

Lilacs

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IN
THIS
ISSUE:

The Lilacs of A. S. Sakharova
at the Botanical Garden of Ufa



Lilac Hybridizer A. S. Sakharova
1917 - 1986
Photo Courtesy of Natalia Polyakova

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<i>Cover Photo: Natalia Polyakova with an armful of lilacs she tends at the Botanical Garden of Ufa Photo courtesy of Natalia Polyakova</i>	

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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

Dear Lilac Aficionados

At this time of the year, February, I'm sure many of you are dealing with snow in many parts of the world. Here in Virginia, USA snow came as a blizzard causing hundreds of accidents, canceling schools, closing airports and paralyzing cities and towns all along the East Coast of the United States of America. Right now it is hard to imagine that under that blanket of snow plants are cozy and just waiting for the right time to come out of their winter sleep. Patience, spring will be here soon and all the winter turmoil will be over and soon forgotten. In less than three months we will converge on Shelburne, Vermont May 13-15 2010 for our annual convention. I'm hoping that many of you will make the trip.

A wonderful adventure awaited you. First you will meet many old friends, make new ones and just saturate yourself in lilacs. Shelburne Museum, Friends of the University of Vermont Farm and the Vermont Master Gardeners are planning a super fun convention just for us. Jeff Young, former ILS board member, has orchestrated all of it. Read the details in this issue of Lilacs.

Send in your registration and prepare yourself for some fun. You will learn all the latest news about lilacs. I'm hoping many new members will come. Nancy Latimer and Mary Lizotte, our hospitality co-hostesses, have planned a big welcome for our new members. So don't procrastinate-sign up.

I received a very nice note and a report from Rudy Schaffer the caretaker of the Descanso Lilac Garden in La Canade Flintridge, California. The extreme dry weather conditions last year caused many woes to the irrigation system but the volunteers at the garden went into action. They rolled up their sleeves and manhandled the garden hoses to preserve the collection.

Tatiana Poliakova is working on a new book on Leonid Kolesnikov. It is soon to be published and may be available in time for the convention. Also, the ILS Preservation Committee is continuing to move forward with that immense and exciting project; gathering data on the world lilac collections.

Two inquiries came to me, one from John Morse, Manager of Horticulture, at Willowood Arboretum, Morris County Park Commission, Morrisson, New Jersey, USA and the other from Jason Baker, Curator of Plant Records at Red Butte Garden in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA about their Lilac Collections. Both collections were planted years ago and need updating and their managers turned to ILS with their questions. On the advice of ILS Registrar Freek Vrugtman I contacted ILS member, Dr. Craig Hibben, who has graciously volunteered to advise John Morse at Willowood, which is a member of ILS.

Our society is certainly are a powerhouse of knowledge when it comes to the genus *Syringa*. Thanks to all of you who dedicate yourself to Lilacs, their promotion, propagation, preservation and to the many facets of their culture.

I know many of you cannot wait to be in your garden and look at your Lilacs. It is important to label your plants and to keep good records. Once lilacs lose their names can be hard to identify. Mapping your garden is another way to keep records of the plants. With a computer it is an easy thing to do. It is so disappointing when you see a beautiful lilac in a garden and no one can tell you the name. It happens all the time; not just with lilacs but with other plants as well. Work on those labels. Remember the nice labels on the lilacs at the Experimental Farm in Ottawa at last year convention? They were large, easy to read and with the right information...

At the convention in Vermont we are going to have fun. We will see lots of lilacs, some 240 cultivars are planted there I'm told. We are going to enjoy our lilac friends. We are going to make new friends. We are going to learn something about lilacs. We are going to get that special lilac we always wanted at the auction. I hope you can stay for Lilac Sunday, the day after the convention, and experience the excitement that lilacs bring to people of all ages.

Have you read the letter written by Dr. John C. Wister included in the article Origins of the International Lilac Society Lilacs Vol. 38 No. 4 page 134 fall 2009? It was read at the first meeting of ILS and printed in the very first ILS Newsletter September 1971. In the last paragraph of his letter Dr. Wister says "But most of all we need to get together! We need to known each other and to enjoy the lilac flowers together..." I agree, that is what we are going to do, know each other and enjoy the lilac flowers when we get together in Vermont! I'll see you there in May on the Lilac Trail!

*Amities,
Nicole Jordan, ILS President
Chester, VA USA
February 19, 2010
Njordan236@aol.com*

Executive Vice-President's Five-Year Reflection

During the 2005 convention, I was fortunate enough to be elected as Executive Vice President by the International Lilac Society (ILS). As my five-year term as Executive VP draws to a close, I'd like to share a reflection of those five years, along with some suggestions for the next five years.

As the only officer of the ILS whose term extends more than one year, the Executive Vice President has a kind of role as organizational historian. The irony of this is that, when I was elected, I was one of the younger members in attendance. Yet I've come to enjoy the role of maintaining continuity and to fill in gaps in historic knowledge. (Writing down a lot and having it available to reference seems to help a lot.)

During this time we have seen many changes, while in some ways we have not changed. ILS continues to be an association of people who are both alike and different. We continue to come from different backgrounds. We have different—yet related—purposes. Some of us are gardeners, some are nurserymen, some are from gardens and arboreta, some are scientists (amateur and professional) and most of us are here to learn. We thus have different ways of viewing the world and our mission. That mission remains as it was originally stated in 1971 when the Articles of Incorporation were first released to the world.

As my first suggestion, I believe we should have a workshop to review our purpose and write or update that mission statement. I propose to lead this at one of our next two meetings. Although it may sound complicated, I assure you that this would be fairly simple to conduct and carry out. It could become our guidepost for future decisions.

When I took office, the ILS web site was relatively new. It has evolved greatly in the last five years, and I hope that it will continue to grow and improve. While it is not as I originally envisioned it, in some ways it has exceeded my hopes, while in other ways, there is much room for improvement. We have learned that representing the Society in written communication is a matter that requires much consideration. We cannot provide, nor give the impression of providing, any unfair advantage to any organization over another. Similarly, we have learned that it is essential to have published information be as accurate as possible. Finally, we have learned that it is less usual for people to provide information to us than for us to have to go out and find information for inclusion. While I don't have specific suggestions for the web site, I do hope that in the future we will find somebody who is able to contribute the effort to develop a library of lilac knowledge to share on the internet. The "International Register and Checklist of Cultivar Names in the Genus *Syringa* L." is an extraordinarily good start on this. (Did you know it is already available on the internet?) Now,

we should use the visual capability of the internet to add photos and further helpful information for as many cultivars as possible, and to make it visually and intellectually captivating.

Initially I believed that information such as the Register and lilac cultivar and species photographs should be protected and only available to ILS members. Now I am coming to believe that our greater good is in sharing as much information as possible, with only a certain portion of the information protected for good reason.

