Quarterly of the American Primrose Society

VOLUME XXI SPRING YEARBOOK 1963 NUMBER 2

Grey-edged Show Auricula

NATIONAL AURICULA SHOW MAY 4 and 5 — Schedule pg. 75
American Primrose Society

Quarterly

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Page 41
Concerning Primulas

GRACE DOWLING, Seattle, Washington

CHAPTER 3

AURICULA SECTION

The primulas from China are beautiful, brilliant, appealing, and with charms different from all other primulas, but there is something about the primulas from Europe, with the centuries of known trials and errors behind them, that creates an interest which primulas recently introduced cannot equal.

For over three centuries Auriculas have been cultivated and hybridized and the stories handed down form a fascinating history. It is believed they first came to England with a band of Flemish weavers who had been persecuted and driven from the Netherlands because of religious differences, sometime about 1570. Among their most precious possessions was P. Auricula which had no doubt, long been cultivated in Holland. From then on for centuries came the accounts (all interesting, amusing and delightful), of the Auricula fanciers, their jealousies and squabbles over the culture and management of their chosen favorites.

Great men such as the Emperor Maximilian II, L'Ecluse—"the greatest botanist in his day"—living in Belgium about 1550 or so, and later, Kerner, head of the botanical garden in Vienna, and many more were especially interested in the development of the Auricula. The ladies of the sixteenth century grew Auriculas, striving with each other for the largest collections and the most beautiful and rare blooms.

The earliest known writers called them Auricula ursi, Bear's ears, mountain cowslip, or French cowslip. Gerard, in his Herbal, in 1597 names several varieties of Auricula ursi, and his description is as charming as accurate. "This beautiful and brave plant hath thick, greene and fat leaves, somewhat finely snipt about the edges, not unlike altogether those cowslips, but smoother and greener and nothing rough or crumpled; among which riseth up a slender round stem a handful high, bearing a tuft of flowers at the top of a faire colour, not much unlike to the flores of Oxeslips, but more open and consisting of one only leaf-like cotedIon. "It healeth all outward and inward wounds of the brest."

All these years, among the botanists and others, ran the hotly-contested argument about the Auricula's parentage. Sides were taken, factions developed and in the report of the Primula Conference in 1886 there were yet growers putting forth their own theories about the Auricula's family tree. In 1940 there was a series of articles in an English magazine which were, apparently, the last written words in the controversy. Much work has been done on the peculiar chromosome constitution of the Auricula section of primulas. In spite of all this the question of parentage, at present, is still open to conjecture to a certain extent. P. Auricula, the original alpine species, has been accepted by the majority as undoubtedly one parent, but, P. rubra, P. villosa, P. tiscea or others, any one or all of them may have served at times as the other parent. That being conceded, we can go on to the classification.

The Auricula has been in cultivation so long, and so many hybrids developed, that it has been more or less necessary to group these to some extent.

The so-called florists' Auriculas are divided into two classes, "show" and "alpine" kinds. The "show" Auriculas are covered with a beautiful fine meal on flowers or on stems or leaves. The farina at the center of the flower is called "paste" and in some varieties the paste is the only meal on the blossoms. "Show" Auriculas are perfectly hardy but because of the difficulty of keeping the farina from being marred by weather conditions, they have been grown extensively in greenhouses and consequently more attention has been given to their development in size, form and color.

The "show" Auriculas are divided into four classes. Those with white edges are put in one class, those with gray edges in another and the green-edged varieties are in still another class. The white-edged resemble the gray-edged except that the meal in the white-edged varieties is so heavy and white it covers entirely the green petal tissue underneath, making the edges appear white. The gray-edged flower has only a slight dusting of farina and the green-edged bloom has no meal other than the paste in the center. But all three have a yellow lined tube in each flower. After the white, gray and green-edged classes come the selfs. These also have a yellow tube and the border of paste around the eye. Beyond and around this circle of paste is the color; any color the particular plant may choose, as long as it is a clear, pure, self tone, but this does not have a trace of meal. Some growers have added another class, called Fancies, which includes all those not included in the first four classifications. (Fancies find no place on the show bench).

The "alpine" group of the florists' Auriculas is characterized by a gradual shading of dark to lighter color on the petal, the deepest tones being towards the center. This gives the flower the appearance of a Catherine wheel. In this respect they differ from the "show" kinds which are never shaded. They differ also in that they do not have any meal of any kind on either the flower or the leaves as do the "show" types.

This florist "alpine" class is divided into two groups, those with white centers and those with yellow centers, which of course are unmeal. These center colors vary somewhat. The ones called white are often a cream and the yellow centers sometimes have a green tinge turning the yellow to gold.

The alpine section is the particular class from which has evolved those we generally see growing in gardens. They are perfectly hardy, in fact they grow lustily in the Arctic circle. They are easy to grow, they cause little anxiety, and are so comfortable and complacent that the florist has a tendency to frown upon them, and with his high standards criticizes their shortcomings, their inferior colorings and plebian growth.

In spite of this, the amateur gardener finds Auriculas are the darlings of the garden. The royal and outstanding colorings, often covered with farina; the fragrance, varying in strength with different blooms, thrill one over again every year, and the handsome fashion of the foliage, often spluttered with more or less meal, creates a garden ornament long after the flowers have gone.

They generally bloom profusely in almost any ordinary spot. They are not fussy, and they need very little care. Planted in mixed colors in a large group on a little slope in a fairly sunny spot, the plantings look like a bright, shiny piece of glazed chintz. Their bright and sparkling eyes, their exquisitely molded blossoms and old-fashioned colorings cannot be replaced with any other primulas.

Auriculas appreciate shade or semi-shade, but in too-deep shade the stems are inclined to be limp and floppy. If
Auriculas respond to good treatment. A loam, well cultivated and enriched with compost, leafmold and cow manure suits them to perfection; with plenty of moisture and frequent use of a hoe, they develop fat, cabbage plants and many stems. Early in the spring a good top-dressing, composed of much the same combination as the above, with possibly a little more manure, should be dug around each plant. At the same time all old, withered leaves should be removed and slug bait placed at short intervals through the beds. Against all orthodox treatment, in my sandy soil I have found a small tablespoon of well-balanced commercial fertilizer or any favorite, quick-acting mixture, if used with discretion, is a marvelous tonic. I use it only on plants that I think need an extra bit of feeding. If an Auricula looks wan with pale leaves, or a little thin with squinny flowers, it gets some liquid fertilizer or a bit of superphosphate tucked under its leaves and stirred in the soil. Too much makes the plant lazy, with no incentive to bloom, but the right amount inspires it to do its best. In heavy soil, rich in chemicals, this practice may not be necessary.

Frequently, when plants are well grown, the individual blooms are so many that the stems cannot stand upright and some blooms are not able to open. The seeds are very fine and are often buried too deeply; they should be covered only lightly with finely sifted sand. Germination is notoriously uneven and soil in the flats or pans should never be thrown away until there is no chance of more seeds coming up. I have heard of some seeds that germinated within two or three weeks and in the same flat some seeds have waited two years to appear. The soil in the seed pans should be very sandy and porous; a good combination is one-fourth good loam, one-fourth peat moss and nearly one-half sand. When the seedlings are transplanted they may have a richer soil; a little well-rotted, sifted cow manure should be added.

Division is an easy way to increase a planting; each tiny off-shoot will grow if planted in a sandy soil. The acceptable time for dividing is directly after flowering, but again, as with polyanthus, there are occasions when this can be done successfully at other times of the year. If division of fine plants is continued until a number of the same kinds have been obtained, the large planting is much enhanced if drifts of the same color are kept together.

There are untold numbers of named varieties. Two of my favorites are Red Skin and Blue Fire, but there are many more.

Some named varieties of Show Auriculas have been in cultivation for over one hundred years and still have the same characteristics they had when their proud originators produced them. Two Auricula growers, George Lightbody and Richard Headly lived in the middle of the nineteenth century. In 1857 Headly raised a fine Auricula, a gray-edged variety, and named it George Lightbody; George Lightbody raised a particularly beautiful specimen and named it Richard Headly. Both are grown today; both, of course, are collectors' pieces.

