

Lilacs

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IN
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Ottawa 2009 &
ILS Reports



Syringa x prestoniae 'Helen' at the Central Experimental Farm
Photo Credit Kent Millham



Syringa vulgaris 'Jonkheer G. E. van Tets' silhouetted against the sky
at the Central Experimental Farm
Photo Credit Kent Millham

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Front Cover: Shane Millham poses next to an outstanding 'Frank Patterson' lilac at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Photo Credit Kent Millham

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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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President's Message

Voila! The ILS Convention 2009 in Ottawa, Canada is now a memory. It was a great convention and everyone had a fantastic time. I, your president, survived without my luggage thanks to the generosity of two friends who lent me a few items of clothing and Warren Oakes, our membership chairman, who took me shopping. How is that for member services! Anyhow the show went on.

Fifty of us toured the Central Experimental Farm located in the middle of the city and took a trip to the outskirts to visit the village of Franktown, circa 1818, where lilacs have naturalized and now grow wild and free. We received a warm welcome, took a walk among the lilacs and had a great lunch in the old school house.

Joan Speirs, our hostess, along with the members of the Friends of the Farm, went out of their way to make sure the convention was one to remember.

Strolling among the lilacs at the Farm was certainly one of the highlights of the convention. Well-groomed and blooming profusely, they perfumed the air and put on a show for us. We learned that peonies make great companions for lilacs and so do hostas. Seminars on Saturday give us an aperçu of the scientific side of agriculture. Scientists, experts in their field and working at the farm explained DNA mapping and the many ways they work to improve crops. I was surprised to hear that the Farm holds the second largest insect and Arachnids collection in the world, 16 million...

The city of Ottawa is beautiful with its old British buildings complemented by modern structures. The architecture of some of these ultra modern buildings was unusual but appealing to the eyes. Statues honoring soldiers and famous state men embellished plazas and intersections. We visited the Museum of Civilization. In the lobby a collection of giant totem poles reminded us that long ago the land belonged to others.

Three very special persons attended the convention. Jean François Gonot, from the Botanical Garden of Nancy, France and the curator of the Lemoine Lilac Collection was among us. He graciously invited us to come to Nancy, France to hold our convention in the year 2012. We polled the attendees to see if there was an interest and thirty hands went up. Karen McCauley, Convention Chairman, is going to work with the Mr. Gonot and the Botanical Garden of Nancy to plan this convention. This is exciting news, as an international society we need to hold our conventions in different locations throughout the world. We are on the right path. This year it was Canada, 2012 France where are we going next?

Our other visitors, Alex Henderson, curator of collections at the Royal Botanical Garden in Hamilton, Ontario and Belinda Gallagher, Director of RBG, came

to talk about RBG and ILS reconnecting. The gardens hold the largest collection of lilacs in Northern America. This young man from England is full of enthusiasm and wants to revamp the lilac collection. Ms. Gallagher spoke on the importance of engaging young people with gardening. A perfect topic since our Youth Chairman, Gary Parton is initiating a lilac pilot program in his local elementary schools with the intent for ILS to make it available worldwide in the future.

I announced the formation of the ILS Preservation Committee. We are concerned and we should be, about the location of collections both public and private and what is in these collections. As the International Lilac Society we should know where rare cultivars are located and make every effort to prevent their disappearance. Hopefully this new committee's focus will help prevent this from happening but also help with the discovery of cultivars believed lost. Jean François Gonot told me that Monsieur Victor Lemoine would send his new lilacs to other gardens and to institutions such as the Arnold Arboretum and others with the very idea not only to disperse his lilacs but also to avoid their disappearance. This is one of the reasons why we have so many Lemoine lilac cultivars. The Lemoine collection totals 214 cultivars. The Nancy Botanical Garden is missing only four lilacs to be completed. Many of the lilacs have been recovered from collections in the Canada, Russia, USA etc. I know that 'Dame Blanche' is one of the missing four.

We said goodbye to four board members and hello to 4 new ones. Irene Stark served two terms on the board. She will remain the Central Region RVP. Mary Lizotte remains as the Eastern Region RVP. Bruce Peart remains in charge of Lilac Evaluation. Dr. J. Giles Waines, Research Chairman, was reelected to another term. We are happy to welcome four ladies, Candace Bonnett, Dr. Deb McCown, Connie Simonnet and Gloria Schreiber. Connie Simonnet is the new Honors and Award Chairman. Robert (Bob) Hoepfl served in that capacity for 8 years. He and his wife Marcia did a fantastic job making sure individuals and institutions were recognized and honored for their contributions to the Lilac World. Thank you to both of them for their dedication.

One important change to note; voting for new officers has been simplified. Starting in 2010 the Election Ballots will be included in the winter journal and members will vote by regular mail or electronically. We are working on a new logo for the society. We want to project a fresh youthful image, a 21st Century Image. New brochures and banners are in the plan too.

Our only youth member officially registered was Shane Millham. Now thirteen, Shane came with his father Kent Millham our editor. Shane likes gardening of course, but aspires to be a veterinarian. I was impressed by his grown up behavior. We did have Corinna Moro and her boyfriend spend Saturday with

us. It was a pleasure to meet them. Now in college Corinna is very busy with her studies and helping her parents with their lilac nursery. Down the road I know she will be a force in ILS. Her knowledge of lilacs is over the top. She is studying genetics and will come to the USA in the fall to attend school.

Freek Vrugtman, Lilac Registrar, came with his friend Charles Holetich. Both gentlemen are a fountain of knowledge when it comes to lilacs and plants. Mr. Holetich was our Saturday evening speaker. His program was about the lilacs growing wild in Serbia. It was amazing to see them growing on rocky cliffs barely hanging on in a minimum amount of soil. The views were spectacular. The Danube, the lilacs, and the white cliffs dotted with old churches and castles are an invitation to travel. It is always a pleasure to hear Mr. Holetich's narration. How he managed to take so many pictures in such precarious places is an adventure in itself.

On Friday evening, Marie Pratt, spoke about Peonies. She is the force behind the peonies planting at the Central Experimental Farm. She showed us very delicate looking peonies that she revealed are sturdy and need no tutoring; a big plus for those of us who grow these beautiful plants. She donated two of these peonies to the auction. Oh! Yes the auction... Woody Barnes, our auctioneer, went at a brisk pace and lilacs went at good prices. Several cultivars raised some serious money. Bill Horman offered a package deal of five lilacs at a starting bid of \$60, and it went over \$100. MaryMae Meyer from Lombard, IL USA had brought several gift certificates from Lilac Park. Evie King and Roger Coggeshall from Syringa Plus Nursery in Massachuset USA donated gift certificates too. Canadian nurseries: Select Plus International, Boughen Nursery, Green Thumb Garden Center, Sheridan Nurseries, Connon Nurseries and Canadian members: Linda Blackman, Bonnie Culp, Joan Speirs contributed live lilacs. Thank you to everyone. The three Bloomerang™, a trademark lilac by Tim Wood of Spring Meadow Nursery, Grand Haven, Michigan USA got a lot of interest and high bids. In the next room, very nice items had been donated for the silent auction. Karen McCauley had received a lilac oil painting from an artist in Minnesota. All she had asked for was postcards, but the gentleman painted a new canvas just for us. How very nice!

Jeff Young invited us to the Shelburne Museum for the 2010 convention in Shelburne, Vermont USA. It is to be on Mother's Day weekend. Save the date and plan on coming. I would like to see ILS hold a symposium in 2010. Nancy Latimer, one of our board member from Virginia, USA brought to our attention that many of our members who are in the nursery business are unable to attend the convention during bloom season. Holding a symposium in winter would give these members a chance to attend an official ILS event. Plus it would be an opportunity to hear about the lilac researches being done, new books in the work, and it would be a perfect occasion to built camaraderie. We could have an auction; a nice banquet and a great hospitality room where anyone would

informally show their lilacs photos. The location would be very flexible since it would not depend on the lilac blooming season.

I must say thank you again to the Friends of the Farm: Richard Hinchcliff their Vice President, Joan Speirs and to all the members. You did a great job!

Until we meet again don't forget to sign up a new member and remember our motto "A Lilac In Every Garden The World Over".

*Amities,
Nicole Jordan ,ILS President
Chester, Virginia USA
June 15, 2009
Njordan236@aol.com*

European Newsletter

We have faced the strangest season ever. Spring surged in two weeks early, so the *hyacinthifloras* started flowering at the end of March and the early *vulgaris* cultivars came into flower in mid April. Unfortunately, the florets were so tiny that I began canceling the season to people who had previously booked a visit. We had been in the grip of a serious drought and the lilacs clearly had been deprived of sufficient water. Then, on May 4th, we had a full day of torrential rain and this was followed by 6 days of sublime, windless, sunny weather.