Other accomplishments of the last five years have included a much greater use of modern communications with our members worldwide. Just in this last week, I have exchanged messages with members in Ohio, Michigan, England, Russia, Virginia, New York and Quebec from my home in Arizona. Our technological advances have made this sort of communication much more feasible than it was just five or ten years ago. Lilacs grow quickly, but not as quickly as news about them travels around the globe! By having this network of communication, we can better respond to crises and opportunities, and not miss chances to meet or share.

I believe that ILS has done more to earn the "International" part of its title—and that we have further to go. I've had the great privilege to travel internationally several times recently, and I recognize that life in North America is not the same as life elsewhere. I'm pleased to know that we are once again planning a convention outside of North America (France, 2011) so that we may experience other cultures and get a small sampling of lilacs (and life) elsewhere. I hope that conventions will at least occasionally make their way outside the U.S. and Canada. If we are to truly serve our members elsewhere, we need to consider issues from their perspectives. (What would you do if you did not have a checking account, credit cards, easy access to international flights? Do we impose barriers for lilac fans around the globe to participate with us?)

During the last five years, we have lost many "ILS Legends" and some of our founders. It is in the spirit of celebration for their lives and their work that I name just a few of them with some of their former roles:

Reva Ballreich—ILS president, collector, ambassador and promoter of lilacs worldwide

Dr. Louis Erickson—ILS president, lilac introducer, scientist, board member

Orville Steward—founder and organizer of ILS, signer of Articles of Incorporation, board member

John Dostal—tireless promoter of lilacs, man of ideas and encouragement

Don Wedge—nurseryman, ILS board member, tireless lilac promoter

Prof. Władysław Bugała—prolific introducer of lilacs in the Villosae Group during the 1960's and 1970's

Pauline Fiala—Grande Dame of ILS, ILS committees member, attended 25 consecutive ILS conventions

Alvan R. Grant—introducer of the lilac cultivar 'Rochester', director of Monroe County, NY, Parks

How much we have changed just in the loss of these people! And yet, it was once hard to believe we could go on without them—and we have done so nonetheless.

Our last five conventions—our 34th through 39th—have been held in Boston; Woodland, Washington; Mackinac Island, Michigan; Chaska, Minnesota; and Ottawa. I've been fortunate to have attended four of the five, and I've previously been to the site of the fifth—Mackinac Island.

We do enjoy returning to some historic ILS convention sites as well as going to new ones. The Board of Directors has discussed such diverse places as Reykjavik, Iceland; Anchorage, Alaska; Tucson, Arizona; Suffolk, England; Washington, D.C., and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, as potential convention sites. While there are challenges with each of these, I hope that you might get a sense of the possibilities for convention sites —if you, the membership, are willing. If you have a suggestion for a place for a future convention (including those listed above), I hope that you will share it with the Convention Committee or any member of the Executive Board.

In these five years, we have seen a significant change in our Board of Directors and our leadership. The entire slate of Executives has changed. It is great to get new ideas and fresh perspectives on the Board. I also thank all past and present ILS office-holders for your participation. We could never do as many things as we do without you.

We are a volunteer organization. A volunteer organization is made of volunteers—people offering their time and efforts for free, or for just the cost of things used for the society. Sometimes it is frustrating that we do not get more accomplished. We have many long-term plans and hopes for improvement. We have ideas but we don't have enough resources to implement those ideas. Often, a great advancement is at the hands of one or a few members who invest their own time and energy to finish something.

Advancement is slow when we must rely on people willing to contribute their time and effort, especially when they have gardens to weed and plant, reports to file, classes to teach, or non-lilac-related jobs to do. Often, ILS activity is what we do in our "leftover time" after other obligations are fulfilled. We will continue to be at the mercy of those who contribute of themselves selflessly to get big things done.

If we were sufficiently large to have a staff of compensated people doing work, we could accomplish more, but our budget and resources do not now permit that. So it is always necessary to consider “how will we be able to do that” along with “what should we do?” This constrains our goals and sometimes disappoints us. If there is a silver lining here, it is that we are learning and reusing ideas from other organizations. As somebody else figures out a way to better do voting, to distribute plants, to involve youth, or to manage information, we can capitalize on it.

I would be remiss if I did not mention our membership numbers. We have some extremely devoted members. We also have many members who join but never renew—a sign that we are not providing value to everybody. In total, our membership numbers have been slightly declining. This is a cause for much concern. If we could gain a larger membership, we would have more resources and could accomplish more. Some believe that we must turn our attention to gaining greater numbers of young members. Our history suggests that the “lilac demographic” tends toward older members. However, we probably all know of younger people who like lilacs and who share our interest in them. Our challenge, then, is in attracting those younger members amidst the competition of new families, new jobs, earning a living, and flashy competition. Who knew that completion for lilacs would become the Wii, X-Games, and Facebook? Can we compete for time and attention? I believe that, for those people who desire balance in their lives, who like a peaceful respite in their lives, and who have an yearning for historic and relaxation, we can! We simply need to connect with the right people, in ways and forms that will find them.

What are our challenges in the next five years? I submit that they are these:

- Retaining, and increasing membership through new generations of ILS members
- Spending our funds in a way that creates a lasting contribution to the body of lilac knowledge, including:
 - Staying relevant by finding and sponsoring scientific projects related to lilacs, and following through on the results so that they may be published with ILS credit,
 - Planning our scientific and research goals, rather than only letting researchers suggest project to be sponsored,
 - Providing value to all members of ILS worldwide, so that they can benefit from their membership with convenience, and so that they feel they are an appreciated part of the ILS community,
- Keeping our internet site current and continually interesting,
- Continuing to advance knowledge and promotion of the lilac, and

- Accelerating that knowledge and promotion through all means possible while at all times remaining fair, unbiased, and ethical to all members and concerned parties in all that we do.

When I write or talk about ILS, there is a passion in my heart, and an energy and hope for our future. Please help me to share that feeling in your own actions and words. Our people are our greatest resource, and our passion for lilacs is contagious.

My very best and warmest regards to you all
Brad Bittorf, Exec. Vice-President,
International Lilac Society

ILS New England Fall Roundup

The annual event of the New England Chapter will be held on Saturday October 16 at 10 AM at Syringa Plus Nursery in West Newbury, MA.

Lunches will be provided, but sweet pastries will be gratefully accepted.

Everyone is invited, and are welcome to bring a friend.

If you have any questions, please call either:

Mary Lizotte, New England representative at:

781-826-4590 or 207-596-7727, or

Syringa Plus at 978-352-3301

Editor's Notes from Winter Issue

- The article "New Lilac 'Colby's Twinkling Little Star' was written by Freek Vrugtman, with data provided by the hybridizer Frank Moro. Apologies to Freek for the mixup.
- On the inside back cover, the trademark name BLUE SKIES was chopped off.
- Karen and Tim McCauley's e-mail address is: mccauleyth@aol.com

Northwest Region Report 2010

While the eastern U.S. and Canada gets another dose of snowy weather, the Pacific Northwest is looking at a very early spring. Strolling around the Hulda Klager Lilac garden in late February or early March is usually a cold jaunt. But today I see the first *Daphne* blossoms coming out and noticed the 'California Rose' lilac to be showing some pink. If we get some 'normal' February weather (snowy and cold) I imagine some botanical noses will get nipped.

