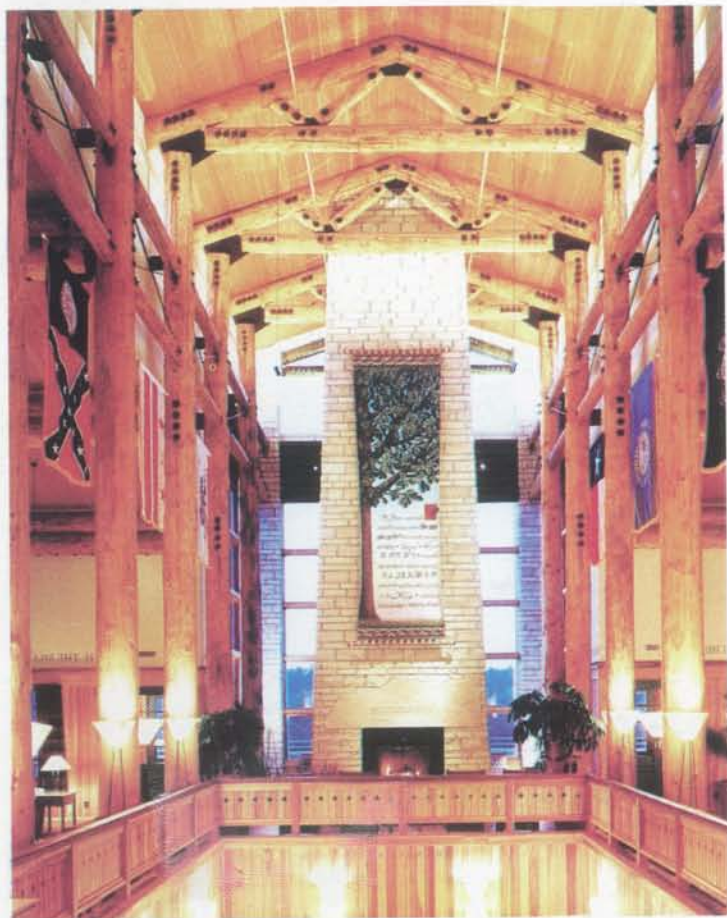


Lilacs

VOLUME 33, NUMBER 1
WINTER 2004



QUARTERLY JOURNAL

of the International Lilac Society

IN
THIS
ISSUE:

Welcome
New Members

VOLUME 33, NO. 1

QUARTERLY JOURNAL

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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 2004

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Message	2
Editor's Notes	4
Covers	3
Next Issue Deadline.	3
Quarterly Reminder	3
2003 Convention Attendees	5
2004 Convention Information	5
Tentative Convention Schedule	7
Cap-à-l' Aigle Village Des Lilacs 2003 Conference Report	9
Tentative List of Lilacs for Auction	10
European Newsletter – Colin Chapman	12
New Cultivars from Donetsk – Colin Chapman and Irina Semyonova.	14
Moscow Journal- Tatiana Poliakova & Irina Semyonova	17
From the Registrar's Desk	
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i> 'Lee Jewett Walker' Berdeen (SV) reviewed	20
2002 Lilac Registrations	21
What's In a Name	23
Lilacs in the Landscape – Part IV	24
<i>Syringa Villosae</i> Group – Marco Hoffman	25
Appeal for Help For the Preston Heritage Lilacs at Ottawa's Central Experimental Farm	28
Annual West Newbury Lilac Walk/Tea –	28
Christopher Wilson	
Membership List 2003	31

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Holiday greetings to all lilac enthusiasts. I hope you all had time to visit with family and friends during this joyous season.

The 2004 convention is meeting in Nebraska and the local committee is doing a great job to organize our time there and make it a memorable occasion. Although many members are disappointed in not visiting Meadowlark Farms, Max Peterson promises to bring his lilacs to us. We are meeting in eastern Nebraska and Max's place is in the western part of the state.

Recently some of us have had the opportunity to view a number of the Russian developed cultivars via the internet. They are truly outstanding examples of what's new in the lilac world. Hopefully prints will be available for viewing at the convention.

Thanks to all who have recommended possible Award recipients. The committee will evaluate these suggestions and make selections.

Lilac collectors and managers of lilac collections please relate your experiences with MLO disease. Just send a note to the Editor and he will compile your remarks in a future issue of 'LILACS'.

Check the mailing label on this issue and renew your membership.

Don't forget to patronize our advertisers.

Many of us are concerned about our southern California members as to how they fared during the recent forest fires. Please inform us of your experiences. I'm sure we would be interested and willing to assist if necessary, let ILS know what your needs are.

Covers

Front

Lied Conference Center Lobby. Photo Credit: Arbor Day Farm

Back

A Saso lilac that will be in the auction.

Photo Credit: Max Peterson

Next Issue Deadline

Next issue deadline – March 8th, 2004

This will be the Conference Issue and the deadline will be strictly followed.

Quarterly Reminder

Have you thought of volunteering to accept a position in the International Lilac Society? Your Regional Vice President or the President – Bob Hoepfl or any member of the Board can let you know of many opportunities.

EDITOR'S NOTES

This is going to be a large issue. Everybody seemed to get their material together this fall. Unfortunately there were several mistakes and/or typos in the fall issue, Vol. 32, No. 4, that must be corrected.

NEEDED CORRECTIONS IN THE FALL ISSUE (Vol 32 No. 4)

Confusion of Commercial and Life Memberships Notes. In all places it should read:

Commercial Membership \$50.00 US
Life Membership \$250.00 US

The Editor has been asked to come up with a good recipe for the preparation for "...A spray of petrified eggs..." in the TIPS FOR BEGINNERS. He will admit that a spray of "putrefied" eggs might have been more effective but the whole thing is beginning to smell. Perhaps some "beginner" can figure out a way to throw the eggs as an effective application procedure. Do you suppose that 100 year old eggs would fit both categories?

Please note that William Tschumi lives at 3 Paradise Court instead of 2 Paradise Court

...and, a biggy...

The name of Frank Moro's 2004 mail order catalogue is entitled "Reflections of Passion" not "Pasion" and he also sells loads of peonies, hostas, daylilies and many other wonderful plants; he has no public health information.

Also, the Syringa Plus phone number was omitted. It is (978)352-3301.

Bob Hoepfl had a phone call from Evie King who just received a message that our dear friend Reva Ballreich has suffered another heart atyack. Her family is looking into placing her in a Nursing Home for recovery. I encourage all to send her get well cards and notes as these are invaluable reminders of the friends she has. As of Jan. 9th. Reva has a new adress. Due to health issues, she is staying with her daughter Julie. She welcomes your cards, letters and phone calls. Yes, it is okay to telephone her. Reva Ballreich

6550 Juniper Crest
Auga Dulce, CA. 91250
Tel. (661)-269-5544

In volume 32 no. 2 (Spring 2003) we published a paper Mikolaj Karpow-Lipski. The paper contained a number of errors (mostly diacritical marks) which only got worse as we tried to tinker with the print. We have decided to withdraw the paper for now. Anyone interested in the paper can get a correct copy of the manuscript from the author or Freek Vrugtman.

2003 Convention Attendees

June 5-8, 2003

Village des Lilas, Charlevoix Canada
Complete revised list

Peter Ely
Robert Clark
David Gressley
John & Ellen Thurlow
Aldona Kasper
Michael & Stanis Beck
David & Barbara Hightshue
John & Ann Carvill
Jean Herrington
Carrie Hudson
Bradley Bittorf
Jim & Irene Stark
William & Jane McMickle
Margaret Walton
Bruce Peart
William Horman
Owen Rogers
Woody & Jane Barnes
Tim & Karen McCauley

Mary Lizotte
Bob & Marcia Hoepfl
William & Shirley Tschumi
Dan Meier
Elaine St. Pierre
Norman Aleks
Diana Werginz
Amy Plamann
Giles Waines
Robert Fahlman
David Mendel
Josee Savard
Renee LaSalle
Richard Portelance
Konrad Kircher
Frank Moro
Susan Ramser
Jeff Young
Jack Alexander
Stephen Schneider

2004 Convention Information

The site of the 2004 Convention is the beautiful Arbor Day Farm Complex in Nebraska City, Nebraska. More than a few of you may be wondering just where Nebraska City is located. The answer – just 44 miles south of Omaha.

Which leads to your next question – where's Omaha? Answer – right in the center of the United States! Omaha is easy to travel to and is generally less than four hours by plane from either coast. And for those who will be driving, you'll find Omaha is strategically located at the intersection of Interstates 80 and 29.

Major airlines provide service to Eppley Airfield, located just north of Omaha. You can arrange to rent a car there and drive to Nebraska City. You may prefer to use one of the two shuttles provided by the Lied Conference Center – ask about the shuttles when you call the hotel for your room reservation.

