

Lilacs

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of the International Lilac Society

IN
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Convention Proceedings

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Single or Family / Annual	\$ 20.00
Sustaining	30.00
Institution/Commercial	35.00
Life	250.00

• *Mail membership dues to Asst. Treasurer William F. Tschumi*

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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LILACS 2002

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE

Covers	54
Next Issue Deadline	54
Quarterly Reminder	54
President's Message	55
Editor's Notes	57
2002 Annual Convention	58
Greetings from Cap - a - l' Aigle	58
Reports	
Treasurer	59
Canadian Statement of Accounts	61
Awards Committee	62
Convention Committee	63
Membership Committee	64
Lilac Evaluation Committee	65
Editor's Report	66
Audit Committee	66
2002 Awards	67
Convention Pictures	69
Regional Reports	
New England - Peter Ely	72
Western Canada - Roger Wood	72
Northwest - M. L. Peterschick	73
Fungus problem Hits N. H. Lilacs	75

Cover Story

Front Cover

Rudy Schaffer welcomes ILS members to the Descanso Lilac Garden. From left, Rudy Schaffer and Jack Alexander

Photo credit Brad Bittorf

Back Cover

Entrance to Descanso Gardens, April 4, 2002.

Photo credit William Horman

Next Issue Deadline

The next deadline for material to be used in the fall issue of **Lilacs** will be September 8, 2002.

Quarterly Reminder

Have you written to your Editor lately? He would love to hear from you either positively or negatively,

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Robert Hoepfl, Convention Chairman

Having met in early April has given the majority of convention attendees the opportunity to enjoy our favored lilacs more than once this year. At Descanso Gardens we were rewarded with a plethora of blooming lilacs to enjoy as well as numerous horticultural gems to experience, many of which we northeasterners only had viewed in conservatories. Descanso and the Southern California Lilac Council also treated us to unique lunches, a Margarita reception, a fine President's Dinner and an Awards Banquet overlooking the Los Angeles lights. On our visit to the Huntington Library we were treated to walking tours of the gardens by knowledgeable docents. During the complimentary breakfasts, bus rides and the hospitality room old friendships were renewed and new ones established. Considering the great distance many of us had to travel, this meeting was well attended and we all received a very warm welcome. As other ILS attendees, Marcia and I took advantage of our trip to California by spending additional time touring this diverse State. We enjoyed the breaking waves of the Pacific Ocean to the fresh snow at Tahoe. From the fresh seafood at Fisherman's Wharf, to the tasty vineyards of the Napa Valley, we took it all in.

The Highland Park Lilac Festival ran from May 10-19, the lilacs cooperated but the weather was cool and wet. Later varieties put on a display conducive to passive viewing, as the temperatures are finally warming and the grounds are drying out following over five inches of rain during May.

June 1st dawned clear and bright with a slight breeze, making a perfect day for an outdoor wedding. The beautiful ceremony welcoming Tina into our family was followed by a rousing party that lasted into the wee hours. Now, we need to find some quality time to spend at the Inn at the River.

Regional Vice Presidents in the USA and Canada

Inside the back cover of **Lilacs** we always list the Regional Vice Presidents, whose job it is to keep in touch with the people in their region and act as a clearing house for questions from members in the region, or serve as a conduit of information from ILS. The problem is to know to which region you belong. In most cases it is obvious, but where does the Central Region stop and the South Central Region begin and where does Alaska fit in? In an attempt to clarify the situation and to uncover whatever problems exist, we present the following list of Regional Vice Presidents and the states they cover.

Region 1 New England – Peter Ely

Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island

Region 2 Atlantic – Ted Collins

New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania

Region 3 South – Nicole Jordan

District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, South & West to the Mississippi River

Region 4 Central – Irene Stark

Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin

Region 5 Plains – Max Peterson

Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Montana, Wyoming

Region 6 Northwest – M. L. Peterschick

Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho

Region 7 Pacific – Reva Ballreich

California

Region 8A Southwest Mountains – Bradley Bittorf

Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico

Region 8B Southwest Central – L. D. Allison

Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana

Region 9 Eastern Canada – Frank Moro

Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Ontario

Region 10 Western Canada – Roger Wood

Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, North West Territory, Yukon Territory

Editor's Notes

Membership Dates

Your annual membership runs from January 1 to December 31. Anyone joining during the year receives all the back issues of the quarterly journal to bring them current in the membership year. As long as a renewal payment is received before the third (summer) issue of the journal, no member will be dropped from the mailing list. If you have additional questions, call on our Assistant Treasurer, William Tschumi, at the address inside the front cover or on the membership renewal sheet on the back mailer. (He has you coming or going.)

In a note from Roger Wood (Vice President for Western Canada) he reports that "The weather here is Zone 3 and really rotten this spring. Snowed on May 5-6-7. The lilacs haven't even got leaves yet and my tulips are just starting to bloom."

Your editor didn't think to ask if there were glaciers north of town but it sounds as if they weren't too far away.

Bruce Pert writes: "I have just returned from the International Lilac Society Annual Conference – this year in Los Angeles, California. Wow! What a great opportunity and great lilacs and other gardens, but that is another story. I took along with me 25 copies of a new lilac book entitled 'Lilacs for the Garden' by Jennifer Bennett. From the response and quick purchasing of the books I should have taken at least another 25 books to provide for the hungry ILS members that were present. The book was very well received, thus I had to tell this to the rest of you that were unable to be there. Come and get it!