Again, I saw the response as the lilacs shook themselves from their torpor and went into mega-production. They tore victory from the jaws of disaster. Again, I saw the phenomenon of lilac flower heads continuing to grow when they were already fully open. We hit peak flowering on May 13th (when it is usually May 23rd) so I was kept very busy contacting people and rearranging their visiting dates. The work paid off because the scene was set for our greatest display ever. The people who visited were overwhelmed by what they saw, and every single one wrote to express their appreciation of the experience. Regretfully, the effort took its toll and we had 5 deaths including our senior lilac - the 25 year-old 'Maud Notcutt'. Fortunately, I had propagated it last year.

I would love to report on what they saw, but I cannot. Because this is the convention edition, I can only be allocated one photo spot and that must go to the lilac I promised in the last edition - John Dunbar's 'President John Adams'.

This is a superb, thick fleshed, double white with a third semi-corolla demurely covering its eye. I cannot understand why I had neglected it in the past. There are so many more I want to report. The Sagitova cultivars 'Podarok Mame' (Present for Mum), 'Suyunshi' (Good News) and 'Maximus', flowered outside for the first time. So did Mikhailov's 'Nina' and Vekhov's 'Zarya' (Dawn). I was absolutely felled by the flowering of Vaigla's 'Jaan' and, at last, I was able to get pictures of *S. meyeri* var *spontanea* and the fabulous eruption of the Xin Lu Chen *microphyllas*. As well as these unique things, I will also be able to report on some truly rare cultivars when I can get them flowering outside. One of them, the legendary 'Liloviya Pyramida', I am confidently assured by the donor that once I have seen it in flower, I will want to see no other! There are about 50 more of similar rarity coming on, as well as about a hundred of my own selected seedlings. 'New York!' I have already revealed to you, but not yet 'Dante's Inferno', or 'Shelagh', or the exquisite white seedling of 'Asessippi' which, at 12 years old is still less than two feet high, or the golden josikaea seedling which I just might (or might not) name after myself. Some of these secrets I will only reveal in my book, and that book has now almost been completely planted out on our new land. How one plants a book on new land is a mystery I hope I can begin to explain in the next issue.

Colin Chapman
Suffolk, UK
June 18 2009

Report from Tatiana Polyakova: Executive Vice President Russia and the rest of Asia. Moscow – The City of Lilacs.

The main event in our region over the past year was the approval of the project "Moscow - the city of lilacs". This was the fruition of our long-term work to promote the lilac. Numerous publications, lectures and exhibitions, set up by us, helped revive interest in the lilac in Russia.

We had the opportunity to appear three times to speak on television to appeal to the inhabitants of Moscow and the leadership of the city with our proposal. An important step towards the recognition of our project was being able to participate in a briefing organized by the news agency Rosbalt.

The theme of the briefing was called the "Red Book of Russia's endangered plants in the larger cities". This large conference hall briefing was attended by scientists, biologists, representatives of the press, landscape designers, and officials from the leadership of Moscow. The Editor-in-Chief of "Vestnik

Tsvetovoda" talked about the scope of the project and our offers. I presented a slide show on a huge screen that occupied an entire wall. These were photographs of different kinds of lilacs with photos taken all over the city - of lilacs taken in the streets, in monasteries and in parks. Every new picture of a lilac was accompanied by admiring audience comments. The organizers of the briefing asked us to leave on the screen a picture of "Olimpiada Kolesnikova" until the end of the conference. Of great importance in gaining approval for the project was the writing of our book "Lilac Time" that sparked a new wave of interest in the lilac amongst gardeners. In the autumn the project was approved. Irina Okuneva, Tatiana Polyakova and Olga Molkanova then took an active part in preparing recommendations to the Government of Moscow who established a city commission to develop the project "Moscow-City of lilacs". The city commission is headed by two deputy mayors.

The first phase of the project was a mass planting of lilacs in the city which started this spring. Some events were attended by Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov, and on April 25 the Mayor, together with children of the orphanage number 48 and veterans of the Second World War, planted 230 lilac bushes in the 'Izmaylovo' Park. Youth organizations of Moscow also held a traditional "Spring Week of Kindness" in the city from 18 to 25 April. During that week, young people carried out 20 thousand different charitable events. They assisted orphanages, cleaned municipal parks, raised funds for children with disabilities and completed the week with a ceremonial planting of lilacs in the "Muzeon" Park, which is located near the Central House of Artists. This event was attended by 500 people and among the participants were government officials and prominent cultural figures (singers, artists). Through major news on television and in the newspapers, the project gained an independent life.

Some information about Russian Members of I.L.S.

Half of all Russian members are scientists. Dr. Aladina Ol'ga is a professor at the Russian Agricultural University, Dr. Alexandr Koudriavtsev, Dr. Olga Molkanova and Dr. Vladimir Upelniek are geneticists. Dr. Irina Okuneva (Moscow), Dr. Natalya Makedonskaya (Minsk) and Dr. Lyudmila Pshennikova (Vladivostok) are curators of lilac collections. Ksenia Shuvaeva is Research Associate and PhD student (Main Botanical Garden, Moscow). Tatyana Delkova, Elena Bystrova, Natalia Teplova, Irina Podosinkina, and Tatiana Polyakova are members of the Moscow Flora Club, Lilac Section. Dmitry Zhurov is artist, founder and teacher of the school "ARTS and CRAFTS".

Dr. Sergey Aladin and Vladimir Arkhangelsky graduated from the Moscow Agricultural University Faculty of breeding and genetics. After 20 years of work at the university, including some years working with lilacs, they have -

this year - applied for registration of 5 new varieties of lilacs and 2 patent applications concerning (1) the acceleration of flowering of lilac seedlings, and (2) ways of adapting plants grown in - vitro to non-sterile conditions. These applications have received a positive decision and they will be issued patents. Incidentally, this year, Sergey won a poetry contest. His poem "Clean Water" was awarded the prize of the Moscow government.

Most of the work being done by all Russian members of ILS is directed to the popularization of the lilac through lectures and journals. Irina Podosinkina, our chief specialist on growing lilacs, gave 25 lectures which left everyone just wanting to escape into the garden to plant lilacs properly. Irina Podosinkina and Tatiana Polyakova took part in a charity online auction to raise funds for the reconstruction of the garden of Russian writer Anton Chekhov. Irina presented to the auction the lilac "Polina Osipenko" and Tatiana exhibited for sale "Sesquicentennial" and both lots were sold immediately for a very good price.

Meanwhile, Natalia Makedonskaya published 10 articles in Belarusian and Russian journals and has participated in 3 international conferences to give reports on the lilac collection of Central Botanical Garden of Belarus. Irina Okuneva published 2 books: 'Lilac. Collection of the Main Botanical Garden of the Russian Academy of Sciences: History and Current State' (with Mikhailov and Demidov) and 'Blossoming Shrubs'. She is constantly giving lectures about lilacs and conducts workshops on the formation of the crown of the lilac bush for students, professionals and amateur clubs. Also this year, Irina has published 7 articles in scholarly and popular journals, and has made 2 scientific reports.

Irina Okunev is the scientific leader of post-graduate student Ksenia Shuvaeva. Xenia is not just a very nice girl, but she is our hope for the future! She will become a great expert on lilacs. This year, Ksenia wrote 4 scientific articles in 2 popular magazines, made 3 scientific reports, and took part in two international conferences in Kiev and Donetsk (Ukraine).

Natalia Balmysheva, director of the publishing house of Penta, and who was responsible for overseeing the creation of the book "Lilac Time", this spring decided to prepare the publication of a new colorful book dedicated to the memory of Leonid Kolesnikov. The book is ready. This book is currently engaged in an open competition of the Moscow government. We are waiting for decisions on financing the project. I want to thank Freek Vrugtman, Colin Chapman, Bradley Bittorf and Frank Moro, who sent us their impression of Kolesnikov's cultivars for this book.

I continue to maintain a regular column on the lilac in the journal 'Vestnik Tsvetovoda'. I try to invite contributions from different authors. In March, the journal published articles by Vasily Gorb (Kiev) and Natalia Makedonskaya (Minsk), and in May, some tips by Colin Chapman. I wrote seven articles in

'Vestnik Tsvetovoda' and one in "Sadovnik".

Two Collective Members.

School 1542 is a special school for children with limited physical abilities. The collective of teachers at this school proposed an interesting program which was supported by many other schools in Moscow. Headed by Chief librarian Olga Pukhova, the school has proposed two new initiatives. The first is to create, with the support of five other schools, a special Park in the west of Moscow. Children will have to plant lilacs, and take care of them. The second proposal is to explore the lilac, not only as an aspect of environmental education, but also as an instrument of spiritual upbringing. The lilac has deep roots in history, poetry and painting. This can be used to prepare the children to love nature and art. This proposal was supported by the participants of a conference on the spiritual and moral education of youth, which was held in the Holy Trinity-St.Sergius Lavra – a famous center of Orthodoxy.