There are many varieties of double Auriculas. I have found them a little more difficult to keep than the single varieties; doubtless I have not found just the location the double Auricula prefers. Some of them are very beautiful but most single flowers, including Auriculas, have a greater fascination for me than the doubled forms.

Auriculas are especially valuable planted at the edges or in crevices of informal garden steps or stairs, and in partly-paved areas in a semi-shady location. They are Heaven-sent for the narrow shady border along a wall or cement walk. They make a neat edging for certain perennial borders, and the place that delights them most is along the edge of the vegetable patch. Here, in fat soil, they multiply and increase.

These so-called garden varieties are a little too ample for the small rock garden; there is nothing delicate nor miniature about them.

The true alpine Auricula is decidedly a rock garden plant. Originally growing on steep cliffs, it throws out long, straggling stems, similar to P. marginata and loves a big rock to fall against. The rather less opulent umbel of blooms is deliciously fragrant and a golden primrose-yellow.

The Auricula is a group to be approached with wide eyes and a disposition immune to disappointment. Aside from the garden kinds, it has been often avoided by the inexperienced, for it has caused more tears and developed more tombstones than possibly any other one section of primulas.

A few growers have solved many of the involved problems when growing the Auricula section. Good drainage and the amount of sunshine and shade prove to be determining factors. Deeply dug soil with stone chips to secure protection from the disconcerting force of the sun and experience with the climate where the members of this section are to grow are, undoubtedly, two important considerations when attempting to grow these crotchety jewels. English growers suggest full sun, but the sun in England is definitely tempered in most localities. In the Pacific Northwest, no doubt there is more and warmer sun than in England and here many of the Auriculas may burn in full sunshine but do well in half-shade or about five hours of sunshine—from midday on. Going farther east more shade is necessary, the amount to be determined by the strength of the sun in each locality. Planting in half-shade with lath protection in the hottest months should give the desired distribution of light and heat.

It is a section that includes species distributed throughout the European Alps with the addition of natural hybrids and many garden hybrids.

There are seven subsections, only interesting to the advanced grower. The Auricula is one of the four sections that has a distinctive feature, characteristic of every member, and peculiar to themselves. The edges of the young leaves are always turned in, towards the center. Involute is the word describing this custom, an invariable diagnostic feature, and thus the section need never be confused with any other.

Most, if not all, of the species of this section may be propagated by division.
Offsets from around the crowns may be removed and the plants increased in number.

**PRIMULA AURICULA**

This species Auricula for which the section was named, said to be the most prominent parent of all the glorious garden Auriculas, is a rather small, unassuming, Quaker-like individual, apparently content to let her large family of splendid offspring take most of the admiration and adulation. Its native home is in a large area of Europe, ranging from the Black Forest south to Sicily. Usually it is found growing in limestone formations in the crevices of rocks. The forms change, not radically but somewhat, as its location changes, and each of these different varieties is named. All are beautiful, but to the casual observer, more or less similar.

*P. Auricula* is a perennial, with thick, mealy leaves, whose margins sometimes are smooth but often have blunt notches. The plant has a succulent appearance, however it is absolutely hardy in every conceivable climate. The flowers, in a polyanthus-like umbel, often reaching seven inches high, are a warm, lovely yellow with meal in the throat. The polyanthus-like umbel, often reaching somewhat, as its location changes, and stone formations in the crevices of rocks. Usually splendid offspring take most of the admiration and adulation. Its native home is in a large area of Europe, ranging from the Black Forest south to Sicily. Usually it is found growing in limestone formations in the crevices of rocks. The forms change, not radically but somewhat, as its location changes, and each of these different varieties is named. All are beautiful, but to the casual observer, more or less similar.

*P. Auricula* is a perennial, with thick, mealy leaves, whose margins sometimes are smooth but often have blunt notches. The plant has a succulent appearance, however it is absolutely hardy in every conceivable climate. The flowers, in a polyanthus-like umbel, often reaching seven inches high, are a warm, lovely yellow with meal in the throat. The whole plant has a peculiar charm, quite distinctive from the garden Auriculas, not striking, but appealing. It is in bloom generally about the middle of April.

Planted in a rockery in a spot as nearly like its native home as can be arranged, it grows well, or it is attractive planted in an appropriate border with its various specially chosen natural hybrids.

All the Auriculas like a moist soil while they are growing. Not so much water as the Asiatics demand but enough to keep them growing on without a drought to set them back.

**PRIMULA MARGINATA**

This, one of the great treasures which bountifully gives its beauty to all gardeners, may be enjoyed in every garden to which it is invited and to see it in its glory one is not forced to climb the Mountains where, in a comparatively small district, is its original home. Rocky limestone, to which it has become accustomed on its native heath, is desirable but not necessary to its entire happiness in the garden, and the only site it requires to show its beauty in its completeness is near a rock over which it may hang its long knobby stems and drape its exquisite rosettes, each with a clean hard stone to lean against.

The plant, especially when fairly young, looks like a miniature shrub, but as it grows, multiplying the rosettes, it becomes a mosaic, draping itself over the rocks. Each rosette in itself, is perfectly formed. Every leaf edged with a silver rim, with a distinctive shape and notched in its own characteristic pattern, is covered over with a golden powder which softens what might otherwise seem harsh. The leaves easily could be imagined cut from jade, they so nearly resemble the color and texture of that stone. The shape of the leaves is narrow and with notches beginning as the leaf widens.

In April, well over the rosettes, the flowers rise in an umbel, each bloom covered with a white farina and each frankly facing the light in a naive loveliness. The color varies somewhat in different plants but always they are a color unseen before, neither blue nor lavender, but a shade to dream about.

*P. marginata* prefers a rich, mellow soil with plenty of old well-rotted cow manure and compost, and again, the drainage must be perfect. It likes half-sun and enough moisture to keep it growing well. Limestone chips around the crowns and throughout the soil are offerings much appreciated, and to avoid the straggly appearance that sometimes comes in middle age, it may be topped with good soil, up to the first leaves, thus increasing the size of the plant. It grows easily from seeds and from the seedlings the best forms should be chosen for perpetuating the stock. Cuttings develop rapidly, a rosette being detached in August and rooted in sandy soil. There is a white form I have never seen which Mr. Farrer says "is rather squinny," but there is a hybrid, Linda Pope, which is a marvelous creation. Linda Pope is supposed to be a cross between *P. marginata* and an alpine Auricula. In any case it is a glorified *marginata*, larger and finer in every way. *P. x Marven* is another hybrid, a child of *P. marginata* and *P. x venusta*. The parents of *P. x venusta* are *P. auricula* and *P. carniolica* and with such a distinguished family tree the beauty of *P. x Marven* is not surprising. Its color is a royal purple and it has a white eye. There is a new hybrid called Pritchard's variety, near the color of Linda Pope. I have a pink *P. marginata* (rose) living near Linda Pope—the two make a handsome pair.
**PRIMULA RUBRA** (*hirsuta*)

The species *P. rubra*, formerly known for many years as *P. hirsuta*, is frequently confused with other species in the Auricula section but can usually be distinguished by the yellow fuzz that covers the leaves. These fine hairs are not always the same shade of yellow and occasionally become reddish.

This diminutive ornamental bouquet has been in cultivation for generations in gardens called /.'viscosa are *P. rubra*. Sometimes in April but often not until May, a flower stem barely rises above the umbel which also distinguishes it from bright pink to pale pink and mauve. The color ranges from rosy pink to pale pink and mauve, and then, rarely, to a pure white.

The numberless hybrids of *P. rubra* are exceedingly confusing to the inexperienced grower. It crosses easily with *P. Auricula* and when the hybrids conspicuously resemble *P. Auricula* these are called *P. Auricula* hybrids but when they manifest decided characteristics of *P. rubra* (small plants and generally sticky), they are called *P. pubescens* hybrids. Mrs. J. H. Wilson is well known, a gorgeous lavender, almost purple in tone; also The General, a dark Chinese red and Faldenside, a rich brilliant crimson. These are three prominent hybrids but there are so many well-established others and new ones coming every season that they necessarily become a matter of choice.