This unusual weather has given preparations for Lilac Days(Hulda's open garden event that started in 1915) a sense of urgency. We can't change the date because of publicity decisions that must be made much earlier, but we can get things spruced up for those brave souls who might come based on the stage of their own gardens. Thankfully, we have many late blooming cultivars so our regularly scheduled guests will still have something to see and enjoy.

We have noticed a trend in recent years that seems to point toward earlier lilac seasons so we may have to readjust our thinking about when to schedule Lilac Days. However much we worry and stew has no affect whatsoever so we can only face the fact that we are not in charge. Thankfully, most real gardener people know this and understand why the bloom times vary.

Another point of interest to me is a project begun last summer. We became aware of an invasion of the dreaded Knotweed. It was most prevalent in the middle of one of our favorite lilacs. After calling the county "noxious weed" program, I gathered volunteers to learn what could be done. I was gratified to see a large group of lilac friends gather on the appointed day and the county agency ready to teach us how to inject the hollow stems of the offender, hopefully sending it into oblivion. It is probably a little early in the year to be sure of success and I have been warned to be careful for a couple of years. But so far the weed seems to be very dead.

This doesn't compare to the members of the local garden club who managed to save Hulda's garden from the bulldozer in 1976, but I'm proud we are still keeping watch and can claim seeming success.

*Ruth Wendt
Northwest Region
March 2010*

Report on The Descanso Gardens

Descanso Lilac Garden in 2009 followed another year with little or no rain at all. However a late below average soaking in 2008 was at the right time to put the lilacs into a well-deserved rest and winter sleep for the next season. Loyal members and visitors of the gardens immediately predicted an upcoming average year but it was not to be. The driest season was upon us. The feeding program fell to the wayside not knowing the weatherman program. In the end in 2009 we had an average blooming season with smaller flowers on their own terms. The season marked with our irrigation system becoming a liability because of pipes breaking between the reservoir and the garden areas. That was when the volunteers rolled up their sleeves and put the old-fashioned open-ended system a.k.a. garden hoses into action.

The weatherman realized that he was at the losing end and in the long run rolled out the clouds and was giving the watering crew a bonus in a few good soakings in the fall 2009.

Again I like to stress the fact, that the idea to include more *vulgaris* species and cultivars has made our blooming season much longer. Thanks to the ILS annual conventions and the input of regional members we have been well served to include in our collection other species from around the world.

What else could we wish for ? While the Descanso *hyacinthifloras* will continue to be our early birds specials and grace many front yards in the local area we wish all areas of North America and around the world joy in their search for lilac gold were ever. It is only a generation ago, that lilac fanatics would come and tell us that the lilacs would not grow and bloom in Southern California. And what do we have? Daughters, sons and friends who come springtime after springtime telling us that their mothers did love lilacs so much. As for the fragrance, yes we had to convince visitors at Descanso that they had to get up a little earlier in the morning when the air had a certain humidity to smell the lilacs. More on the subject some other time.

Happy New Year!
Rudy Schaffer, Descanso Gardens
La Canade Flintridge
California

Western Canada Report

The Ottawa convention was the frosting on our lilac cake in May 2009. We took a few extra days on both ends of our trip and visited many lilac collections. Starting at Hamilton we enjoyed the hillside planting and wonderful dells. The Royal Botanical Gardens are something that we can be very proud of as Canadians. On to Niagara Falls we found a very nice display where we walked one scented evening. We drove to Highland Park and were excited to see some very old and new to us varieties on the long hillside expanses. A sighting of the hairless groundhog was an unusual bonus. A roadside lilac walk in Kingston gave us some great ideas for our own gardens.

The Canadian Experimental Farm in Ottawa was very impressive. We were amazed at the well-groomed beds. It was wonderful to find labels on almost all of the lilacs planted there. The bloom was at its peak; what perfect timing for a convention. Kudos to the Friends of the Farm for all their hard work and effort. The Franktown lilacs were something that we can only dream about here in the Canadian Rockies.

After driving past miles of naturalized lilacs we arrived at the end of the Lindsay Lilac Festival. This was a little gem that we were lucky to stumble on. The lilacs, blooming at eye level, were an impressive sight. We continued on to Guelph where we were disappointed to find that the cold spring weather had killed most of the blooms. It is unfortunate that this sprawling scattered collection appears to be in a very neglected state.

As always, going to the convention, seeing the collections and meeting the people has inspired us to keep connecting the dots in the big lilac picture.

We hosted our Lilac Walk on June 14th with a lovely afternoon of viewing, tea in the garden and the sweet, sweet scent of lilacs. After the extremely cold spring we experienced an excellent bloom.

Weather is a big topic here in British Columbia as the Olympic Games begin. This is probably the warmest January on record. So far the lilacs seem to be staying dormant with just a few inches of snow cover at their bases. This year, our tenth Lilac Walk, we are hoping that some of our gardening neighbors will open their gardens as well for a valley wide Lilac Sunday.

In order to share the lilacs in our remote valley, we will be posting pictures of them on the web. You can see them at: www.secretgarden-lilacs.blogspot.com. Any comments would be welcome.

*Linda Blackman
Western Region
February 2010*

Agenda for 2010 International Lilac Society Convention

Thursday

8A (bus leaves) to Noon Director's Meeting at University of Vermont

Lunch on your own at Student Center

1P Tour of grounds of University and new Plant and Soils Science Building

2:30P Tour of Gardens at National Gardening Assoc Headquarters

Dinner on your own

Friday

9A to Noon Various horticultural presentations at the Hotel

Noon Annual Meeting and Lunch (provided)

1:30 P Tour Univ of VT Hort Farm, various demonstrations on pruning and planting

6-7P Social Hour Cash Bar

7P Awards Dinner, Presentations by several organizations

Saturday

9A (bus leaves) Tour Lilacs at Shelburne Museum

11A to 1P Free time to tour Museum, Lunch (provided by voucher for use at Museum restaurant)

1P Auction

5P Leave Museum

6-7P Social Hour

7P President's Dinner, Keynote Speaker Stephen Yost, Executive Director Shelburne Museum

Sunday

Although the Convention will be over, if anyone would like to return to Shelburne Museum for Lilac Sunday, the entry fee will be waived.

We had explored doing an evening cruise for one of the dinners, but it proved too expensive. Neither dinner cruise ship is available during our convention time for regular season cruises.