Another collective member of ILS is the College of Landscape Design 18. College students are also actively engaged in lilac study. They created an exhibition called "Lilacs from A to Z". The students held a drawing competition and organized an exhibition of paintings entitled "The Bouquet of Lilacs" as well as a poetry festival on the same theme. Poets in Russia have always loved lilacs, and wrote many poems about them. In the autumn, students planted lilacs in the yard of the college. In winter they went to visit Nikolai L. Mikhailov, who told them about his selections. Mikhailov gave them seeds and now the first shoots of lilac have grown in the college.

Conclusion.

This spring, I observed that Moscow had a lot more posters showing the image of a lilac. By order of the mayor of the city, all shops should decorate their showcases with colorful posters for all occasions - Christmas and Easter, City Day, Victory Day, and others. In Russia, the lilac is considered a flower of victory in the Second World War. In early May, the whole town was decorated with colorful posters with bouquets of lilac.

Another important event, was the establishment of new contacts to acquire scions of rare cultivars of lilacs. This winter we have been able to obtain, from different regions, more than 30 new cultivars. I want to express my gratitude to Vladimir Beloborod'ko of Kazakhstan and Natalia Makedonskaya of Belarus for their generous gifts.

At the end of this report, I would like to thank once again the help and friendship of Colin Chapman, Evie King, and my Mei-Mei (that is "younger sister" in Chinese!) Cui Honxia. It is so good to know that you have friends in different countries!

Tatiana Polyakova, Moscow, May 3rd 2009.

Western Canada Report

Robson Valley in mid March was still experiencing winter's bitter cold. Several days in mid-March had temperatures in the -28 degrees Celsius over night. It is good that our lilacs were tucked under one to five feet of snow. We had very cold weather in January with a low of -36 degrees Celsius. The sun now has some warmth so hopefully spring will not be delayed too long.

We enjoyed the Minnesota Convention even without bloom. It is always interesting to see other ideas for using lilacs in the landscape and displaying "special" lilacs to advantage in the garden. Debbie's pruning techniques were a great help and we plan to put them into practice this year. We learn something new each time we meet with other lilac collectors. The tour of Bailey's Nursery was a privilege we would not have missed. The Chaska setting just added to the trip. Thank you Tim and Karen for being the perfect hosts. Thanks to Nancy Latimer for making all the new members feel welcome.

On our return, we visited the Dr. Fox collection south of Edmonton. It was too early for any bloom and we were saddened to hear the farm is for sale. We hope that whoever purchases it will appreciate the wonderful plantings and dedicated work of Dr. Fox. He collected many of the Skinner lilacs and was working on the propagation of new cultivars. As Brad Bittorf observed in his article in Volume 4, Fall 2008, there may be individually significant plants that may never be recognized, let alone saved. It makes us think about the long-range plans for our own collections.

We came home in time to stage our ninth annual lilac walk. We greeted over 100 excited folks looking for any new blooms as well as searching out their favorites. This is what keeps us planting! The favorites of this year's walk were 'Président Poincaré', 'Charm', 'Royal Purple' and 'Blanche Sweet'. In order to support the ILS we offered a chance to win a collection of three lilacs for the price of a \$2.00 ticket. We were able to raise \$100 for the ILS and one of the guests went home with a very nice addition to her garden.

*Bonnie Culp and Linda Blackman
March 2009*

*****Lilac Popularity Poll Results*****

1. 'Krasavitsa Moskv'y'
2. 'Sensation'
3. 'Maiden's Blush'
4. 'President Lincoln'
5. 'Monge' (112 cultivars made the list!)

Atlantic Region Report

Lilac sales and interest have increased greatly, not only in this region, but overall, and in the more southerly areas of the USA as well.

More magazines and newspapers than ever inquire about lilacs and readily feature them. They are genuinely hungry for planting and care assistance. A year never goes by without many questions on how to cut lilac bouquets and keep them fresh. (Perhaps ILS could author and publish helpful hints in this regard.)

This year we installed a very large, beautiful, blue fiberglass horse named "Li-Locks" at our nursery entrance. Painted overall with multi-colored lilacs, it presented many photo opportunities and fun at Lilac time

*Ted Collins
Vice President Atlantic Region
June 16, 2009*

Lilacs and Learning in Ottawa 2009

It had been 3 years since I last attended an ILS convention; a period of time that was much too long. Going with my son Shane to renew friendships with people who all share a love of lilacs, seeing a fresh look at lilacs in the context of 2 very different collections, hearing seminars at the AACF (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada) on the latest research with plants, a tour of an extensive 63 acre arboretum, and of course the food made for a fantastic vacation.

For most of our stay in Ottawa, the weather was somewhat dreary and drizzly, but never bad enough to spoil our plans. On Thursday, after a productive Directors' Meeting (in which much was accomplished, despite the fact that Nicole's suitcase with all of the agendas for the directors was lost by the airline), we all hopped on a school bus to tour the Governor General's residence grounds. The grounds were essentially an arboretum, with most trees labeled, and accented by ornamental gardens and fountains. From there, we went to the Civilizations Museum, a vast building with sweeping architectural lines that housed extensive displays on historical and cultural topics of Canada.

For me, the highlight of the convention was on the second day. First, we were driven to Franktown, in the township of Beckwith, where Brian Dowdall, Councillor of Beckwith Township, introduced us to the lilacs of Franktown. Never before had I seen a landscape of lilacs growing wild. Acres and acres of lilacs grown and tangled together, with stems up to 15' high, in hues of white and lavender. Lilacs lined the gravel and dirt road, growing between the

occasional split rail fence, with young seedlings flourishing in the openings between the mature, older growth.

After a delicious lunch and our annual meeting at the Town Hall, we proceeded to the Central Experimental Farm. Named cultivars of lilacs were displayed in rows for easy viewing, and were complemented by large perennial beds with showy lavender balls of *Allium* flowers and other beds of *Paeonia* hybrids. Many of the older cultivars I had never seen before, even though I work at a collection with over 500 cultivars. Several of my favorites included 'St. Margaret', a full double white which I've also planted at my house, 'Frank Paterson', a purple with large single-flowered clusters, and 'Alexander Hamilton', a Dunbar hybrid that was developed at Highland Botanical Park, but is no longer in our collection.

The third day dawned with a downpour, but fortunately cleared up to give us the best weather of the convention, with sunny skies the rest of the day. We began with seminars at the AACF headquarters.

Dr. C. André Leveque in his talk on "Biodiversity Research and Biological Collections on the Farm" revealed the extensive biological collections housed on the farm. The AAFC core resources includes some of the world's largest collections, such as 18,000 live fungi, 5000 live bacteria, and 450 live viruses, as well as 16 million non-living insects, 35,000 non-living fungi and 1.2 million plants, along with a very extensive taxonomic research library. Use of this collection recently helped to identify and ultimately deter the spread of an exotic Asian rust throughout North America.

Dr. Tharcisse Barasubiye described in detail the decline in *Syringa* at CEF of the Isabel Preston cultivars. This decline was due to Lilac Witches Broom caused by a phytoplasma found in the vascular tissue. The LWB phytoplasma is transmitted by a leafhopper, or by underground root grafts, and the symptoms of the disease include yellowing and reddening of the foliage, stunting, and witches-brooms. At the present time there is no cure for this disease, so early detection and removal of infected plants is paramount. Dr. Barasubiye and other researchers at the AACF have developed a detection technique for the pathogen. Following the talks and lunch was a tour of the 63 acre arboretum, and then a very spirited auction of lilacs and peonies.

The convention was capped off with the Awards Banquet, and Charles Holetich's speech on "Native Habitats of *Syringa vulgaris* in Serbia". This is a continuation of his and Dr. Zelimar Borzan's study of *S. vulgaris* first published in *Lilacs* Fall 2007.

The sights of Ottawa, informative talks, great food and companionship, and of course the abundance of lilacs combined to make a wonderful lilac vacation.

Kent Millham
July 2009

May 28, 2009 ILS Convention Board Meeting A, at Travelodge West, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

President Nicole Jordan called the meeting to order. Quorum was established.

Vice President's report. The ILS web site (<http://www.InternationalLilacSociety.org>) has been updated. There has been much good promotion of lilacs in Europe and Russia, especially including Moscow, St Petersburg, and an upcoming appearance on Russian TV show. Motion to renew web site and web hosting package was passed.