*P. rubra* is not too fastidious in its tastes; it prefers granite stone chips to push its roots into but it does not detest lime; a fairly sunny spot where it can burrow under a rock suits it to perfection. In wet winters a glass protection is a precaution worth taking.

Growing seeds from *P. rubra* is an alluring pastime. Always, in every pot of seeds, lies a potential prodigy. The seeds form generously and germinate easily. When rosettes of the plant increase, they should be divided to increase the stock. They group nicely with *P. Auricula* as well as others of the Auricula section.

**PRIMULA VIScosa**

For years it has been difficult for *P. viscosa* to assert its own personality because of the counterparts on the market that have usurped its name and integrity. Its name, coming from the Latin word *viscosa*, describes the clammy or gummy nature of its leaves, which are without farina and which differ from many of the section. It resembles *P. rubra* so closely that many of the plants in gardens called *P. viscosa* are *P. rubra*.

The leaves are a yellow green, not so upstanding as *P. rubra*, and the fragrant blossoms in a bluish purple, blooming in March and April, grow in a one-sided umbel which also distinguishes it from *P. rubra*.

Coming from the Pyrenees mountains, as well as the Cottian and Maritime Alps, it generally grows among limestone formations. However, it likes a sandy soil with granite mixed with limestone chips, the association of roots of other plants and trees and plenty of sunshine with moisture cooling its feet.

*P. viscosa* resembles *P. villosa* in some ways but the color of the blossoms of *P. villosa* is a rosy pink or mauve.

There are two variations of *P. viscosa* considered more desirable than the type. One is pyrenica with larger and many more blooms to an umbel and with the leaves larger in length and breadth than those of *P. viscosa*. Another is graveolens with smaller leaves but with much the same umbel of many flowers; both of them are similar in color to *P. viscosa*.

**PRIMULA CLUSIANA**

Charles de Lecluse, a French botanist, is the one whose name *P. Clusiana* bears. It is one of the four so-called arthritic primulas comprising a subsection, Arthritica, of the Auricula section.

The blooming period of *P. spectabilis* (the name meaning showy, worth noting), has its own particular birth marks which distinguish it from the three other arthritic primulas. Over the surface of the leaves appear infinitesimal dots, almost transparent, resembling the pores of a skin and from these exudes a sticky substance which gives the leaves a highly polished appearance. The leaves, white when toothed, have a broad cartilaginous edge.

The blooming period of *P. spectabilis* is generally late in June and July and it likes sun and light. The long deep root seems to prefer a cool run under a rock or between rocks in richly manured soil. It will grow from seeds and the rosettes as they multiply, may be detached and treated like very special cuttings until roots have developed.

When *P. spectabilis* likes the spot in which it is placed it repays a thousand times, but it is a capricious imp and should be planted with few expectations.

**PRIMULA GLAUCESCENS**

To see in Mrs. Berry's garden, long rows of beautiful plants with many rosettes and to learn they have been in this location, increasing themselves for fifteen years and never a blossom, makes one think, to say the least, that perhaps *P. glaucescens* is another member of the Auricula section with discouraging idiosyncracies. Once in these fifteen years the plants produced buds which failed to open.

Fortunately, that has not been the experience of every one, but *P. glaucescens* is always sparing with its blossoms. The plant is fairly easy to grow and is found in many primula gardens in rich soil and with sunshine for at least one-half of the day.

**PRIMULA SPECTABILIS**

In Dr. Tenny's garden some years ago there were literally sheets of *P. spectabilis* spread over the rocks and a sight of them in bloom was breath-taking. The little hard-leaved gray-green rosettes, crowding each other and each producing umbels of brilliant flowers, was seen with the morning sun shining through them and taken as a whole looked for all the world like a stained glass window.

The size of the blossoms is out of all proportion to the rest of the plant. The petals are large and waved and the color varies. I like best the deeply colored forthright ones, yes, magentas with serious eyes, white and open. Each stem, which is not high above the rosettes, carries several blooms.

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Alps where it grows in exposed alpine meadows, usually on limestone formations. It has the tough leathery leaves of the other three but differs from them all in one way or another. *P. glaucescens* does not have the pitted appearance that is peculiar to *P. spectabilis*; its leaves are stiffer and more upstanding than those of *P. Clusiana* and larger than those of *P. Wulfeniana*. There is a broad edge of cartilaginous membrane to each unnotched leaf and, according to the name of the primula, they are glucous (having a white appearance), especially on the under sides and are not so sticky as some others in this sub-section.

The flowers are borne on purplish stems, four to five inches tall, in an umbel with from two to six blooms. The color varies from a clear rose to a pale magenta, a lively and brilliant color. The flowers are large with a deep notch in each petal and with a rather transparent quality—magnificent with the sun shining through them. When and if ever it blooms, *P. glaucescens* sometimes blooms in mid-winter, but generally its season of flowering is from early March to late April.

A variety, *Calyceina*, is considered more robust than the type flower and a sub-species, *longobarda*, is a dwarf variety. All of them like a fairly sunny spot in fibrous loam and plenty of limestone chips and moisture.

**PRIMULA WULFENIANA**

Here is another of the four primulas of the sub-section Arthritica. Staunch and sturdy, it gives one a feeling that it has gone through many struggles to have developed a growth that might have been, in some period of its history, an armorplate.

It sat down in my garden, fairly cuddled down, and stayed and stayed until I was afraid my patience would not last. Then one spring, in late April, before I had noticed the buds, there was a bloom and one bud. Perhaps it was "rosy mauve," as all the writers say, but to me, its almost translucent quality was more than a color. I had read descriptions so many times that now I could not believe "a short purple stalk, sometimes touched with powder" would really appear. There it was "a white eye, with fur at its throat." All primula growers have experienced this ecstasy at one time or another.

The leaves having rather a broad membranous border edged with minute glands, are not sticky like *P. spectabilis* and the whole rosette is smaller than any of the other three in this group. It is not fussy about where it lives; I have grown it in several places, in a rockery and along a partly sunny path where rocks have been placed to suit its requirements. The soil is wood soil which has been enriched with old manure and plenty of peat moss. *P. spectabilis* lives at the side of it in perfect friendliness.

**PRIMULA GLUTINOSA**

Several years ago early in my experience with primulas, someone gave me a few seeds of *P. glutinosa*. I blithely planted them and after they germinated well, I learned from Farrer that if any grower could keep *P. glutinosa* and bring it to a flowering stage, he was no longer an amateur. Wondering a little, but undismayed, I cared for my little plants as well as I knew how. Nevertheless, one after another the died until only one remained, husky and apparently determined. It was kept in a pot in a mixture of peat and sand with very little loam, a suggestion given me by an experienced gardener. The leaves disappeared at the beginning of winter naturally, as it is a deciduous perennial, but in the spring, contrary to all expectations there appeared a tuft of bright green oblong leaves about two or three inches long, covered with glands which exuded a sticky fluid. One day in May, a flower stem appeared and much to my astonishment it bloomed! Nothing, I am certain, had ever made me more sure that life is worth while. This vaingloriousness lasted for exactly three days. Before I had been able to show it to more than a few garden friends, I found it limp and wilted. Apparently nothing could be done. I longed for plant artificial restoration. The family, called for a death-bed consultation, decided it was heart trouble. This seems a very flippant description; nevertheless it was a garden tragedy.

*P. glutinosa*, named because of the glutinous or viscid fluid it exudes, grows in grassy meadows high in the European Alps, in peaty granite soil where the melting snows surround it as it comes into bloom in May and June. In the garden it seems to do best in an especially prepared pocket of much peat and granite chips, planted close together in clusters or in a scree with under-ground watering, not much soil but that a peaty-leafmoldy, rich substance. Farrer again says: "It is a challenging fairy, to be conquered and tamed with wise love; not impossible but difficult like all good things, and amply worth the wear of winning."