We will provide phone numbers, maps, car rental information, etc. in the Spring *Lilacs Journal* to assist you in making your travel plans.

The Lied Conference Center at the Arbor Day Farm will serve as the headquarters for convention activities. The Farm is a 260 acre complex which was once part of the estate of J. Sterling Morton, the founder of Arbor Day. Visitors will enjoy trail systems in a diversified natural setting that includes a dense oak/hickory forest, a living stream, nut tree and conservation tree arboretums, and acres and acres of apple orchards.

Guests at the Lied Conference Center will enjoy the indoor pool, solarium, Jacuzzi, sauna, exercise facility, walking trails, jogging, and nearby golf course. The interpretive nature trails provide a relaxing yet educational opportunity to explore the wonder of Arbor Day Farm. At the entrance of the Lied you'll see lilacs that were provided by Nebraska ILS members in 1997.

At nearby Arbor Lodge State Historical Park, we will tour hundreds of lilacs also provided by and planted by Nebraska ILS members in 1996, 1997 and through 2002. There are many lilac plantings interspersed throughout the J. Sterling Morton Arboretum, and a large collection is planted on a path that curves through a seven-acre track just north of the arboretum.

Plan to arrive early so you can enjoy the Thursday evening old-fashioned county welcome we have planned for you. We'll start with a hayrack ride and tour of the area followed by a country supper at the restored historic Morton Barns. After dinner, we'll round out the evening with a bonfire at the Morton Oak which will provide the opportunity to relax and visit.

A look at the Convention Schedule will assure you that Friday and Saturday are chock full of activities. Friday, all activities are in Nebraska City – starting with touring the lilacs there.

Our Lilac Plant Auction will be held Friday afternoon. Max Peterson and Reva Ballrich have contributed beautiful and rare plants for the auction and you won't want to miss the chance to add some of these beauties to your collection. If you have any plants or items you would like to contribute to the sale, please contact Max Peterson. All funds raised help to fund our organization. The Auction List has been included in this Journal.

Saturday, we'll bus north to Omaha to tour lilacs in and around that area; we'll tour the world's largest indoor rain jungle, teeming with exotic plants; we'll also tour the world's largest indoor desert exhibit which is housed in a 13-story high glazed geodetic dome. If desert plants are of little interest, the architecture of the dome will surely be worth seeing. We'll tour the lilac collection at Lauritzen Gardens, Omaha's Botanical Center. These plants were donated by and planted by Nebraska ILS members several years ago. After our tours in Omaha, we'll head out of the city to visit the lilac garden of ILS members Don and Bev Maxon. Don has been building his collection for years and is anticipating sharing it with you.

Give some serious thought to arriving a few days early and lingering awhile after the Convention. Take in the Annual Arbor Day Celebration held the weekend before our Convention. Book a dinner excursion on the River City Star riverboat (or perhaps a moonlight cruise) and experience the Missouri River traveled by Lewis and Clark. Visit Joslyn Art Museum, shop at Omaha's Old Market, visit

Henry Doorly Zoo, shop at Nebraska City's quaint antique and retail shops, tour Nebraska City's historical sites, tour Boy's Town, the Strategic Air & Space Museum, visit Lewis & Clark Historical Sites, the Des Moines, Iowa Lilac Garden, and possibly make a trip to Max and Darlene Peterson's Meadowlark Hill Garden near Ogallala. There's more! See the web sites we've listed.

Nebraska – The Good Life – Come See What it's All About!
Nebraska Convention Committee

Web sites of interest:

www.arbordayfarm.org/

www.liedlodge.org/

www.nebraskacity.com

www.visitnebraskacity.org

www.omahabotanicalgardens.org

www.omaha.zoo.com

www.kiewit.com/project/pro

www.omahaoldmarket.com

www.visitomaha.com

www.downtownomaha.org/

www.rivercitystar.com

www.visitnebraska.org

www.ngpc.state.ne.us/

www.eppleairfield.com

www.omaha.org

You can call 1-800-826-7275 for a Nebraska State Parks Brochure

You can call 1-800-228-4307 for Tour Nebraska Information

Tentative Convention Schedule

NEBRASKA CITY, NEBRASKA

MAY 6, 7, 8 – 2004

THURSDAY, MAY 6

Noon – 9 PM	Registration
2:00 – 5:00	Directors Meeting – Hospitality Room
6:00 – 7:00	Hayride/Shuttle Ride – Tour of area
7:00 – 8:00	Nebraska-style Country Supper at Historic Morton Barnes
8:00 – 9:30	Bonfire at Morton Oak

FRIDAY, MAY 7

7:30 – 8:30	Breakfast – Lied Conference Center Main Floor Dining Room
8:30 – 11:30	Board shuttles to tour Arbor Lodge lilacs, Morton Mansion
11:30 – 12:00	Free time – relax before lunch
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch at Lied Conference Center – Downstairs Dining Room
1:00 – 2:00	ILS Annual Meeting in Lied downstairs dining room
2:00 – 2:45	Speaker Lanny Rawdon, "A Pageant of Trees"
2:45 – 3:30	Speaker Bruce Peart, "Let's Talk Lilacs"
3:30 – 6:00	ILS Plant Auction (open to the public)
6:00 – 7:00	Free time – relax and dress for dinner
7:00 – 8:00	President's Dinner – Lied downstairs Dining Room
8:00 – 8:45	Meadowlark Hill Lilac Garden Slide Presentation by Max Peterson
9:00 – 10:00	Hospitality Room Gathering – Equipment will be available for sharing lilac slides, videos, photos.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

- 7:00 – 7:30am Directors Meeting – Hospitality Room
7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast - Lied Conference Center Main Floor Dining Room
8:30 – 9:15 Buses to Omaha
9:15 – 12:30 Tour Lied Jungle and Desert Dome at Henry Doorly Complex
12:30 – 12:45 Buses to Omaha Botanical Gardens
12:45 – 1:45 Lunch at Omaha Botanical Gardens
1:45 – 2:45 Tour lilacs at Omaha Botanical Gardens
2:45 – 3:30 Buses to ILS member Don Maxon's Gardens
3:30 – 4:30 Tour Don Maxon's Lilac Gardens
4:30 – 5:00 Buses to Nebraska City
5:00 – 6:30 Free time – relax and dress for dinner
6:30 – 6:45 To Steinhart Park Lodge for Awards Banquet
7:00 – 8:00 ILS Awards Banquet
8:00 – 9:30 Awards Presentation
9:30 – 9:45 Return to Lied Conference Center
10:00 - ?Hospitality Room – “Last Night” Social Gathering

SUNDAY, MAY 9

Breakfast on your own and departure

CAP-À-L'AIGLE VILLAGE DES LILAS – 2003 ILS CONFERENCE REPORT

Revenues	U.S. FUNDS	CDN FUNDS	
Registrations			
US Funds	\$7,487.50	\$10,533.42	
CDN Funds		843.50	
Accommodations			
US Funds	9 595.00	13,498.46	
Donations			
ATR de Charlevoix		1,000.00	
Rosaire Bertrand		1,000.00	
Total Revenue		\$26,875.38	\$26,875.38

EXPENSES

Meals & Refreshments		
Le Relais des Saveurs		\$6,708.78
June 5 th : 85 meals at \$32		
June 6: 55 lunch boxes at \$32		
June 6 th Presidential Supper 55 meals at \$32.00		
Plus applicable taxes		
Al Dente		
June 7 th Buffet Place Aiglon		512.83
June 7 th Supper "Temps des Lilas" 50 tickets		1,250.00
Brunch June 8 th 50 tickets		457.00
SAQ – Hospitality Room		498.64
Beverages		125.00
Accommodations		
Auberge les Peupliers		2,055.66
Auberge la Mansarde		1,619.14
Auberge Fleurs De Lune		2,952.92
La Maison Victoria		2,414.38
Gite Claire Villeneuve		651.00
Gite Le Breton		210.00
Guest Lecturer Mr. Rock Giguère		75.00
Organiser Paul-Christian Nolin		5,000.00
Documentation		
Boum Communications		1,155.75
(Welcome, menu, guest speaker resume)		
Charlevoix Printers – regional map		79.71
Zone Image – Group photo		19.48
Gifts for guests		467.50
Transportation for Garden Tours		172.54
Dollarama – Misc.		<u>63.27</u>
Total Expenses		\$26,488.60

GRAND TOTAL Net Profit	26.488.60	386.78
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TENTATIVE LIST OF LILACS FOR AUCTION