So check out the website locations that Freek Vrugtman, author of the International Register of Cultivar Names in the Genus *Syringa* L. (Oleaceae) provided to me. It relates to Jennifer Bennett, the writer of the new book "LILACS FOR THE GARDEN". This is not Jennifer's first book.

If you can hold on for a few weeks we are hopeful to have this book available on the International Lilac Society website at www.lilacs.freesevers.com with any profits going to the ILS.

RHS Colour Chart: The new version is now available, price £ 135 including VAT. The 884 colours are arranged in four easy-to-use fans in a boxed set with full instructions in six languages. Please write, telephone or fax: RHS Enterprises, RHS Garden Wisley, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB; Tel: (01483) 212357; Fax: (01483) 212447; Please quote the reference code TG02.

The 31st Annual Convention of the ILS in California

A Report by Rudy Schaffer

The 2002 annual convention is now history. First, I would like to thank you dear members and friends for traveling all the way to the West Coast of this beautiful country. Even if we did not dip the toes into the Pacific waters, we often have a view of the glitter from the La Canada Country Club.

There is one thing I would like to get off my chest and apologize because I had so little time to be with you individually. Perhaps the hot weather a week later made us realize how lucky we were and compliment mother nature for being on our side. Back to you, I want to thank you for joining us in celebrating and enjoying our perhaps most rewarding lilac show ever at Descanso.

For us, however, this is not the end of the glory of lilacdom; rather another beginning by pruning the overgrown plants and giving the younger ones a chance to grow and bloom making the future Descanso Lilac Garden (once called the lilac patch) more beautiful yet.

I want to thank the volunteers, the Descanso staff, and the artists who so kindly took to brush and easel to help, adding by their work for posterity and the glory of the lilacs.

What made our convention so ideally enjoyable is that everything was so close together, making every minute count.

Again, to all of you, many thanks and may you be blessed with many more great experiences of future lilac conventions.

Greetings from Cal-a-Aigle

By Thérèse Duchesnes, Chairman

Bonjour, from Cap-a-l'Aigle, to all our friends of ILS.

First of all, on behalf of Cap-a-l'Aigle, Lilac Village of Charlevoix Bertrand Dion from Tourism Charlevoix and Louis Bergeron, mayor of La Malbaie, I want to thank you all sincerely for your high caring attention during our presentation at the Society's last convention in California. We really look forward to welcoming you all next year for the 2003 convention in Cap-a-l'Aigle.

With all the support of our local partners in Charlevoix, most especially from city council of La Malbaie, we are now actively involved in the first steps of our Lilac Garden, which we've been dreaming of since 1998.

By the time you read these lines, all of our activities for this year's Lilac Time (Le Temps des Lilas) which took place on June 14 and 15 will be over. But we will already be working for our next edition which will be combined with the convention. We reserve you a lot of surprises.

In the coming months we will follow up with additional information about next year's program and how to fly or drive forward Charlevoix. So in 2003, should you be able to be with us, you'll discover a unique part of that land we call Québec and have the opportunity to share with us the birth of a lilac garden. In the meantime, we wish you all the best summer and the most "lilacing" you can hope for. Best regards and see you soon.

International Lilac Society
Treasurer's Report
Comparing 2002 (4/1/2002) with 2001 and 2000
by James Hastings

Credits	2002	2001	2000
Dues	\$5,375.00	\$4,855.00	\$5,750.00
Life Membership/Endow.	250.00	1,280.00	1,760.00
Contributions	371.55	180.00	280.78
Advertising	0.00	100.00	0.00
Publications	113.50	294.50	6.00
Auction	1,746.50	2,160.00	2,501.00
Conference	1,062.84	1,000.00	1,961.66
Interest	3,348.28	3,972.06	3,500.69
Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	1,117.55#
Total Credits	12,267.67	13,841.56	16,877.68

Funds transferred by ILS Canada to ILS U.S. account on 8/2/99

Debits	2002	2001	2000
Miscellaneous	\$1,533.65***	\$4,968.73**	\$10,100.00*
Office Supplies	89.93	64.37	55.69
Journal	4,925.31	4,945.65	4,483.50
Bank Fees	55.28	0.00	8.00
Postage/Shipping@	1,191.23	1,334.13	1,288.10
Color Photo	760.00	710.00	730.00
Phone	0.00	8.00	0.00
Awards	1,504.92	803.20	897.94
Conference	2,671.48	1,000.00	2,037.42
Typing/Fax	96.25	81.50	101.80
Printing (other than Journal)	188.16	141.50	0.00
Total Debits	13,016.21	14,057.08	19,702.45

* Includes \$1,550 donation to Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University
 Includes \$3,000 Certificate of Deposit investment with Key Bank
 Includes \$5,000 Bond investment with Edward Jones Co.

** Includes \$3,745 donation to Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University
 Includes \$1,000 donation to Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario,
 Canada.

*** Includes return of \$1,117.55 plus \$134.10 interest (\$1,251.65 total) to ILS
 Canada on 7/11/01

@ Combined Postage with Shipping category following Erie Park Press assuming
 Quarterly Journal distribution.