Love of Lilacs Quilt by Jan Young, will be raffled. Tickets may be purchased at Convention or Lilac Sunday at Shelburne Museum, all proceeds to ILS. Quilt is donated by Jan Young

Dreams do Come True

When we start a project we never know where it will end up. It was back in 1990 that the idea became very clear to me: The vision of a specialized lilac nursery. The possibility to reunite the works of all others across the globe to create a world class lilac collection to; preserve, create and distribute the finest and rarest lilacs of the world. You could say I spent a better part of my life getting ready to start it.

Then as time went on I felt a need to express my interpretation and inspirations of lilacs and begin to start seeding. Hence we have come out with some wonderful dwarf lilacs and there are more on the way.

Choosing a lilac is the equivalent to creating a painting. The selection of the one seedling out of a batch, the name to give it; is a creation.

In the past month I can finally give some news to everyone that 3 of our lilacs have been accepting by Briggs Nursery in Washington to start production on. They are "Colby's Wishing Star", *S. meyeri* 'Snowstorm' and our newest selection; *S. pubescens* subsp. *patula* 'Colby's Twinkling Little Star'.

'Twinkling Little Star' is en route to PPAF. It is wonderful in color and holds the darker purple throughout the bloom. There is a slight flare recurving of the tips of the petals upwards and the flowers show signs of being bicoloured. The stigma of the flower, or the heart as our son Alessandro (who is 10 years old) refers too is deep purple in color. There are photos of it on our website at <http://selectpluslilacs.com/colbystwinklinglittlestar.html>

It is such an exciting thing to see that in the next few years our lilacs will be all over North America in garden centers. Special labels will go with the lilacs and a portion of royalties will go to Children's foundations. This will be explained more in detail at a later date.

In the near future will be another selection we have made, a seedling of *Syringa vulgaris* 'White Lace' that will be named 'Taylor Mitchell'. Taylor was a Canadian singer/songwriter who lived in Toronto Ontario and an upcoming star who was tragically taken from the world in late October 2009 at the age of 19. Sara and I wanted to make sure that Taylor's spirit would always be present and will begin the distribution of this lilac in smaller sizes by fall 2011. We did not know her but from we have gotten to know of her through her mother and her website she was an angel; one that should never be forgotten. For those who are interested Taylor's Website is: <http://www.taylormitchell.ca>.

When the lilac comes out a donation will be made from every lilac sold to a foundation that Taylor's mother Emily Mitchell will choose.

Frank Moro
VP ILS Canada

Lilacs of A. S. Sakharova



Syringa vulgaris 'Agidel' '
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova



Syringa vulgaris 'Aigul' '
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova



Syringa vulgaris 'Gul'nazira'
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova



Syringa vulgaris 'Salavat Yulaev'
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova



Syringa vulgaris 'Nafisa'
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova



Syringa vulgaris 'Shaura'
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova



Inflorescence of *Syringa vulgaris* 'Aigul' '
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova



Note different hues of buds and flowers in 'Salavet Yulaev'
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova

Lilac Collection and Lilacs of A. S. Sakharova at the Botanical Garden of Ufa

The Botanical Garden - Institute of Ufa scientific centre of Russian Academy of Sciences was founded in 1932 in the Province of Bashkiria.

The collecting of lilacs by the Botanical garden began in 1941 when seedlings of the first cultivars were brought from Kiev: - 'Andenken an Ludwig Späth', 'Charles X', 'Jules Simon', 'Marie Legeray', 'Maximowicz' and 'Mme Lemoine'. The collection was further extended with cultivars from Lipetsk (Forest-steppe Experimental Breeding Station), Moscow (the Main Botanical Garden of Russian Academy of Sciences), Kiev (the Central Republican Botanical Garden) and personally from the well-known breeder L.A. Kolesnikov.

The Botanical Garden now has a substantial collection of species and cultivars of the lilac, occupying 0.41 ha (about 2 acres). The collection includes 45 cultivars and 13 lilacs in a rank of species, varieties and forms. A "pearl" of the collection, and a subject of special pride, is the group of cultivars of A.S. Sakharova.

The climate in Ufa is continental, with frosty winters and hot summers. The average minimum temperature of January is -19.5° and the average maximum temperature of July is 25.5°, with an average annual precipitation of 569mm (about 23 inches). The absolute temperature minimum was observed, in January 1979, as -49° and the maximum, in July 1986, was 37°. According to the European Hardiness Zone Map (W. Heinze, D. Schreiber, 1984) the city of Ufa is in zone 3.

On the whole, plants of the collection are in good condition, pass through all the phases of seasonal development, and blossom plentifully. As the majority of plants have occupied the space constantly for more than 40 years, many of them require dry pruning and some require transplanting, but serious bacterial and fungus diseases of lilacs are not observed. In the process of work with the collection of lilacs its further expansion is planned by planting old, known, cultivars, and the best new cultivars, which are not in the collection. Work on hybridization of lilacs, starting with an inventory of the lilacs of A.S. Sakharova, is also planned in the long term.

Alexandra Sergeyevna Sakharova (1917-1986) was born in the village of Novo-Cherkutino of the Dobrjansky district of Lipetsk region on May 30th 1917. In 1936, she finished at the Buzuluk wood technical school and, in 1947, graduated from the Voronezh Forestry Institute. There, in 1955, she finished postgraduate study and submitted her master's thesis. She worked in the Botanical Garden of the Institute of Biology - Bashkir branch of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR - from May 18th 1957 until November 16th 1973, first as senior research scientist and then as Head of the Botanical Garden (in 1968-70 s).

Breeding work with lilacs was carried out by A.S. Sakharova from 1961 to 1973. In 1964, she personally met the outstanding hybridizer of lilacs L.A. Kolesnikov. In the "Visitors' book" of Kolesnikov's garden on March 4, 1964, she left the following record: «Leaving Moscow, I can't help expressing the feeling which has overcome me after getting acquainted with the great expert of remarkable lilac culture L.A. Kolesnikov. I had previously known him by reputation and from literature as a breeder, but now I have found him to be an outstanding person and teacher. I can't find the words of gratitude for everything that Leonid Alekseevich has done for me for 3 days of our acquaintance! Grateful followers will devote all their lives to the continuation of your fine affairs». This record testifies to the great value of this acquaintance for A.S. Sakharova and, probably, its great influence on her further work of a breeder.

Alexandra Sergeyevna Sakharova was a very active, vigorous person. Being on pension, she frequently visited botanical gardens, gave advice to curators of the lilac collections and continued to work as a consultant in one large green nursery of Ufa. Alexandra Sergeyevna Sakharova died in Ufa on November 29, 1986.