Editor's report: Kent is getting another quote on printing of the journal. Sometimes he must do two editing passes of the current journal. It is very expensive to send some journal copies to parts of the world.

Treasurer's report: Karen McCauley – Treasurer's report showed a balance of about \$70,000 US. This was up slightly from last year. The project to convert historic lilac media from 8mm tapes to other formats is underway. It is expensive to conduct our voting for Board of Directors.

There was discussion of less costly ways to conduct our annual balloting. Next year, ballots will be printed in the journal, and members may either mail back responses or vote by e-mail. The board passed a motion that authorizes Warren Oakes and Brad Bittorf to develop a plan for future balloting and to report on this plan in a future journal.

The cost of ILS Awards has been reduced to about \$400 from prior years of \$700 and \$1000.

A Member made a request for reimbursement two sets of expenses that ranged from two- to three-years-old. These expenses were related to past elections and past conventions. During discussion, we learned that most other organizations consider any requests for reimbursement submitted later than 120 days to be "stale" and that such requests are invalid and are not reimbursed. The board voted 8-4 to reimburse the Member for his expenses despite the extreme tardiness of this request. The board also voted to amend the By-Laws to explicitly state that future requests for reimbursement of expenses must be submitted for reimbursement within 180 days of when they are incurred in order to be reimbursed in the future.

A request from a Member to examine the ILS Treasury records, including records for the European and Canadian accounts, for the past 15 years was denied because it was not judged "reasonable" by the Board. Current treasury reports and audit reports are always available to all Members in Good Standing. It was noted that at a previous board meeting, the board voted to consolidate both Canadian and European accounts into a single treasury.

The board accepted the Treasurer's report in full.

The board passed a motion to clarify some duties of the Executive Vice Presidents in the rules for officers. A revised version of the by-laws and duties for officers will each be published to the ILS web site.

The ILS now supports credit card payments for memberships during the entire year. This has resulted in an increase in annual bank fees, but it is considered a cost of doing business. The credit card option is particularly useful for some of our international members. Brad will also try to set up a "PayPal" option for membership on the web site. There will be an additional "service fee" charged to cover some of the cost of processing such fees.

There was some discussion whether there should be various ILS Memorial Funds or one single Memorial Fund.

Membership report: Warren Oakes: There are fewer members now than in 2008. However there are many members who have not renewed their membership, and some of these are likely to renew their memberships. Warren or Karen and Tim McCauley will send reminder postcards to members who have not yet renewed their membership.

The process by which new members are welcomed and acknowledged is sometimes slow. We will try to change the process so that those who join the ILS get some timely acknowledgment and perhaps a special mailing of the most recent journal or a letter of thanks and welcome.

The New England region has been particularly active with both spring and fall events. The 2009 fall event will be held on a Saturday. Evie King and Jeff Young were praised for their activities promoting lilacs within the region.

The Sunny Fields lilac festival in Michigan is growing in popularity. Bill Horman was cited for his work there.

Gary Parton is preparing a suite of educational materials for young people (grades 3-5) centered on lilacs. It may be ready to be tested during 2009 or spring 2010 and will include modules on art, science, literature, botany, and perhaps history and music.

Giles Waines – Research – Jin Hua Li is now at Hope College in Michigan. To complete the research we would then send the \$3000 to him there. Hope College is located in Holland, Michigan.

Lilac Books: Lilacs: A Gardener's Encyclopedia is selling well. Praise for Freek Vrugtman for the difficult and continuous job of updating the book, as well as of getting many new photographs included.

The lilac care brochure is done except for list of arboreta that have lilacs. Kent is updating the list, and he will gather more information from Freek Vrugtman. Tim McCauley may be able to help with the layout of this booklet so that they can be printed. The pamphlet would be sent to new members with their membership acknowledgement.

Next year's convention will be held in Shelburne, VT. 2011 will probably be held in Lombard, Illinois, USA (near Chicago). Jean-François Gonot also invited ILS to Nancy, France (where the Lemoine family did its famous lilac work) for the 2012 convention.

For this year's convention we will debut a "lilac voucher auction" in addition to the physical lilac auction.

We will try to print new, and probably updated, lilac brochures.

Can somebody design a logo for the International Lilac Society? A suggestion was that we hold a new logo contest. And request that this new logo be included in the brochure.

Nicole said that she is forming a standing ILS Preservation committee to be able to preserve the rarer lilacs and the endangered collections. The committee would try to identify and inventory lilacs that are out in different places so that we know which lilacs are rarer and unusual. It would include a number of members from around the globe.

Results of the 2009 lilac "popularity poll" can be published on the web site and journal. [Note: the popularity poll was taken at the Awards dinner and results will be made available in the Journal and web site.]

Meeting adjourned.

*submitted by Brad Bittorf
Executive Vice-President*

Summary of May 30, 2009 International Lilac Society Board Meeting B, at Travelodge West, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Meeting of the newly-elected board (Those having terms expiring 2010, 2011, and 2012.)

President Nicole Jordan called the meeting to order. Quorum was established.

The following people were nominated and elected by the board of directors as officers of the International Lilac Society for 2009-2010:

President - Nicole Jordan

Secretary - Warren Oakes

Editor - Kent Millham

Treasurer - Karen McCauley

Regional Vice Presidents - as current

Executive Vice President for Canada - Frank Moro

Executive Vice-President for Europe - Colin Chapman

Executive Vice-President for Russia and Asia - Tatiana Poliakova

[Note: Executive Vice President Brad Bittorf is in the 4th year of a 5 year term.]

Nicole Jordan will talk to one of the regional vice presidents to determine if they want to continue in that role (and will appoint someone else if not).

The ILS By-Laws and ILS "Duties for Officers" are now available on the ILS web site. However, the ILS will also print booklets for all officers containing both of these documents.

Regional vice-presidents are encouraged to hold an event in their region each year, or at least to send a letter or e-mail to members within the region.

A map or list of the ILS regions will be added to the ILS web site.

Nicole thanked Joan Speirs and Friends of the Farm for their efforts to put on a great convention.

Awards committee chairperson will change from Bob Hoepfl to Connie Simonnet.

Nicole will make appointments to the Lilac Preservation Committee. Kent will then add that Committee to the list of Standing Committees in the journal. Per the By-Laws, the president has authority to appoint both temporary and standing committees..

Dr. Giles Waines will remain as chair of the Research Committee. Bruce Peart will remain chair of the lilac distribution committee.

Gary Parton said that the youth education package will be “piloted” during the next year and then will be presented to the ILS Board during the 2010 meeting.

Editing of the books (Treasurer’s report) is in progress and will concluded with a final report shortly.

There was discussion of the purpose and history of the lilac distribution committee. It may cost the ILS money to pay for propagation and tissue culture activities. Woody proposed that plants be distributed during the annual meetings. It would be appropriate for ILS to pay for costs incurred in preparation and distribution of the plants. Joan added that there are considerations for crossing the international border. Nicole will talk to members of the Distribution Committee about current and future activities.

The Convention committee was authorized to investigate logistics of holding a convention in 2012 in Nancy, France. We will almost certainly require a deposit in advance for the France convention.

The 2011 ILS convention will be held at Lombard, Illinois May 13-16, 2011.

Meeting adjourned.

*submitted by Brad Bittorf
Executive Vice-President, ILS*

Announcements

Fall Issue Article Submission Deadline: September 15, 2009
Future Conventions:

May 2010	Shelburne, Vermont, USA
May 2011	Lombard, Illinois, USA
May 2012	proposed site Nancy, France

2009 ILS Annual Meeting, Franktown, Ontario, Canada

President Jordan called meeting to order and thanked the members of the Board of Directors, who were recognized.

Treasurer Karen McCauley reported that we have about \$70000. Last year ILS made money. Next year the election ballots will be published in the journal, and members will either mail ballots or will be able to vote for board members electronically. We also received several donations last year.

Bruce Peart has a version of the lilac presentation CD-ROM available. The books are currently being audited.

Woody Barnes moved and Bruce Peart seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Passed.

Another motion was approved to dispense with the reading of last year's minutes and that was also approved.