Prepared April 1, 2002 by James P. Hastings, Treasurer

International Lilac Society
Treasurer's Report - April 4,2002

Bank Statement (Acct # 190404000696) Key Bank, Skowhegan, ME. 04976 - Balance 3/31/02	\$ 4,016.41
Edward Jones Co. (Account # 212-03072-16) P.O. Box 377, Naperville, IL 60540	
Cert. of Deposit Greenwood Trust Co. 7%	\$ 4,000.00
Cert. of Deposit Key Bank Nat. Assoc. 1.14%	\$ 3,388.63
Corp. Bond Bank Hapoalim 6.75%	\$ 5,000.00
Corp. Bond Federal Nat. Mortg. Assn. 7%	\$ 3,000.00
Corp. Bond Federal Nat. Mortg. Assn. 6%	<u>\$39,000.00</u>
Total Funds Available	\$58,405.04
Funds Held in SPECIAL ACCOUNTS 4/1/02	\$46,464.24
Total Funds in GENERAL ACCOUNT 4/1/02	\$11,940.80

* * * * *

Funds held in SPECIAL ACCOUNTS 4/1/02

Life Member/Endowment Fund		
Brought Forward 4/1/01		\$24,863.66
L.M. 4/1/01 = 125 + 1 = 126 3/31/02	\$ 250.00	
Miscellaneous contributions 3/31/02	<u>\$ 371.55</u>	
Credit 3/31/02	\$ 621.55	<u>\$ 621.55</u>
		\$25,485.21
Plant Propagation Fund (Laurene Wishart)		
4/1/01 = \$1,041.79 + Int \$62.51 \$1,104.30		\$1,104.30
Education & Research		
4/1/01 = \$5,530.27 + Int \$331.82	\$5,862.09	\$5,862.09
Publications (other than Journal)		
4/1/01 = \$678.37 + Int \$40.70	\$719.07	\$ 719.07
C.C.Clark Memorial Fund (Int. deferred to Color Photo Separation Fund)	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Arch McKean (Contribution) (same)	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Colored Photo (Journal) Separation Fund		
Brought Forward 3/31/01	\$3,453.57	
Interest Credit 3/31/02	<u>\$ 600.00</u>	
Funds Available 3/31/02	\$4,053.57	
Debits: 3/31/01 - 3/31/02		
Vol. 30 No 2	\$245.00	
Vol. 30 No 3	\$175.00	
Vol. 30 No 4	\$164.00	
Vol. 31 No 1	<u>\$176.00</u>	
	\$760.00	<u>\$760.00</u>
Balance in Fund 3/31/02	\$3,293.57	<u>\$3,293.57</u>
Total Funds in SPECIAL ACCTS. 3/31/02		\$46,464.24
Total Funds in GENERAL ACCTS. 3/31/02		<u>\$11,940.80</u>
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE		\$58,405.04

Prepared April 1, 2002 by James P. Hastings, Treasurer

ILS CANADIAN STATEMENT of ACCOUNT as of March 12, 2002

by Bruce Peart

	<u>CDN \$\$</u>	<u>US \$\$</u>
Transfer of funds from Jim Hastings July 11, 2001		\$1,251.65 _{us}
Transfer of funds from Frank Moro Sept 28, 2001	\$1,103.03 _{CDN}	
RBG balance on Hand:	<u>\$ 448.37</u>	
As of Oct. 10, 2001 Total Balance on hand	\$ 1551.49	\$ 1251.65
INCOME		
3 x \$20.00 US		<u>\$ 60.00</u>
9 x \$25.00 CDN	\$ 225.00	
1 x \$45.00	<u>\$ 45.00</u>	
Expenses		
Any expenses were covered by RBG		
Balance on Hand (as of March 11, 2002)	\$ 1,821.49_{CDN}	\$ 1,311.65_{us}

Awards Committee Report 2002

Ten awards were presented in 2002 consisting of two Director's Awards, two President's Awards, two Awards of Merit and four Distinguished Recognition Awards.

In an attempt to help future Awards Committees this Committee has compiled an alphabetical list of all awardees with the award and year received. In addition a history of the awards has been compiled chronologically noting award, recipient and text of the award. This turned out to be a much bigger job than envisioned.

A copy of the print out will be provided for the Archives, for the President and for the future Awards Committees. The President and the Awards Committee should pass theirs along to their successors.

It is the hope of this Committee that this be published and available, at a nominal fee, to all who would be interested in it.

This Awards Committee is willing to help future committees with information if asked.

Last year the Committee purchased an embosser, gold seals and paper suitable for awards. These will be sent to the new Committee. Pens were also purchased and not distributed due to duplication. They will be distributed this year.

SUGGESTIONS:

1 - There should be three on the committee with at least two members living close enough to get together thus reducing costly phone calls.

2 - The membership needs to be urged to nominate Awardees.

3 - It would be helpful to call or send a questionnaire to all candidates being considered asking for a biographical sketch including their contributions to ILS. It is impossible for three people to know every one's history and contributions. This way, nothing important will be left out. Candidates should also indicate how they would like to be introduced.