**PRIMULA ALLIONII**

Almost like a hermit, this little creature has chosen for its home a spot which most plants could not tolerate, even if they would. In a comparatively small area, high in the Alps near the sea and back of Nice and Mentone in southern France, *P. Allionii* lives, wedged in limestone crevices, generally facing north or west, where it can spread its rosettes over the rocks in a mass three or four feet across. It hates rain and all moisture except at the tips of its roots and because this peculiarity limits its locations, it is most often found under an overhanging rock where sun seldom penetrates and where rain cannot reach. Here in March and April at the end of long thick stems from which, from year to year the dry leaves have fallen, grow the most exquisite, rosy-pink flowers poised close to the collar of thick, sticky
evergreen leaves. At first glance the flowers seem to have no stem, they settle so closely to the leaves, but the stem, one-fourth of an inch or less, holds an umbel with one to seven blooms, each three-quarters to one inch across, seldom more than two opening at a time. Its indescribable color is peculiar to itself, not a rose nor a pink nor mauve, but something between and beyond, with a paler throat which is almost white but often with a touch of yellow.

The leaves are thick and sticky, completely covered with uncolored glands and this may explain why the plant can live without water on its surface. These glands extend to the throat of the flower. The leaves are further distinctive in that they have no membranous edging, which is usually true of primulus of this type.

So wild and solitary a plant naturally resents being brought into civilization, but if its natural habitat is duplicated with perfect drainage at its roots, in a crack of calcareous rock, the exquisite blooms that may come are sufficient reward. A grower on Vancouver Island used 75% small granite chips with several larger limestone chips in the soil. Another thinks mortar rubble is much more successful. Mortar rubble is the plaster that comes tumbling in cast-off heaps when an old house is torn down. More successful. Mortar rubble is the ingredient which does not prove as successful as prime rubble.

A URICULA

By the late DAN BAMFORD

"The Auricula is one of the oldest florist flowers and in its highly developed state, as we see it today, one of the most beautiful. Its origin still remains shrouded in the mist of the past. Its introduction and date of introduction into England are also uncertain, but it is generally supposed, that when the Flemish weavers were driven from their native soil, per se and cruelty, and settled in Norwich and Lancashire, they brought their collections of Tulips and Auriculas with them. Personally I think that is correct. Gerard, one of the early English writers, speaks of it as no stranger in 1597, and records show that it was about 1725 when it first made its appearance in Lancashire. It immediately captured the imagination of those skilled craftsmen, the hand loom silk weavers, who took up its cultivation, and laid down rigid standards of perfection, which were strictly followed in its development. A wave of enthusiasm swept over the North country to develop this flower to the standards of perfection they had laid down. Generation after generation struggled with grim determination with this end in view. Great progress was made. I cannot recall an instance in the history of Horticulture where such sustained and determined effort was made to produce a perfect flower. When the Auricula first reached their hands it was a very imperfect flower but when the last of them departed on their last long journey, the Auricula stood as a "period piece" in the floral world, as perfect and delicate as much of their native silk which found a home in many a mansion and palace."

EXCERPTS FROM THE

PRIMULA MINIMA

Minima seems a perfectly chosen name for this miniature plant. One can hardly believe it has been able to carve out a career and survive through the ages. Its tiny rosette might so easily have been choked with other growths, but it prefers to be crowded and hates a lonesome bare place in a rockery. I have grown it with slow growing primulas and P. Giraldiana but I have never been able to keep the same plants for more than a year or two. However, there are many growers who think it is not difficult. I have tried growing it in a pot and sinking the pot, a device suggested by Dr. MacWatt, but that did not make P. minima happy enough to stay in my garden.

It grows abundantly through the Austrian Alps in the Balkans, covering the sides of the mountains where there is full sun with plenty of moisture under its roots.

P. minima has marks of identification distinctive enough to recognize under any circumstances. Its size may not always be proof of its identity but its tiny shiny leaves tell the story. They are triangular in shape, the top cut square across and then notched like a miniature saw. The blossoms are huge in comparison with the size of the plant. It is said the color of the flowers in the mountains is amazingly beautiful, but in my garden the few flowers that ever opened were a great disappointment, a dull pink with just enough blue to make it far from pleasing. A hybrid of P. minima which I photographed, became a great sorrow when it died. I cannot remember where it came from but the whole plant was tender and appealing with a nice shade of pink blooms. However, the leaves were not the characteristic leaves of P. minima and the whole plant was a trifle larger. The type plant forms a flat clump of incurved leaves and seldom grows over two inches high.

It has definite likes and dislikes. It hates lime and dry soil at its roots. Almost pure leaf mold is much to its liking but it succeeds generally in very sandy peat. Surrounding the plant with a mulch of sharp sand helps it to come through the winter safely.

P. minima begins to bloom in March or early April and one big bloom is all it seems to be able to manage at one time. If happy, a bloom comes now and then throughout the summer.

There are several varieties, children of P. minima, too precious to miss, which should be sought and cherished.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As my two year term of office is about over I look back over the goals I set for myself the second year. I feel somewhat as I do when in the fall, I think back over my previous winter's plans and ambitions for my own garden. I always plan much more than time and energy allow me to accomplish.

Being president has been a pleasurable experience. The Society has grown and prospered, but not as much as I had hoped. Some of the Society's activities have been put on a firm business basis that allows for future expansion. Considerable more improvement is needed.

We have failed on one important item—the establishing and affiliating of new local societies. This is an area in which much more work is needed now and in the future.

Probably our greatest success is in promotion to the general public through garden publications. The most outstanding example is the recent March issue of SUNSET. I cannot claim any credit for myself, but I wish to thank the people concerned.

The most wonderful part of being president has been the friendliness and cooperation encountered in everything concerning the Society. I hope we will never lose this spirit as it has been, and
will continue to be, the reason for growth and prosperity of the American Primrose Society.

Support your new president as you have me.  

Herbert Dickson

FROM THE TREASURER

Dear members,

I would like to thank all who responded so promptly to the bill enclosed in the fall quarterly. Many who sent in their dues as a result wrote such interesting letters that their file cards came to life and seemed more than just a number to me.

There are some who have to be reminded two or three times to pay their dues. This always makes extra work and costs the society money.

This half year as treasurer has been a pleasant one in working with you, I sincerely hope that we will gain many new members next year.

Sincerely, Mrs. L. C. Tait

Editor's note: Many of the members whose names appear on the 1962-3 list in this issue have not yet paid their 1963 dues. If you are one of these please do not wait for another bill. It will be necessary to remove your name from the mailing list if dues are not received by May 1st.

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A popular $4. book with 8 plates $2.75

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Lynn M. Ranger

41 Lynn Shore Drive, Lynn, Mass.

VICTORIA GARDEN FESTIVAL

DORIS PAGE, Victoria, B.C.

In the Spring of 1930, at the time of Victoria's Spring Flower Show, the Horticultural Society's minutes record that "some fifty garden lovers from Seattle attended the show . . . your executive made arrangements for these visitors to see as many of the private gardens as time permitted." The following year in his annual report to the general meeting, the President reported "the visit of the Lake Washington garden club members, who were conducted round a number of gardens and very hospitably entertained to tea by Lady Barnard." In June, 1936, visiting Californians evidently had a special tour of gardens arranged for them and in 1937, the date of the Flower show and Festival was changed because it clashed with the Oakland, California, show. After lapsing during the war years, the 1947 Garden Week included in its highlights, an opening lecture, "a delightful talk by Dr. John A. Hanley . . . editor of Northwest Gardens and Homes, Seattle."

Again and again as we look through the old records of Victoria's Garden Festival we see evidence of the happy association with our American friends and once again we extend a warm invitation to friends and all those who enjoy gardens to come to Victoria on May 2nd, 3rd and 4th this year. The special tours begin at 1 p.m. each afternoon, when selected private gardens are visited in the company of guides and hostesses from the Victoria Horticultural Society and the Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Association. This year we hope to extend another idea tried out last year which proved very popular. We hope to have a number of smaller gardens, which will be open morning and afternoon for all three days, but which will not be included in the bus tours. Further particulars with regard to arrangements may be obtained from Mr. T. J. Sawyer, 3550 Richmond Road, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. The members of the Victoria Horticultural Society look forward to greeting many members of the American Primrose Society in May, in Canada's Spring garden city, Victoria, B.C.