<u>CULTIVAR NAME</u>	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>No. OF PLANTS</u>
Addie Tischler	DV	1	2
Akademik Burdenko	D III-IV	2	1
Al Lumley	S I-II	1	3
Alma-Atinskaya	S II	2	1
Andre Csizik	S VI	1	2
Anne Shiach	S VII	1	1
Belaya-Noch	D V	2	1
Beth	D I	1	2
Betty Stone	S IV	1	5
Bicentennial	S III	1	2
Bill Heard	D VI	1	3
Blue Boy (Sass)	S III	1	2
Blue Delft	S III	1	2
Blue Reverie	S III	2	1
Blue Ice	S III	1	1
Bluets	S III	1	2
Bob Tischler	S II	1	2
Colmariensis	S III	1	1
Dancing Druid	S IV	1	3
Darlene	D V	1	1
Debelderorum	S IV	1	2
Dorothy Ramsden	S VII	1	1
Dr. Brethour	S VII	1	1
Duplex	D IV	2	1
Dusk	S VII	1	1
Dzhavakharlal neru S	VII	2	1
Flora	S I	1	4
Frederick Law Olmsted	S I	1	2
General Sherman	S V	1	1
Glacier	D I	1	1
Humility	S I	2	1
Holy Maid	S V	2	1
Independence	S I	1	2
Joan Dunbar	D I	1	2
Johan Mensing	S II	1	1
Juliane "Hers"	S IV	1	3
Julien Gerardin	D IV	1	2
Karla	S II	1	2
Kingsville	S VII	1	2
Kosmos	S II	1	1
Krnskaya Krasavitsa	S III-IV	2	1
Lady Lucille	S V	1	1
Laura L. Barnes	D III	1	2
Lesostepaaya	D V-VI	1	2

<u>CULTIVAR NAME</u>	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>No. OF PLANTS</u>
Marengo	S VI	1	3
Marie Francis	S V	1	2
Martha Kounze	D V	1	2
Mauve Mist	S II-VI	1	1
Max Peterson	S VI	1	1
Miss Muffet	SV-VI	1	1
mme. Fallieres	S IV	1	2
Moonbeam	S II	1	1
Mrs. August Belmont	S III	1	1
Mrs. Trapman	S VII	1	2
Mrs. Watson Webb	S VI	1	1
My Blue Heaven	S III	1	1
Nadezhda	D III-IV	1	1
Nancy Frick	S V	1	1
Nebraska Dawn	S VI	1	1
Norah	S IV	1	1
Oaks Homestead	D I	1	1
Ogni Donbassa	D IV	1	2
Olimpiada Kolesnikova	D IV-V	1	1
Pamyat o. S. M. Kirove	D IV	1	1
Pamyat o. Vekhove	D II	2	1
Patricia	D VI	1	1
Pink Diamond	D V	1	1
Red Pixie	S VI	1	1
Porcelain Blue	S III	1	2
Professor Robert Clark	S I-V	1	1
Purple Mystery	S VII	1	1
Pixie	S I	1	1
Reva Ballreich	D VI	1	1
Satin Cloud	S I	1	1
Sculptured Ivory	S I	1	1
Slater's Elegance	S I	1	1
Spring Parade	S IV	1	2
St. Joan	D I	1	2
Starry Skies	D V	1	2
Sunset	D V	1	1
Tara Bulba	D IV	1	1
The Bride	S I	1	1
Tiffany Blue	S III	1	1
Tom Taylor	D VII	1	2
Victory	S V	1	1
Wild Fire	S IV	1	1
Zhemchuzhina	D V	1	1

Sources: 1 – Max Peterson; 2 – Reva Ballreich. (These plants were grown on their own roots.) NOTE: THE PLANTS WILL BE AUCTIONED IN THE ORDER THEY APPEAR ON THIS LIST.

EUROPEAN NEWSLETTER

By Colin Chapman

At the end of my last piece I asked if anyone could do a raindance. It was intended as a wry joke at my own expense which I was going to extend by asking anyone who wanted to claim the offered double fee to send the photographic evidence to me for publication here. By the end of October, my own problems with climate and weather suddenly paled into insignificance with the devastation visited upon the good folk of Southern California by the forest and bush fires. After watching the TV coverage of the situation around Julian, it was ultimately a relief and a blessing to find that Jane and Woody Barnes were safe and that the lovely Manzanita ranch-house had been spared. I had been staring at an empty page, unable to start this essay, until that news came via Reva and David. My visit there after the Los Angeles Convention with Brad and the gang is still one of the red-letter days of my involvement with this Society.

The rains eventually came to us at the end of October to end one of the longest, driest spells this country has known. Unfortunately it came too close to the winter frosts for grass seeding but we decided to take a risk and hope for a mild November. So far, it has been the warmest on record and this week germination started and a fine green mist is slowly coating the ground. If we can be frost free for another two weeks then the grass should be safe. I can now start building the fence and then be ready to start planting in March. I will soon know what I owe and, hence, what I can afford to spend on a digital camera.

I have made one other spectacular piece of progress. I have been worried about how I could maintain the garden when it reaches 7 acres (3.5 ha). My local service engineer suddenly had for sale a Kubota mini-tractor with powered tilling, spraying and grass cutting attachments which came from a very good home. These machines are gold-dust to the smallholder market and are rarely available second-hand, so I asked for an immediate demonstration and bought it on the spot. It means that I will be able to maintain the new land without the need for outside contractors and I got it for less than half the price I expected to pay. This also explains Tatiana's little joke at my expense at the end of the Moscow Journal.

One of the sheer delights of publishing these news items from Moscow lies in discovering how, with a little effort to cross the enormous language barrier, they reveal that we all share the same interests, loves and concerns. They also show that we can laugh at the same things and be saddened by the same things too. Though I have never met Tatiana, Irena and Nikolai Leonidovich, I cannot help but count them now amongst my closest friends.

I was asked by Tatiana and Irena if I could write a piece on the behalf of ILS to celebrate the 80th birthday of Nikolai Mikhailov. As a birthday gift they had commissioned a page in the floricultural magazine "Tsvetovodstvo" (a very fine publication with highly informed articles and first class production standards) and they wanted my piece for this tribute. I was delighted to agree on the behalf of the membership. In 1977, Nikolai Leonidovich Mikhailov was given the Directors'

Award of this Society “for dedicated work in promoting the Lilac through an internationally known lilac collection and the publication of works designed to extend knowledge of the Lilacs in his native country and the world.”

When working as Horticulturist at the Main Botanical Garden, Moscow, in the 1970's and 80's he made contact with Charles Holetich at RBG Hamilton and they began an exchange of lilac propagating material which we benefit from to the present day. Then, in 1980, he was co-author with L. I. Rubtsov and V. G. Zhogoleva of the book *“Lilac Species and Cultivars in Cultivation in USSR”*, published by Naukova Dumka in Kiev. This was a revelation to us, particularly when the descriptions of the East European lilacs it were translated by Charles and published in a Special Edition of LILACS in December 1982 and when pictures of them were shown in Fr Fiala's book in 1988.

Thus Nikolai Leonidovich was not only instrumental in sending rare propagating material to a place where it could be grown and then passed on to other collections, he also provided us with authoritative descriptions of those plants which were new to us.

Through his generous spirit and great professional skill he made us aware, not only of his own plants like ‘Kosmos’, ‘Yubileinaya’, ‘Ostankino’, ‘Alenushka’ and ‘Mulatka’ (bred in association with I. I. Shtan'ko and N. I. Rybakina), but also those of L. A. Kolesnikov, N. K. Vekhov and the ones produced in Minsk, Kiev, Donetsk, the Baltic States and many other places. In doing this he enriched our lives. In doing this he encouraged the spread of fragrance and beauty around the world. We wish him a wonderful birthday celebration together with family, friends, and admirers and many more years yet in which to create beautiful lilacs. A more detailed appreciation of his life and work will appear on the website. One day I must write a similar tribute to Charles Holetich also.

It is a shame to end this column on a sour note but two things went seriously wrong in my last ‘Newsletter’. Since the demise of my PC a year ago I have had no means of typing at home. To write these articles I have to sit in the public library where I am allowed half an hour a day to type on line. This means I have no books or references with me and what I write cannot be edited or refined. Mistakes have to be corrected after the fact. It is a difficult situation both for me and for the Editor. Nevertheless there is one mistake that should not have gone through the system. It is something that was seriously wrong with my description of ‘Massena’. The sentence which straddles lines one and two of page 148 reads:- “The colour of the floret is a lovely purple-red which bunch of big-league cheerleaders.”

This makes no sense whatsoever, and I would have hoped that my previous writings had shown that I selected words with enough precision and care for me not to have committed such gibberish to paper. In fact, more than 70 words were omitted between the last word of the first line and the first word of the second line. For the record what I said was (and these words are quoted from a blind carbon copy I sent to myself when I transmitted the original e-mail):— “The colour of the floret is a lovely purple-red which...fades only slightly after opening. The flower heads are broad and round and well filled with up to twelve to fifteen

panicles crowding the end of a stem. People come here and though they are already impressed by what they have seen, they come across it suddenly and are stunned by its enormous, majestic presence. There is little fragrance but, then, who needs fragrance when the bees are being attracted by a...bunch of big-league cheerleaders."