4 - Some way to commemorate the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2002 was discussed. Perhaps a new cultivar of white lilac could be named "New York" or "911" or some other appropriate name and planted somewhere in the city.

Respectfully submitted
Sarah N. Schenker, Chairman
Carla Schenker
William Horman

Suggestions: 2002

There is some confusion concerning the Vice Presidents and the areas they serve. It would help if the areas could be defined and printed out in the "Journal".

Walter Oakes has expressed a wish that the Society found a perpetual scholarship fund to encourage deserving and less fortunate students achieve their horticultural dreams of the wonderful world of lilacs.

It would help us remember our beginnings if a brief biographical sketch of deceased members, including their importance to the society, was included in the quarterly publication of "Lilacs", perhaps one for each issue. This is Bill Horman's idea, and he is willing to help out if the Board and the Editor think it is a good idea.

Convention Committee Report

By Peter Ely and Robert Hoepfl

The Convention calendar of future sites:

2002—La Canada Flintridge, California, April 3-6, 2002. Activities centered around Descanso Gardens and Huntington Gardens (Los Angeles area).

2003—Cap-a-l'Aigle, Village des Lilas, Charlevoix, Quebec, Canada. Early June 2003. Activities centered around this small village with lilacs in every home yard and several areas of large plantings. A very large lilac collection and planting is being developed at the present time. This region has been designated as a World Biosphere Reserve with abundant beauty at every vista – water, mountains, villages, etc. A preview of the area and convention matters will be presented by the Cap-a-l'Aigle committee at the California convention.

2004—Lincoln/Nebraska City area, Nebraska, USA. Dates to be announced in the Lilacs Quarterly Journal (May/June period). Activities may include the Nebraska Arboretum, gardens at Arbor Lodge State Park and the University of Nebraska, as well as a new lilac collection being developed and should be nice for our convention. Information to follow up on more specifics next year.

The following information is only in the first stages of planning:

? 2005—Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, USA. Site of ILS 1978 convention. The college campus has through the years provided numerous horticultural collections – rhododendron, magnolia, cherry, crabapple, azaleas, and of course, the lilac collection which was cared for by Dr. John C. Wister, an ILS founding member. The John J. Tyler Arboretum and area gardens and lilac collections will be seen. The world famous Longwood Gardens is nearby, as well as many Philadelphia garden sites could be additional visits. No convention plans discussed as of this date, but this site will be pursued.

? 2005—Hulga Klager Lilac Gardens, Woodland, Washington, USA. Mrs. Klager started her Lilac Gardens in 1905. Lilacs are today a major part of the work being done at this place. She was a leading hybridizer of lilacs. Many flowers, shrubs and exotic trees make this a wonderful place to view the many lilacs. We would visit it during it's Lilac Week activities where hundreds of lilac plants are offered for sale to the public. I visited the site last year and toured the gardens and nearby area. Discussions have been held with the Garden personnel to develop plans for a convention.

? 2006 through 2009 We will try to develop plans for a convention in a European country – United Kingdom and France could be sites.

? 2010 – Anchorage, Alaska, USA. Visits there in summers of 1999 and 2001 to view the large numbers of lilacs in the area, spoke with nursery persons and met with the city convention bureau. They would be interested and more lilacs would be planted. Preston varieties do will.

? 2006 through 2009 We will make initial contacts with several Mid-West USA and Canadian sites to develop plans for conventions. Some to RE-visit.

ALL MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO CONTACT THIS COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS A CONVENTION IN THEIR AREA OR ELSEWHERE, AS WELL AS ANY CONVENTION MATTER. THANK YOU...

Membership Committee Report

Dave Gressley, Membership Secretary

As of the 27th of April 2002, International Lilac Society reports a total membership of 409. I reported 434 memberships in 2001 and 458 memberships in 2000.

The 2001 statistics memberships comprised 320 annual memberships; we presently have 298 annual memberships. Last year we had 105 lifetime memberships and presently have 102 in that category. The 7 complimentary memberships increased to 8 and ILS still has 2 honorary memberships.

Geographical representation of ILS membership in 2001 was as follows: 354 memberships in the United States, 44 memberships in Canada, 28 memberships in Europe and 8 memberships in Asia. ILS presently has 337 U.S. members., 35 Canadian members, 29 European members, and 8 Asian members. The United States and Canada declined by a combined number of 26 this past year.

On the brighter side of things ILS, the New England folks got together for two impressive flower shows this past February and March. Although she doesn't wish to be distinguished from the other ILS members who contributed their time and energy to the success and enthusiasm generated during these two events, Evie King of Syringa Plus needs to be commended for her organizational skills and her own energetic enthusiasm.

She completed the registration requirements, compiled materials for the ILS exhibit booth to the extent of having fresh cut lilacs delivered from Holland, organized the scheduling of booth sitters and gave away lilacs to those people who became new members of International Lilac Society in the March show. The two shows, the New England Grows and Portland Flower Show, are the biggest spring floral show attractions in New England. Cheers to Evie King and Roger Coggeshall of Syringa Plus although Roger will tell you he only drove. Many thanks to the folks who helped at New England Grows including Amy Melokosy, Tom Nelson of Rabbit Run Nursery, Dick and Eva King of King's Tree Farm and Nursery, Jack Alexander of Arnold Arboretum, Ed Pincus of Third Branch Flower Company, Eric Welzel of Fox Hill Nursery, Steve Jones of Fieldstone Gardens, Lee Dassler of McLaughlin Foundation, Tim Wolfe of Lake Street Garden Center and Kristen. All these people including those individuals representing their own nurseries made time to represent International Lilac Society.