SEED EXCHANGE NOTE
A clearance list is available April 1, on request, for groups, schools, garden clubs, or individuals desiring seed in quantity. Elmer C. Baldwin, 400 Tecumseh Rd., Syracuse 10, N.Y.
plans a trip to the west coast universities to visit senior scientists and would like to take the opportunity while out West to visit the Olympic Mountains and Cascade Range. Would any of our plant-hunting members advise him of the best time and best areas to visit? He can arrange his trip times to suit the flora.

Garden Auricula Point Score . . . has been changed by A. P. S. Board and is now the same as for judging polyanthus. It used to be that 10 points were taken off if a garden auricula had a pin-eye. Now only 2 1/2 points (the same as for polyanthus pin-eyes) are lost. Fifty points are given for flowers and 50 points for foliage and plant structure in both garden auricula and polyanthus divisions.

MAGNOLIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA

A Magnolia Society of America has been formed to collect and disseminate cultural information on the Asiatic and American Magnolias. Readers interested in becoming charter members, please write to D. Todd Gresham, 103 Frederick Street, Santa Cruz, California. Annual dues are $2.00, payable to the Magnolia Society of America, above address.

Mr. Gresham, Superintendent of Vet-terle and Reinelt, Capitola, Calif., has written an excellent article on Magnolias for the February, 1963 issue of Flower and Garden magazine. Included in the article is a Bloom Time and Hardiness chart of 31 Magnolias.

The member who sent this information to the Quarterly suggests that Magnolias are wonderful in the same gardens as Primroses. The Primroses blooming every year would help gardeners to wait for blooms when they buy young plants. This article should interest any gardener in Magnolias, especially since it shows that more colorful and hardier plants are being produced.

FERTOSAN COMPOST MAKER — 60 cents, write Editor, 2406 Boyer Ave. E., Seattle 2, Wa.

Japanese Primula Neitzchi, photographed by Grace Conboy

Notes from So. Burnaby

GRACE CONBOY

Plans are finalized and I leave for a holiday trip with my parents to Mexico in a few days—and comes a note from Nancy, “Do I have an article in the making for the Quarterly?” This does catch me off base, but truthfully I am loathe to leave my garden at this time of year when things are “bustin’ out all over” and one feels the renewed season urging one out to get on with another year of work.

Snowdrops, and royal purple and gold of early crocuses are popping up so fast and cheerfully demanding attention from the early honey collectors. The Juliana, Acaulis and Polyanthus plants are fairly bursting their fat buds to get busy. Dormant Auricula crowns, as yet untrimmed of old leaves, are showing silvery powdered bud crowns, with promise of good show to come. Margi-nata plants are groups of bare brown stalks but with such interesting terminations of the stalks of silver-sheathed buds. Crowns of Denticulate that have sat too high in the ground will probably lose their first bloom heads, which seem to be quite subject to winter decay from excess wet. I had to move one group of some dozen plants, and the plants that were well covered with soil have remained dormant and are tightly clasped. The pretty lavender pink Primrose from E. Europe (name?)* is one of the best for on and off bloom the year round. It was full of bloom before the heavy frost spell and will probably break again shortly.

Through the year I have grown a great many varieties of Primulas—but have found that the Auriculas, Sieboldiis, Florindaes and Vernales sections are the long-lived ones that stay with one despite neglect. They are the dependable toughies in my experience of some fifteen years of growing. I am gradually getting my garden organized—and developed so that it can accommodate a great many varieties of Primulas in their varied soil requirements. It is a wonderful challenge to plan and plant out an area with these beauties and all the lovely companion plants that go with them.

*Perhaps “Sibthorpiii” as it is a great bloomer in January and February in the Northwest.

AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY
Blue Whale

MARIE DANNEMILLER, Barberton, Ohio

Reprinted from the African Violet Magazine and written by a well known African Violet expert

H ave you ever seen a whale? I haven't and it is hard to visualize something weighing 65 tons and up to 120 tons or more. Tons? Can you imagine 2,000 times 120 and what a huge mass of flesh that would be? (Elephants are more my speed.) Let's do a little pretending! The Blue Whale is the largest living animal often measuring over 100 feet in length, and one 80-footer I read about measured 45 feet around the shoulders, 45 feet! Why, that is the width of the lot on which we live and it is 115 feet long; just imagine taking one 80-footer and looking into our second floor bedroom windows, and a hundred footer would leave a little empty space at the length of our lot.

Whales are not fish, but mammals in spite of their tapered, fish-like bodies. They have no gills but have lungs and breathe air like land animals; they have huge hearts that pump warm blood, and smooth skin instead of scales. The females mate once every two years and when Junior is born ten months later, mama feeds him as bossy does her calf. He may be one third as long as she is and weigh as much as 30,000 pounds, but he is still her darling baby.

The main divisions of the family of whales are the toothed, such as the Sperm whale and the toothless Baleen whale: this name comes from a sievelike curtain that hangs down from the upper jaw and is used to squeeze the water from Plankton and Krill, their chief food. They are huge eaters and as much as two tons of this food has been taken from the stomach of one Blue Whale in processing. Although their mouths are big enough to hold an automobile, their throats are no larger than a man's arm, so their food is necessarily small.

The whale's head is enormous, sometimes a third of the length of its body and, instead of noses, they have blow holes through which they breathe; they have flippers on each side of their body for steering and balancing, but their powerful propeller is the tail, divided into two horizontal flukes. This enables them to travel rapidly through the water, to dive thousands of feet to the ocean floor where the pressure is great enough to crush the steel sides of submarines like tissue paper and a few minutes later rise to the surface with no ill effects from the "humps" which seize man when exposed to minor pressures. Such a feat, it is believed, is made possible partly by their blood supply which is larger in proportion to their bulk than any other mammal, and perhaps to the thick blubber from 4 to 20 inches which covers the entire body, and why they are not crushed to death from the great pressure in the depths, is known only to the Almighty Himself.

Ever since the tenth century, countless thousands of men have hunted whales for oil, for soap, food, paint and industry and for glycerin.

Whales were formerly dissected on board ship for the medicinal properties of the liver and important glands, the Sperm whale for the spermatic oil and the Baleen or Blue whale for the baleen from which corset stays were made, and the huge remains then thrown back into the sea. Today, all parts of the animal are used (perhaps like the pig, everything but the squeal). Fats and oils go into the manufacture of margarine and the rest into plant and animal foods; the material used for Blue and Liquid Blue Whale is obtained from the Whaling operations of the British Columbia Packers which takes place off the north end of Vancouver Island. The bone and marrow, the baleen and red meat are all thoroughly digested, the juice pressed out, all possible fat and oil removed, and the liquid evaporated to a very concentrated form; diluted with water, it provides everything that soil organisms require for healthy plant growth. The liquid Whale would not pour until it was discovered that the enzymes from the head, acting like corpuscles in the blood, could perform this function, and they also helped to eliminate the fishy odor; the musky odor it does have is not disagreeable.

Liquid Blue Whale tests 6% organic nitrogen (NOT chemically fortified with urea), 2% available phosphates, and 1% soluble potash. It is richer than Beef Concentrate or Fish Products because it contains whole Bone, Marrow and Baleen, as well as the meat.

Acme Sundried Sphagnum Peat Moss is impregnated with solubles from the whole whale with only the fats removed, protein content 80.20% as well as natural nitrogen, potash, phosphorous, trace elements, minerals, Marine Marl is added to balance the 3.4 acid whale solubles to the very acid moss 3.6, thus retaining the acid benefits while the soil is sweetened and neutralized. The solubles are already decomposed, therefore immediately available as food for the plant and are blended with the moss in such a way that they will not leach out under weathering. This is called Blue Whale.

One part Blue Whale impregnated peat, two parts sterilized good garden top soil or woods soil are recommended for African violets and one drop of the liquid Blue Whale added to each cup of water used each time plants are watered, cleaned, fogged, or fed foliarly is recommended rather than heavier feeding at greater intervals.