Of course, even this complete version makes little sense when divorced from the rest of the description which was crafted with great care because it was intended to rehabilitate a magnificent lilac which has largely been ignored. It is so very disappointing and disheartening.

Colin Chapman
Norman's Farm
Suffolk, England
November 19th 2003.

NEW CULTIVARS FROM DONETSK
by Colin Chapman and Irina Semyonova

I have received from Tatiana Poliakova a new book. It is called "*Lilacs in the South-East of Ukraine*" by Serget Ivanovich Tereshchenko: The Donetsk Botanical Gardens, National Academy of Science of Ukraine, Weber Publishing Co. 2002.

Dr. Tereshchenko (1) is the lilac curator and he presents the history of the introduction of the lilac to this region of Ukraine together with descriptions of the 14 species and 63 cultivars in the collection of the botanical garden. As well as these 63, there are five new cultivars of his own which he introduces in this book. The descriptions are, of course, in Russian. An attractive descriptive brochure has been prepared which repeats the descriptions and also shows colour pictures of each flower. The book shows three of them, unlabelled, on the back cover.

There are two reasons why it is important that translations of those descriptions be published here. The first is to leave a permanent record of their features and their location. The second is to assist the originator of the cultivars to achieve valid recognition and acceptance of the names.

This time, the translations have been done in their entirety by Irina who therefore shares joint authorship.

Irina thus reduced my task to one of simply smoothing their transition into standard English. I am grateful to Dr. Tereshchenko for giving permission for these translations to be published in this Journal.

'OGNI DONETSKA' (Lights of Donetsk).
'Hyazinthenflieder' × ?

Blooms at mid season. Buds deep lilac. Florets single, large (1.6-2.7 cm), lilac, and having strong fragrance; petals are narrow, of oval-elongated shape with a propeller twist and they reflex backwards as they fade. Flower clusters large (12-21 cm high, 13-18 cm wide), formed of twin (rarely odd) wide-conical, slightly drooping panicles, hiding in foliage. Leaf wide oval, dark green, large (5.3-8.6 cm × 3.7-6 cm). Shrub medium tall, spreading, dense, with bent shoots and thick

branches. Blooms abundantly in early mid-season. Morphological features and time of blooming are similar to 'Gastello' (Kolesnikov) but 'Ogni Donetska' differs by colour and the size and structure of the inflorescences. Distinctive for the large filigree panicles and the propeller shape of the florets.
?(SIV)

'Professor A. L. Lypa'
'Lavoisier' x ?

Named after the distinguished Ukrainian botanist and plant breeder Alexey Lavrentievich Lypa (1908-1991), Professor of Kiev National University named after Taras Shevchenko, the great man who was Sergey Tereshchenko's first teacher in plant breeding.

Blooms at mid-season. Buds deep lilac. Florets lilac with pinkish shade, large (1.9 to 2.5 cm), double with two to three densely layered corollas; strong fragrance. Petals oval, in upper corolla pointed, those inside twisted. Flower clusters large (20-28 cm x 10.5-14 cm) formed from one or two pairs of pyramidal, dense, firm, ribbed panicles. Leaf elongated oval, light green, large. Bush tall, compact, wide, with thick foliage, branches straight and firm. Blooms abundantly for a prolonged period from mid to end of season (mid May to early June in Donetsk). Similar to 'Président Poincaré' and 'Lavoisier' but differs by colour of florets and large size of inflorescences. Distinctive for its large, dense lilac inflorescences and prolonged period of late blooming.
?(DIV)

'Donetskiye Zori' (Dawns of Donetsk)
'Bogdan Khmel' nitskii' x ?

Blooms end of season. Buds dark purple. Florets dark pink, large (2.0-2.4 cm), double, formed of two to three corollas, fragrant. Petals oval with slightly raised ends and some twisted inside. Flower clusters large (16-25 cm x 12.5-18 cm) formed of one or two pairs of narrow-pyramidal, firm, ribbed panicles. Leaf elongated oval, dark green, large (6.5-10.5 cm x 5-8.5 cm). Bush tall, spreading, dense, having thick foliage with straight, firm branches. Blooms abundantly over a prolonged period (mid-May to mid-June in Donetsk). Similar to 'Taras Bul'ba' – one of a few late blooming varieties. Differs from it by colour (deep pink at the beginning, then fading to light pink) and structure of florets and by longer inflorescences. Distinctive for its pink, long, narrow-pyramidal, loose inflorescence and late bloom. In the author's opinion, highly decorative during all period of blooming.
?(DV)

'Donetsky Souvenir' (Souvenir [i.e. "memento"] of Donetsk)
'Volcan' x ?

Blooms at mid season. Buds deep pinkish-lilac. Florets light lilac, large (2.1-2.5 cm), single with strong fragrance; petals oval with raised ends which reflex backwards when they fade. Flower clusters very large (up to 32 cm long and 15 cm wide), formed of one, two or three pairs of pyramidal, firm, filigree panicles

with distinctive clusters. Leaf widely oval, dark green, large (6.8-11.5 cm x 6.7-8.8 cm). Bush tall, spreading, of pyramidal shape, with firm curved shoots and thick branches. Blooms abundantly in mid-season. Similar to 'Kraft' (or 'Craft')(2). Differs from it by large lilac flower clusters formed of filigree panicles with protruding lower clusters and slightly hanging tops.
?(SIV)

'Professor M.L. Reva'
'Lavoisier' ×?

Named after the Ukrainian botanist and ecologist Mikhail Lukich Reva (1922-1997), Professor of Donetsk National University and Tereshchenko's teacher.

Blooms in mid season. Buds deep purple. Florets lilac with pink shade, medium size.

(1.2-1.8 cm in diameter), double, formed of two corollas fragrant; petals oval, widely pointed with raised ends. Flower clusters medium size (up to 15 cm long by 8 cm wide), formed of two to three pairs of pyramidal, dense, ribbed panicles with protruding lower inflorescences. Leaf wide oval, dark green, large. Bush tall, compact, with well developed strong branches. Blooms abundantly in med season. Stands out for its lilac-pinkish pyramidal, dense clusters that do not fade. The special feature of this cultivar is its very beautiful, compact, well-developed crown.

?(DIV)

The brochure photographs reveal the typical shortcoming of colour film when attempting to record the colour "lilac". The red tones are always emphasized more than the blue ones. Thus my attempts to give colour codings must be regarded as tentative until the flowers can actually be seen.

Footnotes:

(1) On the title page of the book, the author's name is given in English as "Tereschenko". In ILS we use the transliteration system adopted by the American Institute of Biological Sciences, Washington D.C. (See LILACS Vol. 11 No. 2 Dec 1982 pp 1-3). From the original Cyrillic spelling this renders that name to "Tereshchenko". This spelling I have preferred. If anyone is interested to know why I will gladly explain.

(2) 'Kraft' (of 'Craft') is a cultivar I do not know. However, it is in the Donetsk collection and the book gives a description, the translation of which I will either give here next time or I will send it directly to Freek, together with that of another cultivar in the book which we know of but do not have a description; namely, 'Khoroshee Nastroenie'.

Moscow Journal

By Irina Semyonova and Tatiana Poliakova

We have had much work to do in the garden this year. The winter last year was very bad with temperatures as low as minus 37 degrees Celsius (minus 34 degrees F) and the garden did not fully recover until midsummer. When I came to the dacha for the first time last spring, I was shocked because all of my roses, all the clematis, most of my rhododendrons, half the hostas and my beloved Acers 'Drummondii' and 'Pseudosieboldianum' were frozen to death. But, believe it or not all of the lilacs survived the devastation.

We worked hard, particularly on the pond where our father actually swims in order to keep it clean of weeds, maintain optimal water level and scare away the otters. Thus we won the first prize in the contest "In Search of a Paradise Garden" held by the International Union of Landscape Gardens, the organizing committee of the 'Horticulturist and Farmer' international exhibition and several magazines in the category "Water in the Garden" (1)

Though the winter was bad for the garden it was fruitful and interesting in other ways. We managed, at last, to get Professor Gromov (2) to present a lecture about Kolesnikov and his lilacs. The lecture took place in the historical Floriculture Hall of the All-Russian Exhibition Centre. This is a very special place of grand Stalinist architecture and rich history. There was a fabulous syringarium there and the whole thing deserves a story of its own. He dedicated his lecture to Kolesnikov's varieties and his methods of selection. The speech was filled with love and respect for a great man.