The Portland Flower Show garnered its native area volunteers keeping the ILS display continuously seated. Evie King again organized the logistics and scheduled society members to station the exhibit. Thanks and cheers to Jim Hastings, Alison Brown, Michael Adams, and Sam Harper. Thanks again to Steve Jones, Eric Welzel and Lee Dassler for their help and enthusiasm. If transportation could have been organized, Walter Oakes would have been in attendance also. Howie and Carol Merrill asked to help with the 2003 Portland Flower Show.

During all my conversations with Evie, she emphasized the enthusiasm that abounded from all the people who contributed their time and energy to International Lilac Society.

The spirit of ILS in New England needs to infect the rest of us if this society wishes to do better.

Regional membership lists are being distributed to their respective Vice Presidents.

And to the Assistant Treasurer, William Tschumi, thank you for continuing with your fine work this past year.

Lilac Evaluation Committee Annual Report

By Bruce Peart, Chair

Firstly, I would like to thank the President Bob Hoepfl and my predecessor, Charles Holetich for handing over the reigns of this committee, presently just myself. I am hopeful that I can add many additional interested members to this committee in the coming year.

The events of the past six months of this committee were unique and exciting. As I dug through some archival files of Charles Holetich I found many lilac evaluation forms that had been filled in and ready to be processed. But how does that happen? I was fortunate that we were able to key this data into a database for comparison studies. We can now add your data to this data over 800 entries as time goes on. Everyone in the ILS should have a copy of the paper file card but is now computer generated. You still will need the forms for the field evaluation work that is required. Now you have somewhere to place it. I ask any member who would like to have their data added to the database to please contact me. bpeart@rbg.ca

Lilac Evaluation is something everyone can do but it does take a keen interest. Whether you are evaluating lilacs or tulips, it does take practice. Is it a new lilac or is it just another one of the 1700 different lilacs in the world? Does any one person know all of the known lilacs and their colours? I think not. If so, I would like to meet with them. But there is one thing for certain: a lot of us recognize a lot of them. This is where cooperation and assistance to each other will improve the ILS in so many ways. In the ways of evaluating new, yet different cultivars we can be sharing ideas for the ILS and not for personal gain. This is the direction I wish to travel.

Additional evaluations will be worked over the next few years with lilac cultivars from Russia, China, Poland and possibly Kazakhstan as well as many other relatively new lilac cultivars that have been added to the RBG over the last few years. Other cultivars from North America continue to come in with equal importance and always are certainly welcome. Working from the Lilac register I will clarify data for Freek Vrugtman on some understanding items from the cultivars that we have as well.

So for my first half year term, I have made a little progress to get the wheels turning. Now all I require is more assistance from you and more practice for all of us.

Editor's Report

By Dr. Owen M. Rogers

There have been three issues of Lilacs (Vol. 30, Nos. 3 and 4; Vol. 31, No. 1) published since the last report to the Board. The next issue (Vol 31, No 2) is expected in early April 2002). The issues have averaged just under 28 pages in length. There were no advertisements.

A facsimile copy of Father Fiala's book on lilacs has been published by Timber Press. A facsimile copy, by definition, is an exact copy complete with all the mistakes, typos, etc., that were present in the original first printing. However, this is the best that the Society has until a fully revised edition will be available. Work continues on such a revision but it is not nearly ready.

You may order a copy through your bookstore (soft cover, cost \$34.95) or order it through Frank Moro on his website. Special thanks are due to Frank for agreeing (with some pressure from the Editor) to take on this shipping task.

Vol. 31, No. 1 was the first issue that included the new credit card procedure for paying dues. A member can check off the box for just one year's dues or check to have the dues automatically paid each year until you inform the Treasurer you want the service cancelled.

The credit card service is world wide so that someone with one of the acceptable credit cards can pay their dues at the best transfer rate. This should be of great value to our international members.

We are also in the process of having 10,000 copies of the membership brochure printed by Erie Park Press. They should be ready for distribution by early April.

A new book on lilacs "Lilacs for the Garden" by Jennifer Bennett (Firefly Books Westport CT) has just been published. It contains a number of inaccuracies - as do many first printings - but any book on lilacs is always welcome. A viewing copy will be available at this year's convention.

Audit Committee Report

April 2002

I have examined the books maintained by Mr. James Hastings, Treasurer of the International Lilac Society and find them in good order. Mr. Hastings has been prudent in CD investments of monies not needed at the moment. He also maintains a clear paper trail of all current money expended such that current status of the Society can be determined at any time.

To date all audits have been conducted "in house" and the question of the need of a periodic outside audit has been raised. The advice of a consulting CPA is that this not be done since the cost would be \$1,000 to \$2,000. The Society total value is only \$51,000 and the money transactions are straight forward.

Therefore, until and unless there is cause for concern, the Audit Committee recommends that we continue with "in house" audits.