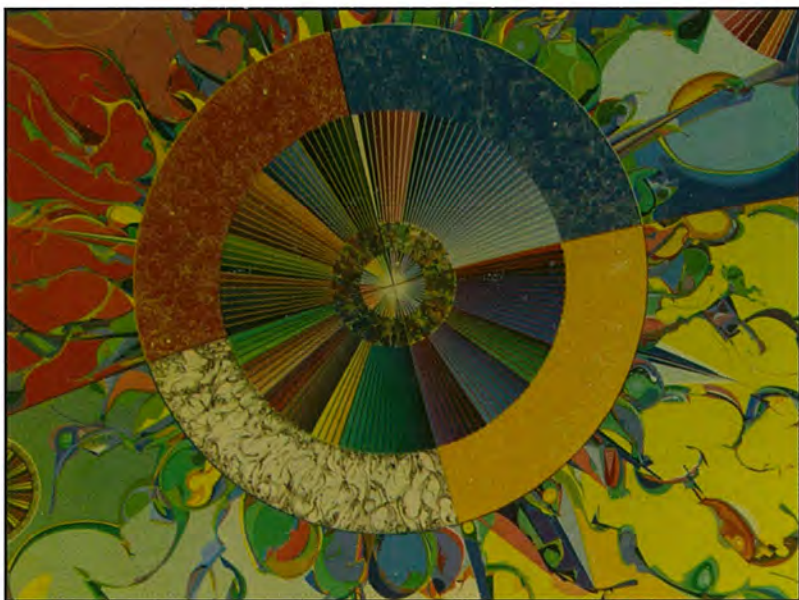
Editor Kent Millham was recognized for editing the journal.

Executive Vice President Brad Bittorf spoke about the web site and some of the recent developments. There are some recent updates to the web site "InternationalLilacSociety.org."

Secretary Warren Oakes reported on membership. There are currently fewer members than last year but there are 32 new members. Many more may respond and renew their memberships. Warren also commented that some people are responding to him or are asking questions via e-mail.

Registrar Freek Vrugtman reported that the ILS web site includes a link to the Registrar page. Freek can work on it directly. He is receiving more inquiries and questions about lilacs. He answers them or forwards them to people within ILS likely to be able to help. (The Registration page includes information about registering new lilacs and a link to the "Register" of all named lilacs, as well as much more information.)

Convention committee chair Karen McCauley reported that the 2010 convention will be held in Shelburne, VT and the 2011 convention will be held in Lombard, Illinois. The ILS has been invited to meet at Nancy, France in 2012. Nancy, France is the place where the Lemoine famous family did work and where almost all Lemoine cultivars are on display. There is also a new lilac



Incredibly colorful skylight at top of spiral staircase
at the Civilizations Museum in Ottawa
Photo Credit Kent Millham



The lavender shade of the *Allium* (flowering onion)
complements the whites and lavenders of the adjacent lilacs at the CEF
Photo Credit Kent Millham



Connie Simonnet admires a 'City of Gresham' lilac
at the Central Experimental Farm
Photo Credit MaryMae Meyer



Bright peonies accent the lilacs and other gardens
at the Central Experimental Farm
Photo Credit Bruce Peart and Margaret Walton



Marcia Hoepfl and Joann Kratzberg
next to a weeping Norway Spruce, *Picea abies* 'Pendula'
at the arboretum at the Central Experimental Farm
Photo Credit MaryMae Meyer



Dan Meier walking up an avenue of lilacs
at Central Experimental Farm
Photo Credit Richard Hinchcliff



The wild lilacs of Franktown, Ontario, Canada
against a misty background of dark clouds
Photo Credit Kent Millham



Lilacs of all colors and their seedlings
highlight a rustic fence at Franktown
Photo Credit Bruce Peart and Margaret Walton

garden park there. People can fly into the Paris airport and then take the high speed train there. They may also be able to reach it from Stuttgart, Germany.

Jean-François Gonot from Nancy France invited us there in 2012. Mary Mae Meyer also invited us to Lombard in 2011. [Jeff Young invited us to Vermont at the dinner that evening.] Bill Horman also invited the ILS to Sunny Fields in Michigan in 2015 or 2017.

Brad Bittorf discussed the International Lilac Robin. To join this discussion group about lilacs, e-mail Brad at ILSExecVP@gmail.com.

Bill Horman said that we should focus more on keeping and building our membership, and on keeping and knowing about lilac collections. Nicole reported that yesterday she formed the ILS Preservation committee to assist in saving lilac collections and in inventorying the lilacs of the world. Freek Vrugman reported that the gardens at the Free University of Amsterdam may be eliminated. Some of the ILS members are trying to assist in saving this.

Alex Henderson, Director of Collections/Horticulturalist at Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) spoke to the membership about the status of the lilac collection at RBG. He acknowledged that RBG has not been as involved as they have been in the past with ILS. The arboretum is 43 acres and it is currently serviced by two full-time staff plus summer interns. Charles Holetich has been mentoring Alex and others about the collection and its care. Alex said they are trying new ways to manage the collection, and they are working to rectify some issues such as drainage. They are using new mulching techniques and they are pruning and doing other maintenance. A number of cultivars have been lost and RBG would like to replace them, possibly by doing lilac swaps. He made available copies of the inventory at RBG. RBG also propagated about 100 lilacs this year. Alex has a goal of assessing the "rarity" of various lilacs within the collection, and prioritizing propagation and care at least partly on that basis. Belinda is also working on improving irrigation at the collection. There is a high cost to preserve the collection—it will take resources—but members of ILS can help.

Belinda Gallagher, RBG Head of Horticulture, thanked the ILS for its help. She said that RBG has a challenge to make it through these tough times. Belinda said that we have a mission to share knowledge and the importance of botanical gardens and collections with younger people. Because of organizations like ILS, RBG has maintained a mission to improve plants (as well as to become a tourist destination).

Nicole said that Gary Parton has developed an educational program for children that we are hoping to improve and share.

Meeting adjourned.

ILS AWARDS 2009

DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION AWARD

Presented to

FREEK VRUGTMAN

For your loyal dedication to the revision of "*Lilacs-
A Gardeners Encyclopedia*".

2009



DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION AWARD

Presented to

CHARLES HOLETICH

In recognition of your exploration of the native
habitat of *Syringa vulgaris*.

2009



PRESIDENTS AWARD

Presented to

TOWN OF FRANKTOWN

'THE LILAC CAPITAL OF ONTARIO'

For protecting the extraordinary collection of lilacs
introduced by Scottish and English settlers.

2009



AWARD OF MERIT

Presented to **JOAN SPEIRS**

For collaborating on the 'Phytoplasma Project' as
lilac consultant, and for her many contributions
toward making the 38th annual convention of the
International Lilac Society a great success.



AWARD OF MERIT

Presented to BRUCE PEART

For providing advice on the care of the Central
Experimental Farm's lilac collection and supplying
lilac cultivars to further enhance this collection.

Ottawa, Ontario

2009



AWARD OF MERIT

Presented to

EASTERN CEREAL AND OILSEED RESEARCH
CENTRE

For collaborating in the study to detect 'Phytoplasma
DNA' in the *Syringa villosae* group.



AWARD OF MERIT

Presented to

FRIENDS OF THE CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL FARM

For assisting AAFC in maintaining the lilac collection which includes cultivars originated by Isabella Preston.

Editor's Note: The award photo of Dr. Leveque of the Cereal and Oilseed Research Institute is from MaryMae Meyer. All other awards photos are credited to Bruce Peart and Margaret Walton.

Convention 2009

We enjoyed hosting the convention at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. It was definitely hard but rewarding work, made possible by a large group of volunteers who were full of praise for the friendliness and helpfulness of the attendees. Next time we do this, we'll avoid those glitches!

Our events director, Diana Dakers-Ryan, will shortly have money matters settled. At present it seems ILS earned about \$2945 between the plant and silent auctions. Many thanks to the donors and purchasers. Frank Moro, Select Plus International, Québec, was the biggest contributor of plants. Many also came from Connon Nurseries via Bruce Peart. Other donors: Sheridan Nurseries, Ontario; Boughen Nursery, Manitoba; Green Thumb Garden Centre, Ontario; Linda Blackman and Bonnie Culp, British Columbia; Myrna Walberg, Québec; Joan Speirs, Ontario. Plant vouchers came from: Syringa Plus Nursery, Massachusetts; Lombard Garden Club and Lilacia Park, Illinois; Karen and Tim McCauley, Minnesota; Bill Horman, Michigan; and Mary Pratté, Ontario.

See you next year in Vermont where I will get to relax.

Joan Speirs
Lilac coordinator, Friends of the
Central Experimental Farm

Visited Native Habitats of *Syringa vulgaris* L. in Serbia

By Charles D. Holetich

During April of 2008 with help of Zoran Milovanovic, biologist at Djerdap National Park of Serbia, I visited numerous locales of native *Syringa vulgaris* L. initially described in Lilacs 36, No 4, Fall 2007. This was my second visit to the area, but first visit during blooming season of *Syringa vulgaris* L.

If any of you ever contemplate to visit the area in search of the native lilac in bloom, I suggest you spent some time in detail planning of the trip. To have someone to monitor and to alert you about peak of bloom either within National Park of Djerdap or a specific Forest district Office (Sumaska Gazdinstva of Serbia) where native lilacs are growing, will be of great value, but also useful in timely planning to find lilacs at their peak of bloom.

