Society! I'm sure that "Beauty" as I affectionately call her, will be the high point of my collection, both for quality and for the thoughtfulness you have shown.

Sincerely,

Lotus Gfeller, 3701 McKinley, 43B
Omaha, NE 68112

OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND EDITOR ELECTED

AT 1983 CONVENTION:

Dr. Owen M. Rogers, University of New Hampshire, Dept. of Plant Science, Nesmith Hall, Durham, NH 03824	President
Walter W. Oakes* Box 315, Rumford, Maine 04276	Secretary
Mrs. Marie Chaykowski* 4041 Winchell Road, Mantua, Ohio 44255	Treasurer
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Supt. Holden's Arboretum,
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Dr. Joel Margaretten*
Leona Valley, CA

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Vice-President

* Signifies incumbent

1984 ILS 13th Annual Convention:

Burlington, Vermont

May 31-June 1st

Econo-Lodge

A memorable experience in beautiful New England
country-on Lake Champlain. Mark your calendar
and make plans to attend.

(QUARTER PAGE AD)

Copies of the Tentative Check List

Still Available

The Tentative Check List by Owen M. Rogers is still available to members of the International Lilac Society for \$1.00 per copy. Many changes have been collected by Freek Vrugtman that will be published later this year, but the original check list still contains much useful information. Members may obtain copies by writing to Dr. Owen M. Rogers, Plant Science Department, University of New Hampshire, Durham, N. H. 03824 and including \$1.00/copy (cheques, if used, should be made payable to ILS). In Canada, members should contact -- and send their payments to -- Mr. Freek Vrugtman, Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3H8.

HAVE AN ADVERTISING MESSAGE?

Full, half, and quarter page advertising space is now available in the Lilac Newsletter. Merely set up your ad as you wish it to appear in its proper size so that it is in camera ready condition.

Full page ads.....\$10.00

Half page ads..... 5.00

Quarter page ads (minimum of 2 insertions at \$2.50 each)..... 5.00

Please send camera ready copies and remittance to:
Walter Oakes, Box 315, Rumford, Maine 04276

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Life..... 150.00

Please mail membership
Dues to I.L.S Secretary:
Walter W. Oakes
Box 315
Rumford, Maine 04276

(QUARTER PAGE AD)

Membership Bonuses
International Lilac
Society

- *Monthly news letters.
- *Annual copy of proceedings.
- *Extra publications from time to time.

--Tell a friend--

(QUARTER PAGE AD)

-Limited Numbered Editions Available-
The Edward A. Upton Scrapbooks of Lilac Information.
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(Quarter page ad)

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This quarter page advertisement is available for
only \$2.50 (minimum of 2 insertions).
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