Respectfully,
Owen M. Rogers
For the Audit Committee

ILS AWARDS 2002

DIRECTORS' AWARD

Walter Oaks

Dixfield, Maine

Founding member of the International Lilac Society

- For hybridizing, introducing and registering lilacs, notably 'Melissa Oakes'
- For serving as corresponding secretary and encouraging new members for over 20 years and counting.



Robert Boddy

Photo Credit: Rudy Schaffer

Robert Boddy

- For compiling historical milestones involved in the development of the "low chill" lilac at Descanso Gardens in Southern California.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD

Descanso Gardens

LaCanada, Flintridge, California

- For re-establishing and promoting the cultivation of "low chill" lilacs in Southern California and for hosting the 2002 International Lilac Society convention.



**Director of
Descanso Gardens**

Photo Credit: Bill Horman



**Joyce Kyarsgaard
Chairperson, S.
Calif. Lilac Council**

Photo Credit: Rudy Schaffer

The Southern California Lilac Council

- For co-hosting the International Lilac Society's 2002 convention at Descanso Gardens.
- For outstanding work in promoting the use of the Lilac in landscaping.
- For educating the public in growing lilacs under California conditions.

AWARD OF MERIT

L. D. Allison

Claremore, Oklahoma

- For serving as Regional Vice President for the "S. Central and West" region since 1993.
- For establishing the lilac garden at Will Rogers State Park in Oklahoma. Only through his tireless efforts was the goal of creating the garden realized.



Bob Ludekens

*Photo Credit: Descanso
Gardens*

AWARD OF MERIT

Robert Ludekens (L.E. Cooke Co.)

- For promoting unusual and outstanding lilacs in California commerce.

DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION AWARD

James Hastings

Skowhegan, Maine

- For distinguished service as the Treasurer of the International Lilac Society.
- For safeguarding I.L.S. money and maximizing the returns on that money.



Jim Hastings

Photo Credit: Brad Bittorf



Bill Tschumi

Photo Credit: Bill Hormon

William Tschumi

Cohoes, New York

- For serving as the International Lilac Society Assistant Treasurer
- For invaluable assistance at the Lilac Auction.

Marvalee and David Peterschick

Rosalie, Washington

- For serving as Regional Vice-President for the "Northwest" since 1998
- For being very much involved with promoting the Lilac and with the yearly Lilac Festival in Spokane, Washington.



The Peterschicks

Photo Credit: Brad Bittorf



Bruce Peart

Photo Credit: Bill Hormon

Bruce Pert

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Horticulturist and Curator of Royal Botanical Gardens Lilac Collection

- For enthusiastically helping wherever needed by the International Lilac Society.
- For the promotion of the "Lilac Register" and making its information readily available to anyone, thus encouraging accuracy, consistency and the use of a universal "Lilac Language".
- For never missing an opportunity to promote the Lilac

Convention Pictures



ILS members arrive at Descanso Gardens, LaCanada Flintridge, CA.

Photo Credit: Brad Bittorf



Colin Chapman and David Gressley.

Photo Credit: Rudy Schaffer



Carla Schenker, Sally Schenker, Kay Heard and Darlene Peterson.

Photo Credit: Bill Hormon



Group Picture. Photo Credit: Descanso Gardens



All aboard! Photo Credit: Bill Hormon



*Bob Boddy and daughter.
Photo Credit: Rudy Schaffer*



*Peter Ely reports on
future conventions.
Photo Credit Brad Bittorf*



*(left) Dr. Owen
Rogers presents
the editor's report.
Photo Credit: Brad
Bittorf*



*(right)
Assistant Treasurer
William Tschumi
accepts and awards.
Photo Credit: Brad
Bittorf*



*Jim & Irene Stark of Ludington,
Ma. Photo Credit: Bill Hormon*



*Rudy Schafer
Photo Credit: Bill Hormon*



*(left) Rudy Schaefer and
Mrs. Sally Schenker.
Photo Credit: Bill Hormon*



At the Auction. Photo Credit: Rudy Schafer

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL REPORT

By Peter Ely

Several regional members reported problems with a lilac scale, with one Connecticut member having such a large problem that it destroyed numerous well established lilacs. The Connecticut State Agricultural Experimental Station personnel visited the site many times to evaluate the problem and assist in eradicating the problem. Improvement is seen and there are very few signs of its return.

Several Garden Clubs were visited to give lilac programs to and to provide information on the care, planting and varieties of the lilac.

A Regional Newsletter is planned which could better serve the members throughout this large area and provide closer contact - helping members to gain lilac information as well as to keep in touch with others. Should any member desire to help on this, please contact me. Tel: 203-888-2628 or e-mail at sely634929@aol.com.

WESTERN CANADA REGIONAL REPORT

By Roger Wood

Hello, Members of the I.L.S. Boy that sounds Like I.R.S. Brrr!! I have a letter from Robert Hoepfl that it's time for the Regional Vice-Presidents and Committee Chairs to "Require an annual report on the activity in your region."

Well, it's the 6th day of March 2002 and it's -27 degrees Celsius outside so other than stocking firewood into the wood stove there's NOTHING stirring, not even the mouse.