In year of 2005 for example, the peak of bloom of native lilac in Serbia was during first week of May. In 2008, on April 23rd I received in Zagreb, Croatia a telephone call informing me, that native lilacs are at their peak in some areas of Serbia. Being only 5 hours train ride from Belgrade, I packed and got onto the train the next day early in the morning, and by noon reached the destination. My companion or more appropriately a guide waited for me at the station.

During remaining part of the day we managed to stop for lunch, visit 3 native lilac locations and drive close to place we planned to visit next day, had supper and went to bed.

Starting point and sequence of visiting locations which I am proposing to you in this article, differs slightly from our trek, but is easier to follow and even if lilacs are not in bloom, you will enjoy the scenery. I hope that the map showing the growing locations will be reprinted in a size that one could read and follow it.

Unless you are intercepted by a local (knowledgeable) guide, regardless if you are coming to Belgrade via plane and renting a (terrain) vehicle or coming via car from some other European destinations, I strongly suggest that several individuals form a group allowing you to explore the area with camera on foot, while one person follows you in the car. Road widenings, where you might park a vehicle for short term, are not frequent, plus occasional remoteness of the area, will make you more secure if you are in groups.

Another item of consideration is that you will often explore sites along 2 lane winding country road, absorbed with procedures of how to make the best photo of lilacs and the scenery, while some "smarty pants" may be travelling

100 km on 50 km speed limit road. So be safe, rather than sorry!

After leaving Belgrade on main highway toward place called Nis, get off at about 50 km distance from Belgrade and take exit to place Pozarevac (22 km) bypass it and continue toward Veliko Gradiste (30 km). Follow the road along Danube toward Golubac (20 km). Golubac is a name of the nearby place but also the name of an old fortress dating back to era of the Ottoman Empire. Several short tunnels at the base of the fortress are carved in the hillside, to accommodate 2 lane road. Within 100 feet from the fortress the road widens. Step out of the car and explore on foot adjacent slopes. The native lilacs will be visible on the hillside, but also along the edge of the road.

At this point flat and mildly undulated terrain ends, and mountainous region begins. Danube narrows from 1500 m to various widths as it passes between the steep sided mountains to the place called Mali Kazan (small kettle or cauldron), where turbulent water of Danube is only 250 meters wide, while the depth, I am told, is 2° times the width.

Also about 100 km down stream from Golubac fortress, a hydro dam was constructed, jointly by Yugoslavia and Romania, which elevated the Danube water e by 35 m, and changed permanently the upstream water level up to 120 km distance and up to 300 km upstream during rainy seasons.

One inhabited island and 5 shore villages on Serbian and Romanian side were submerged effecting displacement of 17 000 inhabitants. New two lane road was constructed, while the lower and smaller roads, paths and/or passages were submerged in water. Some nearly pure lilac stands, several hundred meters in length were either submerged or decimated during the new road construction. Luckily the upper fork of the pure stand is still there but requires intense mountain climbing ability, so I left it for the younger explorer(s). It is located 10 km from a small place called Dobra, which is about 25 km from Golubac along Danube. The Lilac growth takes 45 degree angle from the road to the right and proceeds into the mountain region. The groupings of lilacs of the same growth are visible from the road by binoculars and the naked eye.

There are 22 short tunnels (15 – 250m in length) starting at Veliki Kazan (Big cauldron) and progressing upstream toward fortress of Golubac. It all takes place within 100 km length of the very picturesque road. Since tunnels are marked by signs indicating sequence number and its respective length, I will use the tunnels as bench marks and tell you where lilacs were observed and photographed. The greater concentration of lilacs are around tunnels # 21, 20, 19, 18, 17, 14, 13, and 1.

Once you are at Veliki Kazan, a church that was raised on old foundation to escape submersion into Danube's is visible on Romanian side. Short distance from the church is the head of King Decebal carved into the mountain. During his rule in second century he managed to amalgamate over 40 tribes into a

country, hence he is considered to be the founding father of current Romania. Not far away from the monument of King Decebal, along the Danube, is a 6m wide lilac growth, only 3m above surface of the Danube, growing in utterly poor, and nutritionless soil, but with happy looks and prosperous growth.

Continuing further one comes to Hydro Dam. Signs inform visitors that picture taking is prohibited. Why? Residue of the old way of (political) thinking. The road linking Romania and Serbia is incorporated on the top of the Hydro Dam.

From this place perhaps one should go past place called Pirot, near Bulgarian border into Canyon Jerme (21). It is very picturesque with unusual stone sculptures along the canyon.

Until recently, it used to be the main link road to Sofia, Bulgaria. A two-lane road was carved into a rugged stone edge mountain. Only on several places it may be braced with some reinforced concrete, allowing the passage of a single car. The bent guardrails (shown on the slide) stand as proof that some people have difficulty to adjust to common sense and traffic rules. Standing at the bent guardrail caused by a previous car accident, one could feel the cool moist air of the surroundings, just the way Mr. Lilac ordered it.

After Canyon Jerme (21), I consider Sichevachka Klisura (20) very attractive in formation of very interesting natural stone sculptures, depicting different imaginative objects as observed from different angle.

Being there, convinced me that lilacs are not only resilient plants but very selective in occupying more often than not beautiful surroundings where views are breathtaking. I was surprised often by amount of blossom being displayed by lilacs growing in crevices of the rock, as if the energy for its growth comes from air, rather than soil nutrients.

On road #22 from Kraljevo to Novi Pazar one follows River Ibar. At place Maglich a large fortress is visible on top of the hill. Word Maglich translates into Foggy, which implies that fog is frequently visible on the hillside slopes. It rises from River Ibar in the valley and creates ideal growing conditions for lilacs. This area is composed of acid soils and color deviation from typical lilac into pink and pale pink to white is typical. When transplanted into neutral or alkaline soils the color of bloom will change slightly, I am told, but never revert to the usual color of lilacs growing in alkaline medium.

In place near Saludovac I met 4 colleagues Foresters who in terrain vehicle took me into deep forest where lilacs and oriental blue beech (*Carpinus orientalis*) are predominant vegetation. I asked what road should I take to bring a busload of lilac enthusiasts there? Laughter was the only answer.

Various monasteries I came across in Serbia, and lilacs seem to have similarity in selection of sites. All of them are secluded in areas abundant in water,

sceneries, undisturbed nature and plenty of peace.

Road from Petrovac to Zagubica and further to Bor is worthy of a visit. Three adjacent groups (10, 11 and 12) along small river Mlava are represented by numerous lilacs in groups and individually. There I came across a meter size lilac growing from crevice of a manmade 40 x 8 m wall of a convent. Spent bloom stands as a proof that 2007 was a very generous year in quantity of bloom for this lilac. Year of 2008 produced one inflorescence only.

Canyon of Grza (16) offered an interesting example of microclimate. Two lilacs 5 meters apart, one past the peak of the bloom and the other about to peak in 2 to 3 days. The late one is closer to the North facing slope of the mountain and receives lesser amount of light, greater amount of snow and deeper freeze-up when snowfall is scarce.

This reminds me of an Italian neighbour in Hamilton, Ontario. He worked at a hockey arena and had an access to free ice. He enjoyed apricots but 7 out of 10 years late frost would kill the newly formed fruit. To delay the time of bloom he placed a 4m tarp under the canopy of the apricot tree in March. By doing so he assured that water produced by melting of the ice would not over saturate the soil. He kept adding ice as needed.

He managed to force peak of bloom 2 to 2^o weeks later than normal blooming time and 9 out of 10 times was successful to enjoy his own apricots. Others approved of his ingenuity but rely on market for their source of apricots.

Observing nature is fascinating phenomenon. When visiting Romania in search of native habitat of *Syringa josikaea* I noticed it being tolerant to presence of water much more than *Syringa vulgaris*. Dr. Zelimir Borzan and I brought home to Zagreb, Croatia about 6 small plants. I took 2 and planted them in May of 2005 in a flower and shrub bed where it thrived but in two years one grew from 10 cm to 25 cm height, while the other disappeared. In spring of 2007 I transplanted it into nutrient poor soil adjacent to a downspout from a roof eaves trough (gutter). On occasion it might receive as much as 500L of water per generous rainfall.

Since soil is fairly porous I assume the lilac is happy since in two subsequent years it grew from 25 to 180 cm.

In conclusion, I may say, observe the nature, keep lilacs away from windy areas, create conditions they like the best and ask your friend or neighbour who is very successful in something you are not –“How did you do it?”

Together we can do it faster and better – please help!