I was fortunate to be introduced to Yelena Simonenko who is L.A. Kolesnikov's granddaughter and I visited her several times during the winter. She is a woman of great human qualities – incredible optimism and kindness. She was generous enough to let me search her grandfather's archives which consist of notes, diaries, photos of himself and of his varieties. Most of the materials are written in pencil and after all these years are very difficult to read. There are over a hundred photos and slides – of Kolesnikov, of the family home, and of his lilacs with labels showing numbers and names. There are varieties that no longer exist.

The very first look at the material resulted in a feature dedicated to Kolesnikov's 110th anniversary in the "Floriculturist Bulletin" (3). Frankly, no one remembered his anniversary date here in Russia but the article brought many letters in response and now that article is regarded as one of the most influential and best to have ever appeared in the magazine. The response letters will be published in the December issue (4).

We had many problems mounting the annual exhibition at the Moscow Show. The spring was so cold for so long that my own lilacs did not flower until a week after the show ended! To save the show we turned to the Botanical Garden of Moscow State University and our thanks go to lilac curator V. V. Voronchikhin for his generous response. He presented about 30 of Kolesnikov's varieties for the special part of the show dedicated to Kolesnikov's 110th anniversary. The visitors were

specially impressed by 'Velikaya Pobeda' ("The Great Victory") and 'Zashchitnikam Moskvyy' ("To the Defenders of Moscow"). The interest in lilacs grows from year to year – we can see it as grows the number of visitors to the show.

At the show we met film director Sergey Komarov and discussed making a film about Kolesnikov using material from two TV video films, one from the 50's and one made in recent years. He started work on the film and asked Mrs. Simonenko for help. She agreed to appear in the film and provided family photographs. She was unhappy with the sad finale to the film which mourned the loss of his garden and cultivars. She said that things are not so bad because there are people trying to save the memory of Kolesnikov and making an effort to collect his lost varieties. I appeared in the film myself surrounded by famous historical persons and heroes. Unfortunately, my brilliant 20 minute speech was reduced to only a 2 minute fragment. (5)

The last day of the show I met an incredibly interesting person, Natalia Leonova, daughter of the famous Russian writer Leonid Leonov. He was a close friend of Kolesnikov, and Leonid Aleksevich often stayed at his dacha and planted some of his lilacs in Leonov's garden about 50 years ago. I visited that very special garden and Natalia Leonidovna shared with me shoots of the historical lilacs. Two of them are 'Leonid Leonov' and 'Krasavitsa Moskvyy' and the others are to be identified next spring – hopefully with the help of Professor Gromov. And there is a very interesting fact. Many years ago, during Stalin's time, the English writer Charles Snow visited Leonov's garden and wrote an essay about it (6).

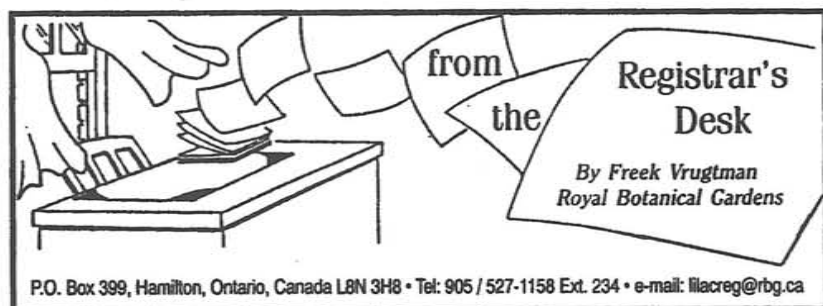
Sometime ago I met the son and grandson of N. K. Vekhov. The grandson graduated from the Faculty of Biology of Moscow State University and he is working on a book about his eminent grandfather. We spoke on the telephone and made an appointment to meet. (7). During the summer, I visited Mr. Mikhailov quite often and I asked him a thousand questions and discussed a million matters. At the moment, I have 3 large boxes of slides that he made in the 80's of his varieties. I will try to digitalize them and let interested people see them (8). In September, Nikolai Leonidovich invited me to join him at the Moscow International Flower Show 2003 where I hoped to meet Gromov and also some people from Lipetsk (Vekhov's Station). I will report on this later.

I have made two additions to my collection of special literature. I am happy to have "Lilac" by Rubonik, Mel'nik and Parshina (Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan, 1977) and "Lilac" by Belorousets and Gorb (Kiev, Ukraine, 1990). I am also trying to find the last two editions of Lemoine's catalogues (9).

Finally, thank you so much, dear Colin, for asking the Lilac Fairy to send me that Kolesnikov seedling I mentioned in the last "Moscow Diary". You kept your promise and it now grows in my garden! And so do Mr. Mikhailov's #14 (very blue) and #15 (like 'Elena Rosse', but even brighter in colour) and a little 'Skromnitsa' – all three from Nikolai Leonidovich himself. Congratulations on purchasing the tractor and we can't wait to see a photo of you riding it. Do you have a Stetson hat and cowboy boots? (10)

Footnotes by Colin Chapman:

- (1) I have a photograph of the pond at the dacha. It is a lovely, romantic and peaceful haunt of ducks and waterlilies.
- (2) Professor Andrey Nikolaevich Gromov. Former student of Leonid A. Kolesnikov who contributed a very important article on Kolesnikov's lilacs and methods for this Journal in Vol. 2 No. 4 1974.
- (3) Actually, the feature consisted of two articles over two editions, in Russian, which I have not yet fully understood. Being a wartime child, one photograph of Kolesnikov in uniform brought a mist of tears to my eyes. The girls are working on a translation of the articles which we hope will eventually appear either here or on the website.
- (4) I have been honoured with a request for a part of one of my own letters to be quoted in this edition.
- (5) I have a video copy of this new film. The whole thing is in Russian but if I can work out an outline commentary on what is going on I will try to show this at a future convention. The film is quite wonderful. The Director shows many of the people commemorated in the cultivar names – hence Tatiana being surrounded by “famous historical persons and heroes”.
- (6) Presumably C. P. Snows the very influential writer of the immediate post-war period. I will investigate and try to locate that essay.
- (7) The late Nikolai Kusmich Vekhov, Professor of Biological and Agricultural Sciences. Originator of such cultivars as ‘Elena Vekhova’, ‘Rus’, ‘Fantaziya’, ‘Yunost’, ‘Russkaya Pesnya’, ‘Utro Rossii’ etc.
- (8) At the time of writing (late October '03), some of those pictures can be seen on the website of Australian member Tom Thekathyil who has a nursery in Tasmania. To see them, go to www.lottah.com and click on the link to “Russian lilacs”.
- (9) Also note the very important new book mentioned in the “European Newsletter” which Tatiana and Irina sent me.
- (10) Infernal cheek! Stetson hat, “Yes!”. Cowboy boots, “No!”. (But only, I am shamed to have to confess, because they are now too small!).



***Syringa vulgaris* 'Lee Jewett Walker', Berdeen (S V), reviewed**

Subsequent to the publication of the recent note on 'Lee Jewett Walker', *Lilacs-Quart Journ* 32(4):150-151 (2003), and reference to the preceding one, loc. cit. 24(1):23 (1995), the Registrar received the following letter from Mr. Max Peterson, Meadowlark Hill, Ogallala, Nebraska:

"Dear Freek,

I just received the *Lilacs-Quarterly Journal* and noticed your article on 'Lee Jewett Walker'. There has always been a question of that lilac being a single or a double. I want to tell you my experience with that lilac and Ken Berdeen.

Back in 1978, a man named Maurice Lockwood and I were in constant contact with each other. I would send him lilacs and he would respond with lilacs for me. This particular time he said over the telephone that he had been o Ken Berdeen and had collected some suckers from a beautiful pink lilac and he was sending me one of them. Questioning him further he said to put a tag on it with 722 on the tag. I planted it out and it grew fine. A couple of years later in questioning Ken Berdeen about hat he would hav for sale, he offered me "Lee Jewett Walker" along with other selections. I bought it and planted it. About a year or two later while talking to Maurice Lockwood, he told me to change 722 tag to 'Lee Jewett Walker'. When both plants bloomed they were pink and single, and identical. Maurice said that Ken had finally named 722 for Mrs. Lee Jewett Walker.

Since I keep all receipts from the plants I buy, I am sending you copies of those receipts. On one in the upper right hand corner you can see where Ken describes the plant. Also on the receipt hen I bought that plant it says (S). The fact that I had a 722 plant ought to lay to rest that particular theory of being the "correct one."

Since Reva Ballreich bought one from Ken Berdeen, Father Fiala carried it as single, my 722 and the plant I bought are single, I am sure that plant was single. About the time that the registration was made, Ken was having heart problems and wasn't feeling good. When you said that his mistake was made in the nursery, my point is that the mistake was made when he registered it. I believe that Evie King at the *Syringa Plus Nursery* investigated this particular plant and came to the conclusion that it was single.