We do have two lilacs blooming but we cheat a lot here in the frozen North. They are in heated greenhouses!! The lilacs I buy from Frank and others would take six or seven years to bloom if planted outside. So my friends Don and Annett Fuller and I have a deal where I leave the small plants in their Greenhouse for up to three years. This is also on fruit trees as I buy cherry seedlings and split them half to me and half to Annett. So "Wedgwood Blue" and "Spring Parade" are blooming. The greenhouse smells just heavenly!!

Boy, have I got a job, as most folks around here only know two lilacs - the Purple one and the White one. I have around 80 different now and adding more, but (1) I'm on a side road off the Highway; (2) Lilacs only bloom May and June here. I did an interview for the local paper two or three years ago, but again, who read it?

The local nurseries sell up to 10 different ones now, BUT in my experience they are NOT always what label says they are. I've been burned twice, and now buy from Frank and not local.

Three hundred miles north of Vancouver B.C., Canada is NOT the place for a Lilac garden to display to the public. Again, someone has to do the job of Regional Vice-President for Western Canada, so for any in my region who wants information of any kind or help, please write. I'll try to help.

Roger Wood

Box 265

Lac La Hache

B. C. Canada

V0K 1T0

Phone (250) 396-4174

Northwest Regional Report

by MarvaLee Peterschick

April signals time is short till we again start the traditional lilac bloom period. Record cold temperatures in late March with lots of snow has delayed signs of spring.

Spokane Lilac Society is busy digging and potting up lilac shoots preparing for their annual sale on April 27 & 28 at Manito Park. This past year, the Society had public exposure with educational displays at Finch Arboretum Arbor Day, Garden Expo in May, and Interstate Fair in September. President Geri Odell will be doing a special seminar on May 5th at Manito Park titled "Lilacs of Manito." The Spokane Lilac Festival in Spokane will start on May 11th and continue through May 18th with the grand torchlight parade at 7:30 p.m. Festival buttons are selling well at \$3. The lilac society continues to send a small gift lilac to area towns with the lilac festival float as it visits celebrations across the Northwest and Canada.

Last November at the Lilac Society Annual Meeting, guest speaker was Richard J. Naskali, Arboretum Director for the university of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho. He informed members of how the Arboretum and Botanical Garden has developed since 1982 with an outstanding lilac collection. The Idaho State Federated Garden has developed since 1982 with an outstanding lilac collection. The Idaho State federated Garden Clubs funded many European-derived lilacs establishing the special lilac grove in 1986. Since then, the Arboretum Lilac Collection has grown to 175 lilac plants. Plan to visit this beautiful lilac collection when in bloom between May 15 & June 1st. For further information, contact Richard at (208) 885-6250. Many of Spokane Lilac Society members had the pleasure of a personal guided tour last year.

The Hulda Klager Lilac Gardens in Woodland, WA has their Lilac Festival from Saturday, April 20th through Sunday, May 12th. They have a wonderful web page you will enjoy visiting at www.lilacgardens.com.

Microplant Nurseries, Inc. located in Gervais, Oregon - a wholesale company produces rooted plantlets and microcuttings. They have two new lilacs available this year, 'Betsy Ross', a white *Syringa oblata* released from the U. S. National Arboretum, and 'Lilac Sunday,' light purple *Syringa* × *chinesis* introduced by the Arnold Arboretum in 1997.

To update you on the progress of the 'Spokane' Lilac, Lynn Canton at Briggs Nursery had some of the cuttings that hybridizer Reva Ballreich sent last May growing, then as time went on, she reported last July three test tubes survived the initiation process, not a resounding success. Then this past January, Lynn reported she had not been able to stimulate the plants to grow or multiply by frequent transfers to fresh media and trying alternate medias. On March 11, I delivered in person to Briggs Nursery a small stock plant from the 'Spokane' lilac growing on the Peterschick Farm South of Spokane. On March 20, Reva sent dormant scions from her 'Spokane' lilac to Olympia. With any luck, we still might be able to introduce the beautiful double pink *Syringa vulgaris* lilac in 2003. One parent is 'Tita' by Joel Margaretten named after his wife. Other areas of News on lilacs in the Northwest is greatly appreciated. Send to (509) 523-4063.

37307 Old SR 195

Rosalia, WA 99170

e-mail: davidpeterschick@hotmail.com

Convention 2003 in Cap-a-l'Aigle

Quebec, Canada

*By ILS Convention Committee and Information
from Charlevoix Region Tourist Association.*

Cap-a-l'Aigle, a picturesque "Lilac Village", as it has been named, is lined with lilacs each June bringing visitors a vista of color and beauty. Our next ILS Convention will be hosted by the Cap-a-l'Aigle Village des Lilacs and the Charlevoix Association Touristique Regionale.

Charlevoix is one of the most beautiful regions of Quebec, packed with magnificent landscapes, thrilling panoramas, picturesque villages and a region of great nature, culture and history. All these outstanding natural and cultural features led UNESCO to designate Charlevoix a World Biosphere Reserve in 1989, one of only 350 reserves in the world. It is within this setting that the Lilac Village of Cap-a-l'Aigle is situated, within the larger town of nearby La Malbaie. It is where Malbaie River empties and the majestic Laurentian Mountains tumble into the waters of the St. Lawrence River.