All growing things respond to Blue Whale products and folders on various plants and their care and feeding are available. Do try these gifts from the sea—I am sure you will like them.
ABOUT FLUORESCENT LIGHTS

Much interest among Primrose growers has developed since the new type fluorescent lights have come on the market. According to various articles one may grow plants under these lights in places that were not suitable with the old type.

In our winter issue, Jan. 1963, The Professional Gardener was quoted on the new fluorescent lamp made by Westinghouse. This light is called Plant-Gro. In their January issue in an article by Donaldson M. Smith, Peabody, Mass., they report on the methods of propagating plants under the new type fluorescent light called Grolux, made by Sylvania Electric Co. To quote:

"For Seeds—Soak vermiculite thoroughly with liquid fertilizer and warm water. Sow seeds in rows or broadcast close together than with plants grown in the garden or greenhouse. As soon as seeds germinate, even before they have their true leaves they can be set into plant flats of soil for about another week. The Grolux will not burn the tender plants as sunshine will so you can gain two weeks over any other method. The distance of lamps from seedlings and cutting should be as follows:

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<th>Distance</th>
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<tr>
<td>12&quot;-10&quot;</td>
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The distance of the lamp from the seedlings and cutting depends on the wattage used. The 20 and 40 watt tubes are both of the same circumference. The only difference is that it is possible to get twice as many plants under the 40 watt tube which is 48" compared with a 20 watt tube of 24".

These Grolux fluorescent lamps will fit any fixture made for this size tube. Allow one to two weeks from sowing to pricking out.

For Cuttings—Soak vermiculite, perlite or whatever medium you use with warm water. Trim and stick cuttings. Soak to firm cuttings by sprinkling from above with liquid foliar fertilizer. Distance of lights as described for seeds.

Cuttings will root in one to three weeks without bottom heating depending on the type cutting. Grolux has been found to save one-third of the time required for other methods.

Timing of the lights—Seeds should be given light for 24 hours a day until pricked out to prevent stretching in the dark. Cuttings should have light for 16 hours and be off 8 hours. When the lights are off the darkness must be complete. In growing plants for any length of time under artificial lights it must be kept in mind that the lamp takes the place of the sun but seasons must be followed.

If the plant normally blooms in the spring, summer or fall, then to flower these plants under lights you have to supply the same hours of light and dark as nature supplies at these times.

American Primrose Society

AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY

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Oregon Primrose Society.....c/o Mrs. William Tae, Treas., 1006 40th St., Milwaukie 22, Ore.

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Kendall, Mr. Fred P Box 806, Big Chimney, West Virginia
Kendall, James B 2337 Boxwood Dr., Bremerton, Wash.
Kibler, Mrs. Corrine H 2337 Boxwood Dr., Bremerton, Wash.
Kidney, Mr. Alfred E. J. B 1 Osterly Gardens, Thorton Heath, Surrey, England
Killingbeck, Mr. W. B. RFD 1 Box 306, Valley Cottage, N.Y.
Klaver Mrs. Doreen 760 N. Cleveland, Chicago 3, Ill.
Klopping, Mrs. H 3301 North 59th St., Omaha 34, Neb.
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Knippenberg, Mrs. J. F. 736 Pines Lake Drive West, Wayne, N.J.
Kolowrat, Mark & Eric M. L 3611 S.W. Ravensview Ave., Portland 1, Ore.
Koningberger, Dr. Y. J. Director Horst Botanicus, State University of Utrecht, Netherlands
Koroluck, Mrs. Stephen 316 Centre Ave., Lindenhurst, Long Island, N.Y.
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Lanefield, Mr. Richard 1706 Bedford Road, Chappaqua, N.Y.
Larimer, Mr. Fenton W P.O. Box 788, Bothell, Wash.
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Larson, Mrs. Roy W Box 380, Rt. 1, Rockaway, Ore.
Laws, Mrs. William L. II Laurel Lodge, Box 403, Cannon, N.Y.
Laughlin, Mrs. Robert W 3224 Laurel Drive, Everett, Wash.
Lavocac, Mr. W. H. Hightower, Slipper Lane, Mirfield, Yorkshire, England
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Lennox Mr. Donald J., MOUNTAIN VALLEY NURSERY Jefferson, N.H.
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Lindstrom, Mr. Sanford A 2222 66th S.E., Mercer Island, Wash.
Livingston, Miss Alida Rensmen's Lane, Oyster Bay, Long Island, N.Y.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nies, Miss Anna</td>
<td>1124 Maple Ave., Lancaster, Penn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reinelt, Mr. Frank</td>
<td>R.D. No. 4, Cortland, N.Y.</td>
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<td>Neelands, Mrs. Harry</td>
<td>3002 118th S.E., Bellevue, Wn.</td>
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<td>Nelson, Mrs. Stella</td>
<td>25 Eberts St., Long Island, N.Y.</td>
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<td>Newkirk, Mrs. M. W.</td>
<td>P.O. Box 35, Belfair, Calif.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newman, Mr. Charles</td>
<td>1100 26th Ave., Moline, Ill.</td>
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<td>Newton, Mrs. Thomas</td>
<td>Box 124, Maple Valley, Wn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noguchi, Mr. Kikusaburo</td>
<td>1256 Shimose, Nagoya Central, Japan</td>
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<td>O'Niell, Mr. Frank H</td>
<td>3277 Aves, Moline, Ill.</td>
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<td>Orsz, Mrs. Julia</td>
<td>816 12th St., Bellingham, Wn.</td>
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<td>Ochs, Mrs. John T</td>
<td>2010 W. 12th St., Burlington, Wn.</td>
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<td>Ord, Mrs. George</td>
<td>300 N. Main St., Richardson, Texas</td>
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<td>Ott, Mr. Frank</td>
<td>342 E. 10th Ave., Seattle, Wn.</td>
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<td>Ozawa, Mr. Motonosuke</td>
<td>38-1 Chome Nakadour, Shibuyaku, Tokyo, Japan</td>
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<td>Page, Mr. H. J.</td>
<td>100 Watling St. E., Market Place, Northants, England</td>
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<td>Palmer, Dr. Edward</td>
<td>19638 Stanley Ave., Berwyn, Ill.</td>
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<td>Park, Mrs. Julia</td>
<td>7214 11th Ave. S.W., Seattle, Wn.</td>
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<td>Patience, Sister O.S.A</td>
<td>7201 So. York St., Denver 10, Colorado</td>
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<td>Patrick, Mr. Anthony</td>
<td>20000 S. 32nd St., South Bend, Ind.</td>
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<td>Payne, Mrs. Oliver H</td>
<td>350 Ave. Ocean, Lawrence, Long Island, N.Y.</td>
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<td>Pearson, Mrs. E. P.</td>
<td>Box 710, Northfield, Wis.</td>
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<td>50 W. 26th St., Long Island, N.Y.</td>
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<td>Porter, Mr. Ronald</td>
<td>1152 S. W. Vista Ave., Portland, Ore.</td>
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<td>Porter, Mrs. M. J.</td>
<td>1125 S. W. Vista Ave., Portland, Ore.</td>
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<td>Powell, Miss Gladys</td>
<td>13257 37th Ave. N.E., Seattle 5, Wn.</td>
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<td>812 Princeton Ave., Haddonfield, N.J.</td>
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<td>1526 E. 16th Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio</td>
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<td>Richards, Mr. Charles W</td>
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<td>Richards, Mrs. A. E.</td>
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<td>Richter, Mrs. R.</td>
<td>20248 Albion Rd., Strongsville, Ohio</td>
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<td>Riddle, Mr. Mathew C</td>
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<td>Ridener, Dr. R. H.</td>
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<td>Ries, Mr. Victor</td>
<td>1241 Lincoln Rd., Columbus 12, Ohio</td>
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<td>Roberts, Miss Helen H</td>
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<td>Robertson, Mrs. V. M. C</td>
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<td>Ruffier-Lanche, Mr. R</td>
<td>University of Grenoble, 9 Place Bir Hakeim, Brenbile, Isere, France</td>
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<td>Ryba, Mrs. Adolph</td>
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<td>Salsman, Mrs. Orpha</td>
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<td>Sandersen, Mrs. Clarence</td>
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<td>Sanders, Mrs. Moira</td>
<td>421 S.E. Shoreland Drive, Bellevue, Wn.</td>
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<td>Schoolcraft, Mr. Pete M</td>
<td>4000 12th Ave., Sacramento 30, Calif.</td>
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<td>Scher, Mrs. W. A.</td>
<td>15115 88th N.E., Bothell 2, Wn.</td>
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<td>Schaffner, Mrs. David J</td>
<td>500 N. 10th St., Seattle 15, Wn.</td>
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<td>Schaefer, Mrs. Carl</td>
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<td>Scher, Mr. Joseph</td>
<td>3314 Bancroft Rd., Baltimore 15, Md.</td>
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<td>Shattuck, Mrs. J.</td>
<td>3085 E. 17th St., Portland 18, Ore.</td>
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<td>Scher, Mrs. Annabelle R</td>
<td>208 S. Vance St., Lombard, Ill.</td>
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<td>Scott, Mrs. Susan H.</td>
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<td>Scher, Mrs. E. J.</td>
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<td>Schofield, Mrs. H.</td>
<td>12429 W. 17th St., Tacoma, Wn.</td>
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<td>Scher, Mrs. Clara</td>
<td>3272 Arcadia Place, N.W., Washington 15, D.C.</td>
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<td>Scher, Mrs. H. J.</td>
<td>3618 N.E. 120th Ave., Seattle 55, Wn.</td>
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Proposed Constitutional Change — to be voted on at the annual meeting.