If I can be of more help – let me know.

(signed) Max Peterson"

[Max Peterson in lit. to Freek Frugtman; undated; postmark Nov. 13, 2003]

It has taken many years, but the evidence is convincing that Mr. Kenneth Berdeen made the error when filling in the registration form in 1978, describing his selection 7-22 as having double and pink florets. A correction to the 1978 registration will be published in *HortScience*.

Lilac Cultivar Name Registrations 2002

All correspondence concerned with additional information or plants or propagules of newly registered lilac cultivars should be directed to the registrants listed below, not to the Registrar.

Commencing with 1995 Lilac Registrations Standard portfolios are being established in accordance with Principle 3 and Articles 12, 22 (Recommendations 22G & 22H), and 32 of the *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants-1995* (ICNCP- 1995).

Previous registration lists of *Syringa* cultivar names appeared in *AABGA Bulletin* [13(4):105-110; 14(3):95; 12(3):71-72; 16(4):131-132; 17(3):67-69; 18(3):87]; *HortScience* [23(3):458; 24(3):435-436; 25(6):618; 26(5):476-477; 29(9):972; 31(3):327-328; 32(4):587-588; 33(4):588-589; 34(4):600; 35(4):549; 36(5); 836; 37(7):1145].

Syringa Pubescens subsp. *patula* (Palib.) M.C. Chang & X.L. Chen 'Klmone' was registered 4 June 2002 by Roy G. Klehm, 197 West Penny Road, South Barrington, IL 60010, USA. Selected by Mr. Klehm the lilac was introduced as MISS SUSIE™ in 2001 by Beaver Creek Nursery, Inc., Grove, Ill, (PLANT LINE™ Summer 2001, p. 18). Cultivar name and color illustration appear on p. 87, 2002 Retail Catalog, Klehm's Song Sparrow Perennial Farm, Avalon, Wisconsin. Mr. Klehm's Selection has been traced back to an unnamed seedling of unknown parentage in the lilac collection of the city of Brighton, United Kingdom; material was received by Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada (accession N° 72015), and passed on to Longenecker Horticultural Gardens (accession N° 84012). Mr. Klehm first observed the flowers and made his selection in 1992, initial propagation in 1993, naming of the cultivar about 1996, trademark ascribed in 2000. 'KLMONE' blooms at the same time as 'Miss Kim', but the color of the florets is much lighter and softer; leaf characteristics and habit are similar to 'Miss Kim'. Florets single, 1 cm in diameter, fragrant. Flower buds Red Group 54b (*RHS Colour Chart*, 1966), opening to White Group 155d. The fall color of the foliage is gold to golden brown. Winter hardiness: 5a, possibly 4b. The preferred method of propagation is softwood cuttings. A Standard portfolio has been opened at Royal Botanical Gardens Herbarium, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, but is still incomplete.

Syringa reticulate subsp. *pekinensis* P.S. Green & M.C. Chang 'Morton' was registered 2 Aug. 2002 by Angela T. Palmer, Plant Introduction Manager, Chicagoland Grows®, Inc., 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe, IL 60022 USA. The original plant was grown from seed collected by Joseph F. C. Rock (1884-1962) in Oct. 1926 near Lienhoa Shan, Gansu (Kansu) province, China, at an elevation was 2700 m, for the Arnold Arboretum; collection N° 172-26 sd; the selected seedling is accessioned as MA N° 2391-sd. In 1988 the selection was named 'Morton' by Kris Bachtell, Director of Collections and Grounds, The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Il, Initial vegetative propagation took place in 1988; the preferred method of propagation is through tissue culture. Plants have flowered in the third year after propagation. Initial distribution of this clone took place in 1991.

The cultivar name 'Morton' was first published in 1992. At the age of 75 years 'Morton' is a 12-m-tall tree with a nearly globose crown, the width being 80% to 90% of its height. Thyrses 17 to 25 cm long and 15 to 18 cm in diameter. Florets single, 8 mm in diameter. Flower buds Orange-White Group 159D (*RHS Colour Chart*, 1986), opening to creamy-white. Flower fragrance often strong, resembling the fragrance of privet. Foliage green, with autumn coloration. Known to be hardy in USDA Zones 5 to 8. This selection has proven to be highly tolerant of de-icing salts. Trademarks registered for 'Morton' are WATER TOWER® (N° 1,697,063) and CHINA SNOW® (N° 2,009,915). At one time or other 'Morton' has been referred to erroneously as 'Chicago Tower' and 'Watertown'. A Standard portfolio has been opened at Royal Botanical Gardens Herbarium, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Selected literature references are:

McKelvey, S. D. 1928, *The Lilac – A Monograph*. p. 496-497. Macmillan, New York.

Bachtell, K.R. 1991. Peking lilac *Syringa pekinensis*). *The Morton Arboretum Quarterly* 27(1):10-12.

Bachtell, K.R. 1994. Chicagoland Grows: A marketing system for new plants. *Combined Proceedings International Plant Propagators' Society* 44:571.

Syringa reticulata subsp. *reticulata* 'Golden Eclipse' was registered 2 August, 2002, by John Bakker III of J.C. Bakker & Sons Ltd., 1360 Third Street, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6P9, Canada. The original seedling of open-pollinated parentage was found in 1995 at the J.C. Bakker & Sons Ltd. nursery, selected by Rob Bakker, and named by John Bakker III. The name was chosen because of the leaf's golden variegation, which eclipses as the season progresses. Initial vegetative propagation took place in 1996; the preferred method of propagation is through summer budding to *Syringa reticulata* understock. Plants have flowered in the third year after propagation. This selection resembles 'Ivory Silk' in growth rate and habit, except for its golden variegated foliage. In early spring the leaves unfold with bright golden variegated and undulated margins, and a dark green center. As the season progresses the golden margins fade to a lighter green; the foliage shows excellent resistance to sunburn. All trials have shown that the leaf variegation is persistent; no reverting has been observed. The flowering habit is identical to that of 'Ivory Silk'. The name 'Golden Eclipse' was first published, with a description of the cultivar, on p. 12 of the J.C. Bakker & Sons Ltd. 2000-2001 *Reference Guide*. An application for plant breeders' rights has been filed with the Plant Breeders' Rights Office, Canada (application #01-2536 dated 2001-02-26). A Standard portfolio has been opened at Royal Botanical Gardens Herbarium, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, but is still incomplete.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

It is wonderful how somebody's name can still be carried on long after his or her death through a plant so wonderful as a lilac. How nice it would have been if the people naming these cultivars had only written more. Who and why these people were so important may long be forgotten even though the lilac cultivars still lives on.

Syringa vulgaris 'Adelaide Dunbar' was introduced by John Dunbar in 1916. John named this dark double purple after his wife. Many of us know that John Dunbar was the man behind the original lilac planting at Highland Park in Rochester New York. The Lilac Festival continues to be an important place thanks to a vision John had not so long ago. John Dunbar was born on June 4, 1859 in Rafford, Elginshire, Scotland. Family members have described him as a red-haired, easy going quiet Scotsman who would stop anywhere just to examine a leaf or a plant. Some of Dunbar's other well known introductions are 'President Lincoln' and 'General Sherman.'

But what do we really know about Adelaide, the woman behind the name and the man?

Adelaide Marie Davis was born on October 29, 1868 on Long Island, New York in a town called Locust Valley. Family and friends called her Addie. She and John were married on September 21, 1891. They had one daughter and two sons and made their home in Rochester where John became assistant Superintendent of Parks.

John would travel often and as a family joke Addie would always mail him a package with his favorite silk top hat. The same one he brought over from Rafford, Elginshire.

When John would get this package he would in turn mail it right back to Addie. We owe a lot to John Dunbar for what he did in promoting and developing lilacs. By us keeping this wonderful lilac 'Adelaide Dunbar' in circulation we are, in a way, saying thanks to John for all he did many years ago in Highland Park.

Stay Tuned: Next up in "What's in a Name" is *Syringa vulgaris* 'Frank's Fancy'. Who was Frank? You will find out in the next ILS issue.

LILACS IN THE LANDSCAPE

The Swedish Lilac Bersá (Lilac Arbor)

by Alison A. Brown

For season-long use of your lilacs, consider planting a Swedish Lilac Arbor, or Bersá. Adapted from the French Berceau, and pronounced more or less the same way, these were ubiquitous in Swedish gardens from the late 19th century until about the 1930's. They then disappeared, but have in the past few years been undergoing a revival. Simple, charming, and very much in tune with contemporary ideas of gardens as naturalistic and low maintenance, they are likely to become popular once again.