Our June 2003 International Convention activities will be amidst this resplendent natural backdrop, and of course the lilacs will add to the splendor. The Village and people of Cap-a-l'Aigle have for years planted lilacs throughout their village, in fields, along roadways and among the flowers. We will also be among the first group of visitors to observe a very ambitious plan of making a very large and beautiful lilac garden within this village - we will witness their "Birth of a Garden of Lilacs"!

The 2003 Convention details, travel information and lodging for time before or after the Convention will be listed in the next couple of Lilac Quarterly Journals. The date in June (during the first two weeks) will coincide with their LeTempe des Lilas - annual lilac festival. Plan to extend your stay to see more of this enchanting area. Briefly, Cap-a-l'Aigle is about 90 miles (140 km) northeast of Quebec City along the north side of the St. Lawrence River. Quebec City would have the nearest large airport for air travelers. Rail, rental autos and bus services are available to Cap-a-l'Aigle.

For more about Cap-a-l'Aigle, the Convention and the Charlevoix area please contact us at:

Cap-a-l'Aigle Village des Lilas
762, rue St. Raphael
La Malbaie (Quebec) G5A 2P2
Phone (418) 665-2127
Fax: (418) 665-2679
www.villagedeslilas.com

Charlevoix
Association Touristique Regionale
495 Boulevard de Comporte, C.P. 275
LaMalbaie (Quebec) Canada G5A 1T8
Phone: 1-800-667-2276
Fax: (418) 665-3811
www.tourisme-charlevoix.com

The ILS website at: lilacs.freesevers.com will provide information on the Convention and various related topics as well. Please visit us.

Fungus Problem Hits N.H. lilacs

By June Fuerderer, Contributing Writer

Originally published in the Keene Sentinel in May, 2002. Used with permission.

A problem with the old lilacs at the Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion in Portsmouth was discovered about three years ago, according to Owen Rogers, professor emeritus at the University of New Hampshire. Because the state flower can be traced back to 1750, these lilacs must be preserved with great care.

According to the Governor's Lilac and Wildflower Commission booklet, "The first time lilacs are mentioned in New Hampshire history is in 1750 when Governor Wentworth enlarged his house and the plantings around it. Since the only plant that has ever been planted near the house was a lilac, we believe it was in 1750."

The problem affecting those lilacs is a fungus disease known as Armillaria root disease, also known as black shoestring rot and in England, honey fungus. This fungus is known to damage ornamental trees and shrubs and to affect forests.

Armillaria root disease has been found in nearly every state in the continental U.S. It is also found in tropical and temperate areas of the world. It is native to our soil, causing concern when vegetation is under stress. Its hosts include hundreds of species of shrubs, trees, and vines growing in our forests, along roadsides and even in our cultivated areas.

Armillaria invades the bark and cambial region or roots and the root collar, killing roots and trees of all sizes. This disease selects plants that have been weakened by freezing, drought, polluted air, damaged by mechanical equipment and defoliated by insects. The fungus can persist for decades in decaying wood in soil.

In the Diseases of Trees and Shrubs report by Wayne A. Sinclair, professor of plant pathology at Cornell University, "Diseased trees and shrubs occur singly or in groups. Symptoms above ground are growth reduction, which may be abrupt or gradual, yellowish or undersized foliage, premature leaf drop, branch dieback in the upper crown, or rapid browning and death of the entire plant during summer. Growth reduction becomes noticeable after more than half the root system is already dead. Dying conifers sometimes produce a distress crop of numerous small cones."

This fungus can be identified by the presence of white fungus tissue between the bark and the wood of the main stem at or below the soil line or beneath the bark of large roots. It's been said that fresh Armillaria has a pleasant odor, similar to that of fresh mushrooms. The presence of mushrooms, the reproductive stage of the fungus, around the bases of infected plants help to identify this fungus.

Why is Armillaria causing a problem now, especially with the lilacs at the Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion? Cheryl A. Smith of the UNH Cooperative Extension, Department of Plant Biology in Durham, said this area suffered from a drought in 1996, and each year since we've experienced partial drought conditions. Any tree or shrub under such stress is susceptible to this disease.

According to Owen Rogers, there is no cure for this disease. However, since it was identified, everything is being done to ensure the lilacs "grow faster than the fungus." This is done by checking the soil to make sure the Ph is between 6.5 and 6.7. The correct Ph will allow the soil to absorb nutrients.

Plenty of fertilizer is being applied in both spring and fall. At present a high nitrogen fertilizer is being used to encourage leaf growth in the Portsmouth lilacs. Micronutrients are also added. A drip irrigation system has been installed. Depending on how the lilacs grow, Rogers said they may ease up on the high nitrogen fertilizer and switch to one that helps produce flowers. He is happy to report that the old lilacs at the Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion have lots of buds.

The New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. will present a check for \$7,500, a donation from the Lilac Endowment Fund, to the University of New Hampshire on May 19 at the New Hampshire Lilac Festival. This money will be used toward the continued research of the lilac blight.

Because these fungi are indigenous to many areas and live on a wide variety of plants and woody material, its eradication or complete exclusion is not feasible. Management should be directed toward limiting disease build-up or reducing its impact.

June Fuerderer is horticultural chairman of the Old Homestead Garden Club.

International Lilac Society

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