At the ILS Convention in Ottawa, Ontario, May 28 – 30, 2009, a Power Point slide presentation was shown depicting about 500 lilac cultivars, species and subspecies. They represent mainly three years of lilac photography undertaken by Dr. Zelimir Borzan (ILS member) and Charles Holetich at Highland Botanical Park, Rochester, New York and Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario.

On behalf of the International Lilac Society I would like to assemble a Lilac slide library of as many lilac cultivars, species and subspecies as possible, but since it is impossible for an individual to visit numerous collections and native habitats in the world, the help by many can achieve practically the same results.

Would you be willing to share your digitized photos of lilacs under the following guidelines?

- the photo is crisp (sharp), without blemish and true to the color of lilac depicted, preferably showing buds as well as open florets. (Ideal ratio is 1/3 buds and 2/3 open florets)
- each photo (in the frame or on a separate list) has indication of location and the date the picture was taken, so anyone may come, visit and check the depicted lilac if for any reason they so desire.
- photo(s) should depict either a whole shrub, group of inflorescences or a single inflorescence, or all of the above in separate slide photos.
- provide full address and e-mail if you have one, so viewer has an opportunity to make contact and request further info if needed.
- DO NOT SEND PHOTOS VIA E-MAIL BUT ON CD OR DVD ONLY, using regular postal services.
- mail CD or DVD to Charles Holetich, 265 – 5th Concession Road East, Waterdown, Ontario, Canada L0R 2H1
- once the photos are received the code will be appropriated and incorporated into the name tag for each slide selected. The selected code will lead to the list with full address for possible further inquiry.
- if any photo is released to a Botanic Garden, Arboreta, Lilac Registrar as a lilac identifying tool, complete credit to the author of the photo will be given.

We have at the moment the following slides on hand, in the attached alphabetical order listing. Please note that all photos without indication of the group affiliation belong to *vulgaris*.

(Beside a new slide, even if you feel that you have an exceptional slide of a cultivar listed, send it along. It may replace the one selected)

Once I collect over a thousand slides I'll break them into seven color grouping and create seven alphabetical lists which will offer endless possibilities to be used as an educational or a research tool.

Charles Holetich

List of labeled Lilac slides on hand in Power Point format

(In alphabetical order with group affiliation. Note; unmarked cultivar belongs to *Syringa vulgaris*)

Abel Carriere, Abundant Bloomer, Adelaide Dunbar, Admiral Farragut, Agincourt Beauty, Alba *xchinensis*, Albert F Holden, Alexsei Mares'ev, Alexandre Aristocrat(Villosae Group), Alice Rose Foster (Villosae Group), Aline Mocqueris, Allison Gray, Aloise, Alphonse Lavalee, Ami Schott, Amoena, Anabel *xhyac.*, Andenken an Ludwig Späth, Andre Csizik, Angel White *xhyac.*, Anna Elisabet Jacquet, Anne Shiach, Anne Tighe, Arch McKean' Arthur William Paul, Assessippi *xhyac.*, Astra, Atheline Wilbur, Aucubaefolia, Audrey (Villosae Group), Aurea villosa, Avalanche, Azurea Plena, Bardsee (not in Reg.), Barhinger (not in Reg.), Beacon (Villosae Group), Belaya Noch, Belle de Nancy, Bellicent (Villosae Group), Belorusskie Zori, Bernard Slavin, Berryer *xhyac.*, Bertha Child, Betty Oppen, Bicentennial, Bicolor *xchinensis*, Bishop McQuaid, Blanche Sweet *xhyac.*, Blue Delight, Blue Diamond, Blue Ice, Bob Tischler, Bogdan Khmel'nitskii, Bogdan Przyrzykowski, Boule Azuree, Bountiful *xhyac.*, Boussingault, Bridal Memories, Bright Centennial, Buffon *xhyac.*, Burgemeester Loggers, California Rose *xhyac.*, Campsie *xhyac.*, Capitaine Baltet, Capitaine Perrault, Carley, Carmine, Catawba Pink, Catinat *xhyac.*, Champlain, Charlemagne, Charles Baltet, Charles Joly, Charles Lindberg, Charles Nordine *xhyac.*, Charles X, Cheyenne *obl. subsp. dil.*, *xchinensis*, Chris, Churchill *xhyac.*, City of Kalama, Clara, Clara Cochet, Claude Bernard *xhyac.*, Clyde Heard, Colbert, Colmariensis, Col. Wm. R. Plum, Comte Horace de Choiseul, Comtesse Horace de Choiseul, Comtesse d'Harcourt, Condorcet, Congo, Conquete, Cora Lyden, Coral (Villosae Group), Corinne, Correlata (*chin.* + *vulg.*), Crepuscule, Croix de Brahy, Cynthia, Danusia (Villosae Group), Dappled Dawn, Darlene, Dawn (Havemeyer), Dawn (Klager), De Croncels, De Humboldt, De Jussieu, De Louvain, Delreb (Rêve Bleu™) De Miribel, De

Saussure, Descanso King *xhyac.*, Descartes *xhyac.*, Desdemona (Villosae Group), Deul d'Emile Galle, Diplomate, Directeur Doorenbos, *xdiversifolia*, Docteur Charles Jacobs, Donald Wyman (Villosae Group), Downfield, Doyen Keteleer, Dr Lemke (No 71-Lemke), Dr Lemke (No 125-Lemke), Dr Lindley, Dr Maillot, Dr Masters, Dr Nobbe, Duc de Massa, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Edith Cavell, Edmond About, Edmond Boissier, Edouard Andree, Edward J. Gardner, Ekenholm, Ellie-Marie, Emile Gentil, Emile Lemoine, Erzherzog Johann, Esther Staley *xhyac.*, Ethel M. Webster (Villosae Group), Ethiopia, Evangeline *xhyac.*, Excel *xhyac.*, Excellent, Fantasy *xhyac.*, FC 20 (evaluation in Rochester), Fellemburg, Fenelon *xhyac.*, Fiala Remembrance, Firmament, Flora 1953, Florence Christine, Flower City, Francisque Morel, Frank Klager, Frank Paterson, Fraser *xhyac.*, Frau Wilhelm Pfitzer, Fred Payne, Frederick Law Olmsted, Fürst Bülow, Fürst Liechtenstein, Gastovais Sapis, Gaizinkalns, Gastello, Geant des Batailles, Geheimrat Singlemann, General Drouot, General Elwell S. Otis, General Grant, General Pershing, General Sherman, Georges Eastman *pubes.* Subsp. *julianae*, George Landis, Georges Bellair, George W. Aldridge, Geraldine Smith, Germinal (Villosae Group), Gerrie Schoonenberg, Gigantea, Giraldis *oblata* subsp. *oblata*, Gismonda, Gloire d'Aalsmeer, Gloire de la Rochelle, Gloire de Lorraine, Gloire de Moulins, Godron, Golden Eclipse *retic.* subsp. *retic.*, Goliath, Goplana (Villosae Group), Gortenziya, Grace Wyman, Grace *xhyac.*, Grand-Duc Constantin, Guizot, Hagni (Villosae Group), Heather, Hecla (Villosae Group), Helen Schloen, Helena Agathe Keessen, Henry Martin, Henri Robert, Hermann Eilers, Hers *pubes.* subsp. *julianae*, Hiawatha (Villosae Group), Hippolyte Maringer, Hosanna, Hugo de Vries, Hugo Koster, Hyacinthiflora Plena *xhyac.*, Isabella (Villosae Group), I. V. Michurin, Ivory Silk *retic.* subsp. *retic.*, Jacques Callot, Jagienka (Villosae Group), Jake Thomas, James Booth, James Macfarlane (Villosae Group), James Stuart, Jan van Tol, Jane Day, Jean Bart, Jean Mace, Jeanne d'Arc, Jefferson Berdeen, Jessie Gardner, Jewel *xhyac.*, Joel, John Kennedy, *josikaea*, J. R. Koning, Jules Ferry, Jules Simon, Julien Gerardin, Justii, Kabul *protolaciniata*, Kapitaïn Teliga, Kapriz, Kate Sessions *xhyac.*, Katherine Havemeyer, K. A. Timiryazev, Kingsville, Königin Luise, Konstanty Karpow, Kosmos, Krasavitsa Moskv, Krasnaya Moskva, *xlaciniata*, La Mauve, La Tour d'Auvergne, Lady Lucille, Lamarck, Lamartine *xhyac.*, Languis, Laplace, Laura L. Barnes, Laurentian *xhyac.*, Lavalensis, Lavender Lady *xhyac.*, Lavinia (Villosae Group), Lavoisier, Le Notre, Le Printemps, LECburg (Burg. Queen™), Leila Romer, Lemoinei, Leon Gambetta, Leon Simon, Leone Gardner, Liega, Lilac Sunday *xchinensis*, Lilarosa, Linne, Logo, Lois Amee Utley, L'Oncle Tom, Louis Henry, Lauvois *xhyac.*, Lucie Baltet, Lunyi Svet, Mactrostachya, Macrotyrsa *pekinensis*, Madame Charles Souchet, Madeleine Lemaire, Mademoiselle Fernande Viger, Magellan, Maidens Blush, Marc Micheli, Marceau, Marechal de Bassompierre, Marechal Foch, Marechal Lannes, Marengo, Margaret Fenicchia, Margot Grunewald, Marie Finon, Marie Legraye, Marlyensis, Marlyensis Pallida, Marshal Zhukov, Martha Kounze, Martha Stewart, Martine, Mary Short *xhyac.*, Mathieu de Dombasle, Maureen,