With the idea of fostering unity and closer cooperation within the A.P.S., the Board of Directors recommends Article IV, Section I of the A.P.S. constitution be changed to read: “The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, the immediate Past President, the Editor of the Quarterly, the six elected Directors and the current president of each affiliated Society.”

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1963 NATIONAL AURICULA SHOW

of the
AMERICAN PRIMROSE AND AURICULA SOCIETY
presented by
THE WASHINGTON STATE PRIMROSE SOCIETY

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
May 4—1 to 9 May 5—10 to 6

AMERICAN LEGION HALL—NORTHGATE
327 N.E. 91st St., Seattle, Washington

Admission 50c 1963 APS Members pay tax only
SCHEDULE FOR THE NATIONAL AURICULA SHOW

1. The show will be open to visitors Saturday, May 4 from 1 P.M. to 9 P.M.; Sunday, May 5 from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.
2. Exhibits will be received Friday, May 3 from 7 to 10 P.M. and Saturday, May 4 from 8 to 10 A.M.
3. All exhibits will be under the control of the show management during the show and shall not be removed without the consent of the management.
4. Plants in the seedling classes must have been raised by the exhibitor, and must not have won before in show competition.
5. Neat stakes may be used to support the stalks of Show Auriculas and Exhibition Alpine Auriculas only.
6. Exhibitors shall furnish their own pots which shall be clean, red clay or plastic and should bear exhibitor's name on the bottom of the pot.
7. All exhibitors must remove plants, containers and personal properties by 9:30 P.M. Sunday, May 5th.
8. No plants may be sold from the benched areas during or following the show. They must be checked out and removed from the building. There will be no exceptions.
9. ALL divisions and classes are open to ALL. No limits as to number of entries by an exhibitor in any class.
10. Exhibitors may freshen their exhibits between the hours of 9 A.M. and 10 A.M., Sunday, May 5.
11. The show management may make such other rules as it may find necessary for the proper conduct of the show.
12. It must be understood that the sponsoring society or societies, or any of their members will not be held responsible for any accident, damage or loss, however caused, that may occur to any exhibitor, competitor or any other human being who enters the show grounds or show building. Each exhibitor or competitor shall be solely responsible for any loss, injury, or damage that may be done to or occasioned by, or arising from, any article or property exhibited or brought to the show grounds or hall by him, and he shall indemnify and hold harmless the Show Management, the Society or Societies, and their members from and against all actions, suits, expenses and claims on account of, or in respect of, any such loss, damage or injury which may be so caused or occasioned.

For further information, or schedules, contact
Mrs. William Dines, 8837 Avondale Rd., Redmond, Wn., TU 5-2242

JUDGING AND AWARDS

1. All exhibits will be judged by the STANDARD SYSTEM, and according to the standards of excellence established by the American Primrose Society.
2. The judging of exhibits will begin at 10 A.M., May 4 and all visitors must be out of the show rooms by then.
3. The judging of all exhibits except the Decorative division will be done by "Show Auricula Floriculturists of America" judges.
4. The judges' decision will be final.
5. Awards will be presented according to the point system for sweepstakes, etc. as stated in the Spring Quarterly 1962 on pg. 64.

1963 NATIONAL AURICULA SHOW SCHEDULE

DIVISION I—SHOW AURICULAS
Competitive—Open to all. Entries not limited. One stalk only. One plant in pot. Must have at least three expanded pips.
Section A—Show Auriculas
Class 1. Gren Edged
Class 2. Grey Edged
Class 3. White Edged
Class 4. Red Selfs
Section A—Show Auricula Seedlings
Same classes as Section A - 1 through 7.

DIVISION II—EXHIBITION ALPINE AURICULAS
Competitive—Open to ALL. Entries not limited. One stalk only. One plant in pot. Must have at least three expanded pips.
Section A—Exhibition Alpine Auriculas
Class 1. Light centers
Class 2. Gold centers
Section B—Exhibition Alpine Seedlings
Class 1. Light centers
Class 2. Gold centers

DIVISION III—BORDER ALPINE AURICULAS
Competitive—Open to ALL. Entries not limited. One plant in pot. Must have at least five expanded pips. Border Alpine Auriculas will be judged same as Garden Auriculas. (Qualifications—notched, fluted, ruffled, pin-eyed, or mealed.)
Section A—Light Centers
Class 1. Red shades
Class 2. Blue shades
Class 3. Purple shades
Class 4. Other shades
Section B—Gold Centers
Class 1. Red shades
Class 2. Blue shades
Class 3. Purple shades
Class 4. Other shades

DIVISION IV—GARDEN AURICULAS
Competitive—Open to ALL. Entries not limited. One plant in pot. Must have at least five expanded pips.
Class 1. White and cream shades
Class 2. Blue shades
Class 3. Yellow shades
Class 4. Lavender and purple shades
Class 5. Tan and brown shades
Class 6. Red and brick shades
Class 7. Black or near black shades
Class 8. Other shades

DIVISION V—DOUBLE AURICULAS
Competitive—Open to ALL. Entries not limited. One plant in pot. Must have at least three expanded pips. Double Auriculas will be judged the same as Garden Auriculas.
Class 1. White and cream shades
Class 2. Blue shades
Class 3. Yellow shades
Class 4. Lavender and purple shades
Class 5. Tan and brown shades
Class 6. Red and brick shades
Class 7. Black or near black shades
Class 8. Other shades

DIVISION VI—AURICULA SPECIES
Competitive—Open to ALL. Entries not limited. One plant in pot. Must have at least three expanded pips.
Section A. Species auricula
Section B. Natural hybrids. (Includes the Pubescens, Marven, Linda Pope and other similar hybrids).
DIVISION VII—GOLD LACED POLYANTHUS

Competitive—Open to ALL. Entries not limited. One plant in pot. Must have at least three expanded pips.

Section A—Gold Laced Polyanthus
Class 1. Red ground color
Class 2. Black ground color

Section B—Silver Laced Polyanthus
Class 1. Red ground color
Class 2. Black ground color

DIVISION VIII—DECORATIVE

Competitive—Open to ALL. Entries not limited.

Section A—Arrangements and/or compositions in which Auriculas must predominate.
Class 1. Metal containers.
2. Auriculas featured in reflection, on or in front of a mirror.
3. Coffee table arrangement.
4. Small arrangements, Auriculas with any line or foliage material, not to exceed six inches in height or width.
5. An old fashioned bouquet.
6. Featuring driftwood.
7. Featuring rock or slag.
8. Auriculas in a bottle or jug.
9. With figurine or figurines.
11. Auriculas in low container on background of draped velvet.
12. Design in a wall niche or shadow box.