The basic method of work of A.S. Sakharova was the production and selection of seedlings with the best decorative qualities by open pollination of certain cultivars, and then from artificial pollination of the cultivars characterized by high decorative qualities. From 76 hybrids submitted by A.S. Sakharova, the commission of experts in 1968 and 1971 allocated 47 as best hybrids of a lilac. In 1973, the State commission of experts selected the 8 best hybrids among them, all possessing high decorative qualities and originality. Individual names were assigned to these hybrids, namely 'Agidel', 'Aigul', 'Alesha', 'Gul'nazira', 'Krasavitsa Bashkiri', 'Nafisa', 'Salavat Yulaev' and 'Shaura', and they have been recommended for further tests. The author's description of these cultivars, with the addition of the etymology of their names, is given below.

'Agidel' – this is the Bashkir name of the main waterway of Bashkortostan (literally – the White river). It was derived from crossing, in 1964, the cultivars 'Mme Lemoine' and 'Marie Legraye'. Inflorescences are open, upright, of cylindrical form. They reach up to 20 cm in length and 10 cm in width and consist of 2, less often 3 panicles, dense. Flower buds are large, spherical in shape, slightly cream. Flowers are single, white, very large, reaching up to 3.8 cm in diameter. Petals of a nimbus are wide, rounded, with the edges bent inside. It begins to blossom 3-5 days later than early blossoming cultivars, and the blooming period is 15-19 days.

'Aigul' – this is a Bashkir female name (in Bashkir and Persian – the "Lunar Flower"; from ai – the Moon, and gul – a flower). It was derived from crossing, in 1963, the cultivars 'Mme Lemoine' and 'Capitaine Baltet'. Inflorescences are open, pyramidal, very dense, large, reach up to 19 cm in length and 10 cm in width. The top inflorescences consist of 3-4, and sometimes 5 panicles, forming magnificent bouquets. The lateral inflorescences form 1-2 panicles. Flower buds large, spherical. Flowers are double, with 3-4-corollas, large, reaching up to 2.8

cm in diameter, from 14-16 petals. For a long time they remain closed owing to a strong deflection of petals inside, thus they have the form of newly opening roses. Flowers have an original marble-pink color. The buds and the bottom 8 petals are purplish-pink, whilst the top 6-8 petals are almost white, with a hardly appreciable pink shade. It begins to blossom 3-5 days later than early blossoming cultivars, with a blooming period of 15-18 days.

'Alesha' – this is the diminutive of the name Alexey but, because of the complexities of Russian syntax, it is pronounced "Alyosha". (He was the hero commemorated in a popular Russian song about a soldier of the Second World War. A monument to Alyosha stands on a mountain in Bulgaria). Received from crossing in 1971 of cultivars 'Andenken an Ludwig Späth' and 'Marie Lefrayer'. Inflorescences are open, and of cylindrical form. They reach up to 18 cm in length and 8 cm in width, are formed of one pair of flower buds, dense. Flower buds and flowers are dark-wine-red, single, reach up to 2.5 cm in diameter. Petals are wide, rounded, with edges strongly bent inside. It begins to blossom for 8-10 days later than early blossoming cultivars, and blooming period is 17-21 days.

'Gul'nazira' – this is the Bashkir female name (in Persian and Arabian meaning a beautiful, rare flower; from gul – a flower; and nazira – beautiful, rare). It was derived, in 1963, from an open pollinated cultivar, 'Congo'. Inflorescences are open, pyramidal, very large and dense, reaching up to 26 cm in length and 14 cm in width. They consist of 4-6 panicles, forming magnificent bouquets. Flower buds are the lengthened form, purplish-violet. Flowers are single, violet-rose, large, reach up to 3 cm in diameter. Petals are narrow and long, acutely pointed, and recurved, like the flower of a hyacinth. It begins to blossom 2-4 days later than early blossoming cultivars with a blooming period of 14-18 days.

'Krasavitsa Bashkiri' – ('Beauty of Bashkiria'). It is derived from crossing in 1964 the cultivars 'Mme Lemoine' and 'Ruhm von Horstenstein'. Inflorescences are open, pyramidal, dense, reach up to 18 cm in length and 9 cm in width. The top inflorescences are formed from 3-4 flower buds, and the lateral ones from 2. Flower buds are large, spherical, and purplish-pink, then bloom as dense double rose. Opening flowers have a lilac-pink color, of a gentle shade, double, 4-corollas (with 14-16 petals), large, reach up to 2.8 cm in diameter, like a double gillyflower. Begins to blossom 4-6 days after early blossoming cultivars and has a blooming period of 16-20 days.

Unfortunately, this cultivar, has probably dropped out of the collection but we believe that it could still exist as it was intensively propagated and transferred to organizations and private persons. We carry out the search for this cultivar and we do not lose hope of its restoration to the collection.

'Nafisa' – a Bashkir female name meaning (in Arabian) "Graceful, charming". It was derived from crossing, in 1963, the cultivars 'Jules Simon' and 'Congo'. Inflorescences are open, pyramidal, large, reach up to 21 cm in length and 10 cm in width, dense. Top inflorescences consist of 3-4 panicles. Flower buds are purplish-pink, and flower disclosing is almost simultaneous in all inflorescences. Flowers are single, pink with a white middle, and large - reaching up to 2.7 cm in diameter. Petals of a nimbus are wide, rounded, with the edges bent inside. It begins to blossom 3-5 days later than early blossoming cultivars, with a blooming period of 15-18 days.

'Salavat Yulaev') – named to honor the historical hero of the Bashkir people, who was a poet and the participant in the antigovernmental, Pugatchev revolts of 1771-1773, during the reign of Ekaterina II. It was bred from crossing the cultivars 'Mme Lemoine' and 'Congo' in 1963. Inflorescences are open, wide pyramidal, consisting mainly of 2 very large panicles which reach up to 23 cm in length and 14 cm in width. These are extremely dense, without gleams (one panicle includes 209 flowers). Flower buds are large, spherical, dark-wine-red. Flowers are purplish-violet, very large, reach up to 3.5 cm in diameter, double, with 8-10 petals. The structure of a flower is very original: the bottom 4 petals are rounded, and the top 4-6 are narrow and peaked. Petals of circles are mutually alternate, forming a starry flower. It begins to blossom 8-10 days later than early blossoming cultivars, with a blooming period of 18-21 day.

'Shaura') – a Bashkir female name meaning (in Arabian) "known" or "well-known"). Received from crossing in 1963 of cultivars 'Andenken an Ludwig Späth' and 'Capitaine Baltet'. Inflorescences are open, pyramidal, dense and large – 21 cm in length and 10 cm in width. Flower buds are large, spherical, dark-wine-red. Flowers are single with wide rounded petals, very large and reach up to 3.5 cm in diameter. During the blooming, they are the same dark-wine-red as the buds and they keep this color during the magnificent flowering, and only by the end do they fade to become purplish-violet and violet. Begins to blossom 10-12 days later than early blossoming cultivars and is characterized by longest duration of flowering (21-25 days) that distinguishes it, in its favor, from other cultivars.