xyac., Maurice Barres, Maurice de Vilmorin, Mauve Mist, Max Lœbner
xyac., Maximowicz, McMaster Centennial, Mechta, Metensis *xchinensis*,
meyeri, Michel Buchner, *pubescens* subsp. *microphylla*, Midwest Gem, Mildred
 Luetta, Minuet (Villosae Group), Mirabeau *xyac.*, Miss Canada (Villosae
 Group), Miss Ellen Wilmott, Miss Kim *pubes.* subsp. *patula*, Mlle Melide Laurent,
 Mme Amelie Duprat, Mme Antoine Buchner, Mme Boulard (not in Reg.), Mme
 Briot, Mme Casimir Perier, Mme Fallieres, Mme Felix, Mme Florent Stepman,
 Mme F. Morel, Mme Henri Guillaud, Mme Kreuter, Mme Lemoine, Mme Leon
 Simon, Mme Moser, Monge, Monique Lemoine, Mons. Leon Mathieu, Mons.
 Maxime Cornu, Mons. Van Aerschot, Montaigne, Monument Carnot, Mood
 Indigo, MORjos 060F (intersp. Hybrid), Mount Baker *xyac.*, Mrs Calvin
 Coolidge, Mrs Edward Harding, Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt, Mrs Harry Bickle, Mrs
 H. J. Cran, Mrs Katherine Margaretten, Mrs McKelvey, Mrs Nancy Reagan, Mrs
 Watson Webb, Mrs W. E. Marshall, My Favourite, Nadezhda, Nana, Nancy
 Frick, Naudin, Nebo Moskvyy, Necker *xyac.*, Negro, Night, Nike (Villosae
 Group), Nokomis *xyac.*, Norah *xyac.*, Nouveau *xdiversifolia*, Oakes Double
 White, *oblata* subsp. *oblata*, *oblata* subsp. *dilatata*, Old Fashioned, Old Rose,
 Olimpiada Kolesnikova, Olive May Cummings, Olivier de Serres, Ostankino,
 Ostrander, Palibin *meyeri*, Palida *josikaea*, Pamyat o S. M. Kirove, Pascal *xyac.*,
 Pasteur, Patricia *xyac.*, Patrick Henry, Paul Deschanel, Paul Thirion, Peerless
 Pink, Peggy *xyac.*, *pekinensis*, Perle von Stuttgart, Perle von Teltow, Philemon,
 Pierre Joigneaux, Pink Cloud *xyac.*, Pink Lace, Pink Mist, Pink Spray *xyac.*,
 Pinkie, *pinnatifolia*, Pioner, Pixie, Planchon, Plena, Pocahontas *xyac.*, Pol'
 Robson, Pom Pom, Porcelain Blue, P. P. Konchalovskii, Prairial (Villosae
 Group), President Carnot, President Grevy, President Hayes *xchinensis*, Presi-
 dent Lebrun, President Lincoln, President Poincare, President Ronald Reagan,
 President Roosevelt, President Viger, Primrose, Prince de Beauvau, Prince
 Notger, Prince of Wales, Princess Alexandra, Princesse Camile de Rohan,
 Priscilla, Prof. E. H. Wilson, Professor Sargent, Prof. Hoser, Prof. Josef
 Brzezinski, Prophecy *yunanensis*, *protolaciniata* x *pinnatifolia*, *pubescens* subsp.
microphylla, *pubescens* subsp. *patula*, Quadricolor, Radzh Kapur, Redbud,
 Redwine (Villosae Group), Reine Elisabeth, Reine Marguerite, Rene Jarry
 Desloges, Renoncule, *reticulata* subsp. *mandshurica*, *reticulata* subsp. *reticulata*,
 Reva Ballreich, Rhodopea, Riet Bruidegom, Rochester, Roi Albert, Romance,
 Ronsard, Rosace, Rosea Grandiflora, Rouge de Trianon, Royal Purple *xyac.*,
 Royalty (Villosae Group), Rubella Plena, Rubra Insignis, Ruhm von
 Horstenstein, Sarah Sands, Saugeana *xchinensis*, Savonarole, Schermerhornii,
 Scotia *xyac.*, Sculptured Ivory, Selma Margaretten, Senateur Volland, Sensa-
 tion, Serene, Sesquicentennial, Sierra Snow *xyac.*, Silver King, Sister Justina
xyac., Slaters Elegance, Snezhnij Kom, Snow Shower, Snowflake, Sobra,
 Sorok Let Komsomola, Souvenir d'Alice Harding, Souvenir de Gaspard Callot,
 Souvenir de Henri Simon, Souvenir de Mevrouw Dr. Kenis, Sovenir de Simone,
 Sovetskaya Arktika, Spectabilis, Splendor *xyac.*, St. Joan, St. Margaret,
 Stadgärtner Rothpletz, Sumerki, Superba *pubesc.* subsp. *microphylla*, S.V. Lavrov,
 Swarthmore *xyac.*, Sweetheart *xyac.*, Taglioni, Tankist, Taras Bul'ba,

Telimena (Villosae Group), Thomas Jefferson, Thunberg, Tita, Todmorden, Tom Taylor *xhyac.*, Topaz, Tournefort, Tousaint-Louverture, Triomphe de Moulins, Triste Barbaro, True Blue, Turgot *xhyac.*, Ukraina, Valentina Grizodubova, Valeria (Villosae Group), Vauban *xhyac.*, Vergismeinnicht, Versaliensis, Verschaffeltii, Vesper, Victor Lemoine, Ville de Limoges, Violet Glory, Violetta, Virginia Becker, Viscountess Willingdon *xhyac.*, Vivian Evans, Vivian-Morel, Volcan, Voorziter Dix, *vulgaris* var. *coerulea*, Waldeck-Rousseau, Weddle, Wedgwood Blue, White Lace, White Swan, William C. Barry, William H. Judd *xdivers.*, William Robinson, William S. Riley, Wonderblue, Woodland Violet, W. T. Lee, Yankee Doodle, Zashchitnikam Bresta, Zirka Travnya, Znamya Lenina, Zulu.

Ottawa ILS Convention 2009

DAY 1: May 28



View of the Grand Entrance at Rideau Hall,
the Government Residence House of Canada
Photo Credit Bruce Peart and Margaret Walton



A grand view of the Government buildings in Ottawa
Photo Credit Bruce Peart and Margaret Walton



Sweeping modernistic architecture at the
Civilizations Museum in Ottawa
Photo Credit Bruce Peart and Margaret Walton

Day 2: May 29



Rose Roth, Alex Henderson, MaryMae Meyer, Myrna Walberg
and Jean-François Gonot in the hotel lobby

Photo courtesy of MaryMae Meyer



The township of Beckwith has its priorities straight!

Photo Credit Kent Millham



Annual meeting at the townhall in Beckwith

Photo Credit Kent Millham



Michel Falardeau, Director of Real Property and Building Operations,
AAFC (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada)
at the Preston Heritage Collection opening at Central Experimental Farm
Photo Credit Brad Bittorf

Day 3: May 30



Dr. Tharcisse Barasubiye delivers a talk on
"ID of Phytoplasma Associated with *Syringa*
by Direct Sequencing of 16S-rDNA"
Photo Credit Brad Bittorf



Tour guide explains in detail about the arboretum tree collections
as Jean-François Gonot, Warren Oakes, Myrna Walberg,
Allan Kerr, and Rose Roth listen

Photo Credit MaryMae Meyer



Woody Barnes giving a description of a lilac,
as the auction attendees can't wait to bid

Photo Credit MaryMae Meyer

International Lilac Society

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Syringa vulgaris 'President John Adams'
Photo Credit Colin Chapman



Ted Collins next to "Li-Locks"
 at Lilac Hill Nursery
Photo Credit Kent Millham



ILS Convention
Ottawa, Ontario
May 2009

Ottawa Convention Attendees 2009 at Franktown
Photo Credit Richard Hinchcliff