A Swedish Lilac Arbor is a circular or horseshoe-shaped hedge of lilacs with one opening and an unplanted central space which usually has a table and chairs. The most often used lilac is *Syringa vulgaris*. The outside is left to grow naturally, and the hedge should be thick enough so that the inside is not visible from outside. As a sunny location is desirable for the lilacs, the tops are allowed to grow tall and extend inward, providing a partial canopy or roof and giving shade to the interior. The interior is clipped, enhancing the effect of a "room" and creating as much interior space as possible. The floor is usually simply dirt, although paving stones may be laid on it to provide additional stability for table and chairs and some protection from mud in wet weather. Gravel could also be used, provided the table and chairs have legs which permit this.

The size should be small enough to allow the tops of the lilacs to arch inward to provide a room-like feeling, and large enough to accommodate a small table and several chairs. Something between 9 and 12 feet in interior diameter when full grown and clipped inside is probably about right.

Bersá are usually sited far enough from the house to feel like you are picnicking when seated inside, but not so far that it becomes onerous to carry food and drink from the house. The opening should face away from the house and any outbuildings or heavily used area of the gardens. The desired effect is one of peace, repose, and a sense of being away from human activities. If there is a view from the property, the opening might well face the view. It might also face a wooded area, giving an impression of being in the woods although actually located in a more sunny area.

The original Berceau, brought to Sweden by French nobility in the early 19th century when the French general Bernadotte became King of Sweden, was a formal arched and clipped tunnel and/or circular arbor. One of the best examples is the Queen's Garden in the Het Loo Palais in the Netherlands (now restored and open to the public). As in so many other instances, the Swedes took a formal, expensive, and rather grandiose French construction and transformed it into something simpler, less expensive and to modern eyes much more charming.

Bersá can be constructed using plants other than lilacs – Hornbeam, Beech and Ligustrum have all been used. Probably readers do not need much encouragement

to use lilacs instead of alternatives, but lilacs really do have some advantages. Besides being fragrant in bloom and easily grown (at least in the northern part of the U.S.) they also are naturally about the right height and have a spreading habit which makes it easy to create a canopy effect over the interior. Their only disadvantage is a tendency to become leggy and bare at the bottom, but if the location is sunny and suckers are encouraged on the outside and these are kept well pruned, the foliage should extend to the ground. There is also no reason why a second hedge of something like *Spirea* can't be planted to provide additional thickness near the ground if necessary. For the lowest maintenance, choose lilacs that do not sucker (as they will— alas!—sucker inside as well as outside and you'll have to keep them cut inside) and add a second lower hedge of *Spirea Van Houttei* outside.

I am in the process of developing a Swedish Bersá in my own garden. I had to compromise on location, as I live in a windy field in Maine and lilac bloom time here comes when it's very often too cold to sit outside unless you are in a sheltered location. So I've chosen to have shelter and warm sun but had to give up on having a view. Having made that choice, I decided to emphasize the sense of protection and enclosure, of being hidden away from the world.

My Bersá is tucked into the south side of an eight foot solid fence, and as the location is hemmed in on all sides by other gardens, I've chosen to make the opening toward the high fence. To find the opening, you have to follow the fence along a short and narrow path, so mine is effectively a "secret Bersá". It's out of the prevailing winds, which come from the side with the high fence. It's also square, since that was the shape of the area, but the inside will, in the fullness of time, be made round by planting something (not necessarily lilacs) in the corners and by judicious clipping. What it does have is a feeling of peace, repose, and separateness. It's sheltered and it's warm enough on sunny days to sit there in shirtsleeves even at the end of May when lilacs bloom here. It's very young yet—the planting was only completed last Spring although it was begun about four years ago so some of the lilacs are now respectable size—but already it's feeling like a wonderful place for a quick escape with a cup of tea or to have lunch with friends.

Syringa Villosae* Group – first cultivar group in *Syringa

Marco Hoffman

The cultivars of *Syringa* have until now been classified in species and interspecific hybrids. For cultivars of the botanical series *Villosae* this system is no longer satisfactory. Instead a new, more stable classification of one cultivar group is proposed here. The definition of the cultivar group is simple and clear, cultivars can be classified better and this system is easy to work with, even for non-specialists. The proposed cultivar group is the *Villosae* Group. For *Syringa* this means the introduction of the phenomenon cultivar group.

Variety trial in The Netherlands

The introduction of the Villosae Group is part of a variety trial research program. From 1994 to 2001 about 25 different species and cultivars of this group of lilacs have been assessed for use as garden plants at Applied Plant Research in Boskoop (The Netherlands) in cooperation with the Royal Boskoop Horticultural Society. Beside their assessment as garden plants, a number of cultivars were assessed for their use as pot plants. More and more lilacs belonging to this group are grown and sold as pot plants. This group of lilacs is becoming increasingly popular in The Netherlands. Many cultivars have been introduced from the United States of America and Canada. Some of the plants on trial came from Dutch nurseries, but most of them came from Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario. The plants cultivated in pots were observed at a specialized nursery in Boskoop. One of the problems for commercial growers is the obscure classification of some cultivars, especially those belonging to *S. ×prestoniae* and *S. ×josiflexa*. A complete report has been published in *Dendroflora* 39 (in Dutch, with English summary). This article in *Lilacs* focuses on the introduction of the concept of the Villosae Group.

Classification of cultivars stabilized

In practice there is considerable confusion about name and taxonomical status of many cultivars. The cultivars 'James Macfarlane', 'Royalty' and 'Redwine' are alternately classified in *S. ×prestoniae* and *S. ×josiflexa*; this resulted from misidentified or unknown parentage. Some of the cultivars have a genotype of more than two species, e.g.: 'Alice Rose Foster' (cross between *S. ×josiflexa* 'James Macfarlane' and *S. ×prestoniae* 'Ethel M. Webster'), 'Miss Canada' (cross between *×josiflexa* 'Redwine' and *×prestoniae* 'Hiawatha'), and 'Minuet' (*×josiflexa* 'Redwine' and *×prestoniae* 'Donald Wyman'), illustrating the ease of hybridization of species and interspecific hybrids in the botanical series *Villosae* of the genus *Syringa*. The most important binomials of this group are *S. emodi*, *S. josikaea*, *S. villosa*, *S. wolfii*, *S. yunnanensis* and the interspecific hybrids *S. ×henryi* (*josikaea* × *villosa*), *S. ×josiflexa* (*josikaea* × *komarowii* subsp. *reflexa*), *S. ×prestoniae* (*komarowii* subsp. *reflexa* × *villosa*) and *S. ×sweginzowii* (*sweginzowii* × *komarowii* subsp. *reflexa*).

In order to stabilize the classification of cultivars in this group, the use of hybrid names such as *S. ×prestoniae* and *S. ×josiflexa* is discontinued and replaced by the proposed Villosae Group. This cultivar group is coextensive with the botanical series *Villosae* Schneider. The introduction of this group, and the choice of the name for this group is supported by Mr. F. Vrugtman (Registrar of *Syringa* cultivars and former Curator of Collections, RBG Hamilton) and Dr. J. S. Pringle (Taxonomist, RBG Hamilton). The suggested way of writing cultivar names is: *Genus* 'Cultivar' [Cultivar Group]; e.g. *Syringa* 'Royalty' [Villosae Group]. Users have the choice of leaving out the cultivar group part, e.g. *Syringa* 'Royalty'.

Description of Villosae Group:

Shrubs with upright habit, 1.5-5 m high. Leaves simple, entire, large, up to 10-25 cm, oblong, elliptic, to (ob)ovate, often with rough texture, glabrous or more or less hairy underneath. Inflorescence (thyrses) from a terminal bud, large, up to 15-40 cm long. Corolla tube slender, longer than the lobes. Flowering time relatively late, May-June. Standard cultivar: *S.* 'Royalty'. Examples: 'Agnes Smith', 'Alice Rose Foster', 'Basia', 'Bellicent', 'Danusia', 'Donald Wyman', 'Esterka', 'Goplana', 'Hiawatha', 'Jagienka', 'James Macfarlane', 'Lynette', 'Minuet', 'Miss Canada', 'Nike', 'Nocturne', 'Redwine' and 'Royalty'.

The phenomenon cultivar group

The use of hybrid binomials for grouping cultivars is often a dubious one, because the genomes of many cultivars show influences of species other than the parent species. The deviation of individuals from the main body of a species or interspecific hybrid is a phenomenon which is often stimulated by man through selection. For a number of genera this phenomenon is so widespread that traditional systematics, working with the taxon concept, has become unsatisfactory and inadequate for the classification of cultivated plants. Hettterscheid & Brandenburg (1995) have argued that cultivated plants and the associated special purpose taxonomy are part of a context (human society) different from the context of taxonomy of plants in nature (evolution). Therefore they propose separating the systematics of cultivated plants from the taxon concept, which is used for the systematics of plants found in nature. They propose new directives for the systematics of cultivated plants. They propose the "culton" (plural: "cultas") as the general concept of systematic entities of cultivated plants. The most important categories of culta are the cultivar and the cultivar group. The most important characteristic of the systematics of cultivated plants is the fact that the classification (of cultivars) may be based on a variety of user criteria, which means that hierarchical ranking is not obligatory. Ornamental plants where cultivar groups are commonly used are: *Rosa*, *Clematis*, *Rhododendron*, *Astilbe*, etc.