Natalia Poljakova

*The curator of lilac collection of Botanical Garden-Institute of
Ufa Scientific Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences (Ufa)*

Ufa Article: Postscript

by Colin Chapman.

On Monday December 21st 2009 I received an e-mail from Tania. Part of it read: "I got an article for Lilacs from Ufa in Russian and English. The author of this article is Natalia Polyakova (yes – she has the same last name as me). Before I send it to Kent I would like you to look at it and adjust any errors. Natalia is a new member of ILS – she has already paid its fee. Natalia sent me a photograph of Sakharova and all her lilacs".

The article was an online translation which needed considerable modification to make it readily understandable to an English Language reader. I have worked with Tania and her sister Irena to make sense of this commercial translation that had no understanding of botanical terminology. This extended preamble is the result.

A.S. Sakharova is an important entity in lilac history. She worked at the Botanical Garden in Ufa, which is the capital city of the Russian Federation Autonomous Province of Bashkiria in the Southwest Ural Mountains, on the East bank of the Volga River. Or, at least it was, because I have subsequently read that in 1992 Bashkiria was renamed Bashkortostan. Nevertheless, historic tradition prevails because the natives still seem to call themselves and their works "Bashkirian".

As a courtesy, I forwarded a preview of my revision of the translation to the Lilac Registrar. Freek came back to query the dates and details of the revolt mentioned in the description of S. v. 'Salavat Yulaev'. This has caused me to Google various sites with this name but beware; 40,000 of those sites are about the Ufa Ice Hockey team also named "Salavat Yulaev"! I ultimately found the site for the memorial statue to him and that site furnished this information which differs only slightly from what Freek told me. Salavat Yulaev lived from 1752 to 1800. He became a poet who celebrated the beauty of his native land but who became opposed to Tsarist rule so he called for popular resistance against aggressors. He joined a Peasant revolt led by one Yemelyan Pugachev which lasted from 1773 to 1775. Yulaev was arrested in 1774 and was sent to do hard labour in Estonia where he died in 1800. The local references to him on Google show the great esteem in which he is held. Tania's picture of his lilac reveals the fitting tribute of a sumptuous, dark-lilac coloured, double .

Freek had not finished there. He then pointed out a fascinating detail. Ufa has an outstanding reputation for music and ballet. Rudolph Nuryev started there as a schoolboy. There was a Bashkirian composer, one Zagir Garipovich Ismagilov (1917 – 2003) who composed a series of six operas based on local regional themes and three of them seem relevant to this discussion. Two of them should be familiar from the lilac list, since the operas were named "Shaura" and "The Aghidel Waters". The third one, "Salavat Yulaev" was premiered in Moscow

in 1955, the same year that Sakharova defended her Master's thesis at college. Freek concludes his letter with these words:-

"I would not be surprised if the names of the operas have some bearing on the choice of names by Sakharova; she was born in the same year as Ismagilov!"

I rest my case, but I apologise if my revision of the translation has distorted, in any way, the detail that the author was conveying in the original Cyrillic article.

Colin Chapman.

Suffolk, UK.

1st February 2010

Adventures in Pruning and Propagating Lilacs

Someone should write detailed, illustrated guidelines for pruning lilacs! We need guidelines on how to prune lilacs for different purposes. It could be enhanced by photos of 'before and after' and also one year after. Please explain every aspect of how lilacs grow- explain the forking habit of growth and how it is important to pruning. It could prevent a lot of distress and suffering for both lilacs and the people learning to prune them!

A few years ago, after I had become enamored with lilacs and read Fiala's book -cover to cover- I realized I would have to prune my lilacs. Fiala states on page 144 " Each purpose demands a somewhat slightly different approach, yet prune one must." 'Yet prune one must'—these words caused me anxiety. How does one prune lilacs?? How does one achieve a nice rounded shrub full of blossoms?

I asked a few people who I thought would know, but the gist of their responses was " Why would you want to prune a lilac?" That was the state of lilac knowledge in my corner of the world. Observing the lilac shrubs around the region I had reason to believe that no one pruned lilacs except for hacking off branches for bouquets and leaving the shrub rather misshapen and disfigured.. Since I could not find anyone to help me, I rashly decided to teach myself. How hard could it be? I could keep track of my results so I would know what worked and what did not work. I felt safe in the knowledge that it is not easy to kill a lilac.

So I began. I cut back ('pruned' - is definitely not the right word) two mature but still young shrubs of 'Michel Buchner'. No, I did not get it right! In the following year I realized that I triggered the shrubs into sending out numerous offshoots in all directions — a preservation or survival reaction of a plant to a threat of being killed! This was not what I had wanted. That was Lesson One.

Lesson Two: A grand old shrub 'Mme Lemoine' was growing out of control and not blooming so well. My friend Lise who never prunes lilacs but has renewed

old shrubs said I should renew this shrub by pruning out three old stems a year over the next few years. The three oldest stems had grown eighteen inches above the contour of the shrub. It was an easy decision to cut the three out at ground level. When I stood back to look at my work, I saw that I had turned the shrub into an 'M' shape – empty in the middle. How do we live with that? But by the end of summer, I realized it had been a good cut. By taking out the oldest and tallest, and letting in light, – young strong stems had grown in to fill the space.. That was good! This must be right!

Fortunately, before I caused more damage in the garden I learned of three-hour lilac-pruning workshops from the website of 'Friends of the Horticultural Farm' in Burlington, Vermont. The workshops were given by Jeff Young. It was to be theory and demonstration and some hands-on practice. My friend Nicole and I showed up for the 9:00 o'clock workshop along with many other interested people. We followed Jeff among the lilacs for four hours – hanging on to his every word. There was no time for the 'hands-on' part. He answered question after question and demonstrated whenever he could. All the questions seemed to be relevant to everyone. He also showed us how to plant a pot-bound lilac. He demonstrated washing the roots, removing soil with a stream of water. Most of us winced as he pulled out and discarded handfuls of roots. (Even roots need to be pruned.) It was an excellent demonstration and an excellent workshop! It seemed that we were all in need of and ready for this information.

A short time later, armed with new instruction, and filled with trepidation I did my first pruning on 'Miss Kim'. She was beginning to look rather shaggy and I want to keep her at five feet high. I was able to make sense of the branching and I pruned according to what I had learned. With each cut I took a good look at the shrub to see where the next cut should be. I felt satisfied with the results but with reservation.

Eureka!! the following spring 'Miss Kim' bloomed profusely and looked very fine indeed!! Did I really 'get it right' or is 'Miss Kim' just very accommodating? Whatever the reason the result encouraged me to continue to practice pruning lilacs. Now I know how to reduce the height of a lilac and how to let light into the plant without causing adverse reaction. But how do you keep a plant nicely rounded and how do you prune other types of lilacs such as Prestons and dwarfs?.

Last spring at bloom time the dwarf, 'Red Pixie' sent out one lone branch sixteen inches longer than the contour of the plant. Why do some lilac stems bolt?? I was loath to cut it off because it had a big blossom on the end of it. However, gardening friends were coming to visit so I thought I should 'clean it up'. I cut off the stem and noticed that the little branches attached to it looked very healthy. I decided to try to propagate all sixteen of them! I have never had success at propagating lilacs although in perpetual optimism I try a few every year. I have had 0% success and I have followed instructions to the letter!! Surely at least one of the sixteen cuttings would root!!!

I remembered information from John Thurlow who at the lilac convention in Ottawa, explained to me a system of misting lilac cuttings. In his system, a large operation, the misting was automated and misted every two minutes. In my barn/greenhouse (private garden) I have only a two liter plastic misting bottle and it certainly is not automated!! Air is pumped into the bottle to build up pressure, then when the trigger is depressed a spray shoots out of the nozzle. I wondered about combining misting with the clear plastic bag method? It was worth trying.

I dipped the stems of the sixteen little cuttings into rooting hormone and placed them in a window box filled with a mix of used potting soil and sand (both unsterilized which is not recommended) and a generous helping of worm castings. (Sterilized soil seems to be empty of nutrients. I have not had good results with it— anyway I had nothing to lose and I enjoy experimenting.) I misted the cuttings and placed them in a clear plastic bag with vertical supports in the box to keep the plastic from touching the leaves. I misted the cuttings daily – sporadically and opened the bag so air could circulate. I put the plastic bag loosely over them every night and during periods when I was absent.

Weeks passed, and then a couple of months. None of the cuttings had succumbed to mildew, none of the leaves had dropped, a few cuttings had even grown taller! At the end of August, I carefully tugged on the stem of each cutting. Every one held firm!! I removed the plastic bag and put the box outside in dappled shade/sun. I continued to mist them occasionally. To my great surprise and delight I had sixteen sturdy little 'Red Pixie' plants!! - 100% success!! I gave one plant to Lise. The two smallest plants eventually disappeared — rabbit damage? The remaining thirteen plants were transplanted to a protected part of the garden.

What a surprise!! Past experience had not prepared me for such success! What does one do with so many 'Red Pixie' lilacs? However it is not a problem. They can be given away, put on our garden club's plant sale, put on the ILS Auction or planted as a hedge in my garden. But first they have to survive a winter or two. The stoutest excess offshoots of 'Micheal Buchner' can go to the plant sale while I try to restore the two 'guinea pig' lilacs back to proper shrubs. And in the meantime, if someone writes some guidelines for pruning lilacs, please consider this as my request/order for the first copy.

Myrna Walberg
Dunham Quebec Zone4b

The People Behind the Names of the Highland Park Lilacs

May in Rochester means one thing, Lilacs. The anticipation of the flowering of the Highland Park collection creates much media attention. Which in turn draws enthusiastic crowds to the Park to celebrate the Lilac and spring. The community has embraced the Lilac with a ten day Festival since 1978, and for the 75 years prior a Lilac Sunday was held at the peak of bloom. Highland Park owes all this attention to John Dunbar and the horticultural leadership that followed.

John Dunbar, Assistant Superintendent of Parks, initially planted the lilac collection in Highland Botanical Park in 1894. By 1898 these now established lilacs along with numerous other flowering trees and shrubs, drew the attention of the citizens of Rochester. This inspired populous treated their families to an outing at the Park on Sundays in May. The spontaneity of appreciation for this spring display made a proud impression on Mr. Dunbar. Therefore, he collected seed from the lilacs growing in the Park and between 1916 and 1923 he selected and named 31 lilacs.

In the plant world it's the hybridizer who ultimately selects the cultivars and the name that the plant will be known as. Some names are descriptive of the flower color such as 'Red Feather', 'Maiden's Blush' or 'Wedgwood Blue' others have been named for places like 'Rochester', 'Cheyenne' and 'Mt. Baker'; or events 'Avalanche', 'Sierra Snow' or 'Dawn'. However, a great majority of lilacs are named to honor individuals, many of which were prominent in their day, some were known worldwide and are still recognized today. Other lilacs are named for regional or family figures that the hybridizer determined to be worthy of recognition. Today these names remind us of the unique characteristics of the particular lilac for whom it was named. But, just who was it named for, what made him or her worthy of having a lilac named in their honor? This has always interested me and I often recognize the name of a lilac cultivar when reading a biography or an article on a historical event.

Through my association with Highland Park and the Rochester, Monroe County Parks Department I will introduce to you the lilac and the person, place or event for which the Dunbar, Grant and Fenicchia lilacs are named. In the case of the Dunbar lilacs Bernard Harkness grouped them into the following categories, Presidential Group, American Personalities, Army and Navy Group and Family and Local Dignitaries. The names of most of Dunbar's lilacs will be familiar to Americans. However, the lilacs named for Rochester area individuals or events may leave you wondering. It is my endeavor to provide insight regarding the names behind the lilac developed in Rochester. The background sketches are only meant to introduce you to the individual not a comprehensive biography.

Robert Hoepfl

Dunbar Lilacs, Part I- American Personalities

Editor's Note: This is the first of several articles in the series of people behind the names of John Dunbar's named lilac cultivars.

'Alexander Hamilton' D VI

Introduced in 1923, a seedling of 'A. B. Lamberton' (Dunbar 1916); described as 'showy' with large violet-lavender florets in large dense thyrses on what proved to become a rather weak shrub.

Alexander Hamilton 1751-1804

An American statesman and founding father, served as Secretary of the Treasury under President George Washington. Hamilton was influential in the selection of Thomas Jefferson over Aaron Burr, after each received the same number of votes in the Electoral College. In 1804 Burr ran for Governor of New York. Hamilton campaigned against hi, calling Burr unreliable. When Burr was defeated he blamed Hamilton and challenged him to a duel. They met at Weehawken Heights above the Hudson River in New Jersey. Hamilton never fired a shot but Burr wounded Hamilton, who died the following day.

Not represented in the Highland Botanical Park collection.

'Elihu Root' D VI

Introduced in 1923, a seedling of 'Gilbert' (Lemoine 1911); a late flowering shrub with large azure-lavender florets on dense thyrses.

Elihu Root 1845-1937

He was an American statesman who served as Secretary of War under President William McKinley and as Secretary of State under President Theodore Roosevelt. While serving one term as Senator of New York he helped set up the permanent Court of International Justice. Root was president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1912.

Not represented in Highland Park collection.

'Henry Clay' S I

Introduced in 1923; a seedling of 'A. B. Lamberton' (Dunbar 1916) ; described as a 'showy' white with rather large florets on an abundantly blooming shrub with light green foliage.