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AN APPEAL FOR HELP FOR THE PRESTON HERITAGE LILACS AT OTTAWA'S CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM

Friends of the Farm along with the horticulture staff of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada are working on establishing a Preston heritage lilac collection at the Central Experimental Farm (CEF), Ottawa (a recently designated National Historic Site and Cultural Heritage landscape). Hybridization of lilacs at CEF was started by Isabella Preston in the 1920's to develop attractive lilacs hardy in the Canadian climate. In all, 89 cultivars are named in the "International Register of Cultivar Names in the Genus *Syringa* L. (Oleaceae)", April 2001, Freek Vrugtman. Sadly we have only 41 on the grounds.

We do have 7 of the 8 *×hyacinthiflora* cultivars originated by Preston, but 'Ada' is lacking.

We are missing many of the late-blooming cultivars, especially those of *×prestoniae*. Bruce Peart (Lilacs, vol.32.1, p. 32, 2003) and Dennis Eveleigh, Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, have been kindly shoring up our numbers, but we need *×prestoniae* 'Ariel', 'Beatrice', 'Bianca', 'Blanch', 'Cassandra', 'Cleopatra', 'Cordelia', 'Cressida', 'Emilia', 'Gertrude', 'Helena', 'Hermia', 'Hermione', 'Hero', 'Imogen', 'Iras', 'Jaquenetta', 'Joan', 'Julia', 'Katharina', 'Lucetta', 'Luciana', 'Lychorida', 'Margaret', 'Mariana', 'Miranda', 'Oberon', 'Octavia', 'Ophelia', 'Perdita', 'Phebe', 'Phrynia', 'Puck', 'Romeo', 'Rosalind', 'Tamora', 'Timandra', 'Viola', 'Virgilia', 'W. T. Macoun'.

Of *×swegiflexa* we have "Fountain" but not "Carlton".

Of 7 *×josiflexa* we are missing 'Enid' and 'Geraint'.

Of 4 interspecific hybrids we are missing 'Gwynne', 'Irving', and 'Ottawa'.

Can anyone out there help? Joan Speirs, dy218@ncf.ca, Lilac coordinator, Friends of the Farm, Bldg #72, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, ON K1A 0C6 (thefarm@cyberus.ca)

ANNUAL WEST NEWBURY LILAC WALK/ TEA by Christopher Wilson

Five years ago, I invited the members of the West Newbury Congregational Church (West Newbury, Vermont is just north of half-way up Vermont, 3 miles from the Connecticut River) to come see my lilacs – they were in full bloom and I had a lot of them. They had seen some of the flowers in the church floral arrangements, which I do regularly. The next year I invited them again, as I remember. The following year, while trying to come up with anything to fill our annual spring newsletter, "Growin' Newz" for the E. C. Browns' Nursery where I have worked for the last 15 years, I dreamed up the idea of inviting our customers to see my lilacs and come to a formal tea (RSVP). It succeeded. Then a garden club wanted to come. When I had a daffodil walk at my house, people still wanted to see my lilacs so I had another tea last year. Now, I've already said I'll do it again next year. Although the date hasn't been set – it would be around the first

week of June – you could call me at the nursery in Thetford Center, VT, or at my home. My daughters, aged 10 and 11, love being hostesses at a “fancy” tea and my wife makes excellent madeleines.

Originally from Pennsylvania, I used to be especially interested in different species and selections of native deciduous azaleas but many do not make it this far north. I collected *Hemerocallis* but there are just too many varieties to keep up with. Peonies are a plant I have grown for 45 years but 4 moves ruined my labeling system. I started with lilacs about 15 years ago and although I struggle to keep them correctly identified, being big and woody helps. I use a book with maps. My plantings are all in irregular beds for the look in the landscape rather than an easier grid system. Also each plant is labeled with a metal tag but even these are not fool-proof. They can blow off, slip off, rip off the wires or just seemingly evaporate.

I keep busy – especially in the spring. Working full time at a nursery means 6 days a week in May and June. I’m married, have 4 children and we have 2 dogs, 6 cats, 2 rabbits, 30 chickens, 5 peafowl, and 2 horses. In addition I am involved in a church for which I do large flower arrangements. I grow fruits and vegetables, other flowers, and I draw and paint in my spare time. It’s a little hard for me to have people drop in continually – although I am always ready to discuss lilacs and show mine to interested people. For instance, anyone serious enough about lilacs to belong to the ILS would always be welcome.

Deer have been and still are a big problem. Even though we have fences and dogs that bark at and chase deer – I have even seen our dogs chewing on deer parts – we still have them. Last winter I saw them jump over one fence, crawl or shoot under another all to eat lilac flower buds (only one inflorescence on a whole row of ‘Agincourt Beauty’ was left this past spring). They tend to gravitate towards favorite cultivars or ones that I have been waiting for years to see bloom – for instance my Rochester strain lilacs that might bloom for the first time next spring e.g. ‘Flower City’, ‘Margaret Fenicchia’, ‘Alvin R. Grant’, ‘Charles Lindbergh’. One year I bought \$150.00 worth of plastic deer netting and strung it around my most susceptible plants (three to five foot bushes). However, an early very wet snow smashed my fence down which in turn brought down a lot of my plants. The shoots which stuck up through the prostrate fence, under a couple of feet of snow, were then eaten off by deer and in the spring when I pulled the fence away, many more swollen flower buds popped off. Besides that, it was any eye sore for 4 months.

Mowing and weeding are difficult for me. I have had to hire two different very capable people to do the work but I keep finding torn-off lilac tags in my compost pile. My ‘Churchill’ and ‘Hugo de Vries’ which were growing quite close together and not clearly enough mapped have both lost their tags but the tag wires are still attached. ‘Slater’s Elegance’ suffered a 20 mph lawn mower collision while my only blooming size ‘Alvin R. Grant’ was completely mowed off. While mowing around my smallest plants at the final mowing this past fall, I, myself, hit my just planted ‘Due de Massa’ from the ILS and it somehow got hung up in the mower’s wheel and was yanked out of the ground (I was mowing in the dark).

Drought has been a problem – not this year, but the two previous years were so dry that many of my well established 6-10 foot lilacs wilted in August. I had to let some of my other plants dry up and die. Our well does not produce that many gallons per minute – constant watering runs it dry. Many, if not most, of our neighbors ran out of water including the farm where I work part time in the winter (they had to haul 900 gal. of water per day for several months). Thus, I didn't feel justified running sprinklers but did manage to keep most of my lilacs going. The grass became so dry that it was prickly to walk across it bare-foot.

As far as diseases go, I have had lilac blight – I don't use poisons. I've also had some sort of borers, leaf miners and I've had lilacs girdled by mice. Of course, I get some powdery mildew and I have had plants just "up and die". I try to keep them healthy by yearly fertilization.

This past spring my first seedlings bloomed – 1996 seed of *S. oblata* var. *dilatata* from Schumackers which I was given because I wrote a letter to be used in the ILS journal. I'm hoping to collect more seed and grow it. So far we have lots of open pollinated 'Marie Frances' and 'Priscilla' seedlings at the nursery in 2 gallon pots. Hopefully some will bloom next year for the first time. I haven't succeeded in making known crosses but have segregated several different dark purple varieties at my house. I am hoping to collect and grow seed from those hoping that they will tend to be dark purple.

Nurseries often get varieties mixed up. This year our small 'Ludwig Spaeth' turned out be very, very pale lavender instead of dark purple so they must have been misidentified. Our 'Maude Notcutt' are double instead of single so they are mislabeled. Tissue culture plugs can be wrong also – our 'Sarah Sands' were a pale true pink or at least some of them were. We don't know if we have any real 'Yankee Doodle' but we have lots so marked. We have large numbers of some of the newer varieties such as 'Betsey Ross', 'Martha Stewart' 'Sweetheart', 'P.P. Konchalovskii' in 2 gallon containers but these are not big enough for the average homeowner or for use in our landscaping jobs.

I seem to be getting more interested in lilacs every year and would welcome ILS members at work where I spend most of my time in lilac season or to see my collection.

Christopher Wilson, West Newbury, Vermont

p.s. If any of you saw the note about my lilac obsession in *People, Places and Plants* magazine, 'Charles Joly' does not bloom particularly all the way to the ground with silvery petal backsides – that's 'Albert Holden'.

International Lilac Society

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