Henry Clay 1777-1852

'The great compromiser', a U. S. Congressman or Senator for most of the first half of the 19th century. Clay was known as a great orator. His genius was in the art of compromise; he saved the United States from Civil War on three different occasions. Clay was responsible for writing the Missouri compromise and the compromise of 1850, which won enough national support to temporarily avert a Civil War. Clay's most famous saying was "I would rather be right than be President".

Highland Botanical Park collection #288

'Henry Wadsworth Longfellow' D VI

Introduced in 1920; a seedling of 'Aline Mocqueris' (Dauvesse 1872); described as having deep reddish-lilac buds, opening to very good magenta-colored florets, but it proved to have poor vigor and thus is a weak cultivar.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow 1807-1882

An American poet and writer, chiefly remembered today for "*Wreck of the Hesperus*", "*Hiawatha*" and "*The Courtship of Miles Standish*". Longfellow translated much German and Italian poetry, including Dante's "*The Divine Comedy*". From his home in Cambridge, Massachusetts he became one of early America's most prolific writers.

Not represented in the Highland botanical Park collection.

'Henry Ward Beecher D IV

Introduced in 1923; a seedling of 'Princess Clementine' (Mathieu pre 1908). Described as purplish in bud, opening to an attractive lavender-pink on dense thyrses, and fading to a silvery-white. The 1!" florets are considered small by today's standards.. It has poor suckering ability.

Henry Ward Beecher 1813-1887

A famous American preacher who served as Pastor of the New Plymouth church in Brooklyn, NY. Dr. Beecher wrote books, articles and lectured throughout the United States as he shared in the abolitionist sentiments and activities of his father Lyman and sister Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of the classic novel "*Uncle Tom's Cabin*".

Highland Botanical Park collection #1715

'Patrick Henry' D IV

Introduced in 1923; a seedling of 'Vestale' (Lemoine 1910). Described as having purplish buds that open to display silvery-lavender florets on a dense thyrse. The narrow petals tend to recurve when fully open. A vigorous long-lived cultivar whose flowers are somewhat small by today's standards.

Patrick Henry 1736-1799

A great American orator and leader who made stirring speeches about the rights of the Colonies to rule themselves. It was in a speech attempting to persuade Virginia to prepare for war with England that he shouted his famous phrase, "Give me Liberty or give me Death." After the colonies gained independence, Henry was elected the first Governor of Virginia. He was also instrumental in securing that the American Bill of Rights was added to the Constitution.

Highland Botanical Collection # 900

'Thomas A. Edison' S VII

Introduced in 1923, a seedling of 'Aline Mocqueris' (Dauvesse 1872). Described reddish in bud, opening to reveal reddish-lavender florets on a 7-8" thyrses. The plant does not sucker well.

Thomas A. Edison 1847-1931

An American inventor whose inventions had a profound effect on the shaping of modern society. During his lifetime he held nearly 1100 patents; his more important inventions include the electric light bulb, the phonograph, the talking motion picture projector, a mimeograph machine and the efficient alkaline battery.

Not represented in the Highland Botanical Park collection.

'Thomas Jefferson' S V

Introduced in 1922, a seedling of 'Scipion Cochet' (Dauvesse 1872). Described as an underrated lilac with an interesting coloration; the florets exhibiting a two-tone effect of blushed and lavender-rose. A somewhat upright-growing shrub.

Thomas Jefferson 1743-1826

Primarily known as the author of the American Declaration of Independence; also served as the 3rd President of the United States (1801-1809). He was an early and forceful leader in the Independence movement. Jefferson was proficient in a wide range of interests including: architecture, philosophy, agriculture, botany, education, geology, mathematics as well as knowledge of literature, medicine, religion and music. Jefferson's diary mentions planting lilacs at his Monticello home.

Highland Botanical Park collection # 277, 366.

'Susan B. Anthony' S VI

Introduced in 1923; a seedling of unknown parentage that is described as purplish in bud, opening to small reddish-lilac color florets on dense thyrses. A poor cultivar that is short-lived due to its inability to produce suckers.

Susan B. Anthony 1820-1906

An American social reformer who called Rochester, NY her home. Her interest in reform for the betterment of humankind encouraged her to join the Daughters of Temperance. Anthony joined the suffrage movement in 1851 and became an active speaker and writer. She won the first New York State law recognizing women's rights over children and property. By voting in the election of 1872 she broke the law, was arrested but not sent to jail. At her trial she was convicted and fined \$100.00. Anthony said "I will never pay the fine until the Constitution is changed to permit women to vote". That came 14 years after her death, with the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution.

Robert Hoepfl

March 2010

Finding Lilacs in Unexpected Places

Recently I was in one of my favorite places, Barnes & Noble, searching for a book to add to my burgeoning collection of 200+ books on bird behavior, bird families, birding around the nation and the globe, and field guides to many countries of the world. While checking the bargain section of the store, which often has a new item of interest to me, I spotted a small encyclopedia about dogs. To my great surprise, on the cover was a golden labrador, sitting obediently in front of a blooming lilac! That shows me how lilacs are often an integral part of peoples lives even they aren't thinking about them.

Kent Millham

March 2010

Convention Photos

Notice to convention attendees: please take a lot of photos at the convention, so we can have a good record for the next journal, and also so we can have a good photo archive for future members of ILS. Thanks!

International Lilac Society

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KENT MILLHAM

2012

CANDACE BONNETT
DR. DEB MCCOWN
GLORIA SCHREIBER
CONNIE SIMONNET
DR. J. GILES WAINES

II. CONVENTION

CONVENTION.....	Karen McCauley, Chairman
AUCTION.....	Franklin (Woody) Barnes I, Chairman

III. EDUCATIONAL

EDUCATION.....	Dr. Owen M. Rogers, Chairman
RESEARCH.....	Dr. Giles Waines, Chairman
PUBLICATIONS.....	Dr. Owen M. Rogers, Chairman

IV. HONORS, HISTORY, PLANNING

HONORS, AWARDS.....	Connie Simonnet, Chairman
ARCHIVES.....	Kent Millham, Chairman
LONG-RANGE.....	Frank Moro, Chairman

V. LILACS

REGISTRATION.....	Freek Vrugtman, Registrar
DISTRIBUTION.....	Frank Moro, Chairman
LILAC EVALUATION.....	Bruce Peart, Chairman
PRESERVATION.....	Dr. Deb McCown, Chairman

VI. MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP.....	Warren Oakes, Chairman
NOMINATIONS.....	Warren Oakes, Chairman
ELECTIONS.....	Nancy Latimer, Chairman
YOUTH.....	Gary Parton, Chairman



The lilac avenue of cultivars at the Botanical Garden of Ufa
Photo Credit R. J. Biktaenchev



Syringa vulgaris 'Alesha" at Botanical Garden of Ufa
Photo Credit Natalia Polyakova



Syringa vulgaris 'Alesha ' at the Botanical Garden of Ufa

Photo courtesy of Natalia Polyakova