Section B.—Arrangements not requiring Auriculas. Same classes as Section A.
Section C.—Corsages, any type, featuring Auriculas.
Section D.—Arrangements by men. As you like it.

SHOW CHAIRMEN

General Show Chairman................................. Mrs. William Dines
Assistant Chairman........................................ Ralph Balcom and John Shuman
Horticulture, Classification.............................. Mrs. Herbert Dickson
Horticulture, Entries...................................... Mrs. John Siepman and Mrs. Orin Hale
Decorative, Entries....................................... Mrs. Sylvester Harp
Publicity.................................................. Mrs. Rosetta Jones
Tickets.................................................... Mr. and Mrs. Martin Wright
Judges........................................................ Mrs. John Shuman
Properties................................................ Mrs. Gertude Clark
Horticulture, Placing...................................... Mrs. Hazel Johnston
Decorative, Placing....................................... Miss Fayme Haverty
Educational................................................ Mr. Ross Willingham
Hostesses.................................................. Mrs. Anton Schwarz
Tea Room.................................................. Miss Fayme Haverty
Programs.................................................... Miss Janet Clark
Staging..................................................... Mrs. L. G. Tait, Mary Baxter, Fern Latimer
Finance.................................................... Mrs. Herbert Dickson
National Banquet Chairman............................. Mrs. Ruth Smith
Ribbons and Awards..................................... Mr. Herbert Dickson
Historian.................................................. Miss Ida Magnus
Sales Room............................................... Mr. and Mrs. Alan Jones

Annual Meeting and Banquet May 4

Clark's Northgate Restaurant, Northgate at 6:30 p.m. will be the gathering place of all members of A. P. S. who can attend the National Show in the same area. Please make banquet reservations by calling or writing Mrs. Ralph Balcom, SU 3-2914, 345 W. 88th St., Seattle, Wn. The cost is $2.50. Guests are welcome to attend.

Presentation of trophies is always a highlight of the annual meeting and this year there will be a new perpetual trophy presented by the Quarterly in memory of the late Captain Hawkes of England. It will be given each year for the best Gold or Silver-laced Polyanthus Seedling.

Officers nominated for election are:
President, Ralph Balcom; Vice President, Mrs. Ivanel Agee; Recording Secretary, Mrs. John Siepman; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Alice Hills Baylor; Treasurer, Mrs. Lawrence G. Tait. New proposed board members are Cyrus Happy and Robert Funkner.

For Exciting New Things for Spring write

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SLUG-FEST COLLOIDAL 25
AND PRIMROSES GO TOGETHER
- The new Liquid Control Developed by Regional Chemical
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At all better garden supply houses
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AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY
Primrose Show Dates

Make an effort this year to attend at least one primrose show. You will see new introductions and many interesting species that will help you in your selection of plants and seeds. The local Primrose Societies welcome guests and new members at their meetings. All clubs offer plants for sale. There is no admission charge unless so stated.

TACOMA PRIMROSE SOCIETY
April 6—from 1 to 9 p.m.
April 7—from 11 to 6 p.m.

Plants may be entered on the 5th from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and on the 6th until 10:00 a.m. At the Nat'l Bank of Washington in the center of Villa Plaza, Lakewood, Wn. (just past Lakewood Center).
Theme: “Primrose Rainbow.” Col. Louis M. Hans, 556 Ramsdell St., Fircrest, Wn., is the Show Chairman, Floyd S. Keller (son of Floyd Keller, past president), 0310 S. 19th, Tacoma 66, Wn. is president, Mrs. H. L. Lam, 628 N. Prospect is club treasurer. Club meetings are the 2nd Tuesday at Oakland Fieldhouse, S. Tacoma, Center at Madison St., at 8 p.m.

CLARK COUNTY PRIMROSE SOCIETY
April 6—from 1.30 to 8 p.m.
April 7—from 10 to 6 p.m.

Plants may be entered from 9 to 12 noon on April 6. Theme: “Primroses In Their Glory” will be at the Experiment Station, 1918 N.E. 78th, Vancouver, Wn. (Turn East off Hwy. 99 on 78th St. at Totem Pole Shopping Center or turn off at St. Johns Manor Hwy, west on 78th Ct.) There will be a plant sale. Show Chairman is Mrs. Claude Ralsden, 6614 N.E. 139th St., Vancouver, Mrs. Erwin Heiden, 3101 Franklin St., Vancouver, Wn., is president and Mrs. Seth Barnett, 9219 N.E. St. Johns Rd., Vancouver, is club treasurer. Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of month at noon at the Experiment Station.

OREGON PRIMROSE SOCIETY
April 13—from 2 to 8 p.m.
April 14—from 1 to 6 p.m.

Plants may be entered April 12 from 7 p.m. to 9 and April 13 from 8 to 10 a.m. At the Milwaukie Community Club, 42nd and Jackson Sts., Milwaukie, Oregon. Show Chairman is Mrs. Anita Alexander, 11848 S.E. Rhone, Portland. Mrs. Orval Agee, 11112 S.E. Wood Ave., Milwaukie, Ore. is co-chairman. Mrs. Raymond Elmstrom is president. Meetings are the last Friday of the month at 8 p.m., Milwaukie City Hall.

EAST SIDE GARDEN CLUB—KIRKLAND
April 19—from 2 to 9
April 20—from 12 to 9
April 21—from 12 to 6

Plants may be entered April 18 from 12 to 9:30 p.m. Arrangements from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. Thursday, and Friday from 8 to 10 a.m. Theme of the show to be held at the Civic Center, Kirkland, is “Gardens of Time.” Admission is 50c. Mrs. T. Hanney, 223-6th Ave., Kirkland, Wash., is show chairman. Mrs. Francis Rae is president and Mrs. R. A. Fleming is treasurer. Club meetings are at the Kirkland Women's Club on the 3rd Wednesday at noon.

MT. ANGEL GARDEN CLUB
April 21—from 11:30 to 6 p.m.

Plants may be entered from 6 to 8 p.m. on April 20th and from 8 to 10 a.m. on April 21st. St. Mary's School (basement), Mt. Angel Oregon at No. 13347-56th Ave. So. Portland. Mrs. Orval Agee, 4020 Marine Drive, W. Vancouver, B.C., is president. Club meetings are at Douglas Park Fieldhouse on the 4th Thursdays.

FRIDAY HARBOR PRIMROSE CLUB
No show this year but regular meetings are the third Tuesday at homes of members. The president is Mrs. Albert Jensen; secretary, Mrs. John Danis and treasurer is Mrs. Raymond D. Dahl, Friday Harbor, Wn.

LEWIS COUNTY PRIMROSE CLUB
Show date not set at date of printing. Please contact either president, Mrs. A. V. Roney, Rt. 2, Box 119, Chehalis, Wn., or secretary-treas. Mrs. John Daniels at 1320 Rose St., Centralia, Wn. The theme of the show will be “Spring in the Valley (and that sounds very inviting.)

WASHINGTON STATE PRIMROSE SOCIETY
May 4 and 5 . . . NATIONAL SHOW. See schedule.

ONONDAGA PRIMROSE SOCIETY
Spring Garden Tour
For details contact Treasurer Mrs. Darwin N. Camp, No. 4 Brae Burn Lane, Nedrow, N.Y. President is Mr. Ben Hoag, 100 Worden Ave., Nedrow, N.Y. The April meeting: Burlingame Rd., off Dewitt St. Visitors are welcome.

ALPENGLOW GARDENS
13328 Trans-Canada Hwy.
North Surrey, B.C., Canada

ENGLISH NAMED VARIETIES OF SHOW AND ALPINE AURICULAS
ALPENGLOW GARDENS wishes to announce that MR. JOHN SHUMAN, 5957 37th S. W., Seattle, Washington, is now their representative for the United States. He has a full stock of all varieties of auriculas and can take care of any order. All correspondence should be sent to him.

THE BEST IN POLYANTHUS & AURICULAS; HYBRIDS & SPECIES;
ROCKERY PLANTS, DWARF SHRUBS & YOUNG SEEDLING TREES

Stop by during your visit to the National Auricula Show in Seattle May 4 & 5

Select your plants to take home
Plants for sale at garden only. No list or mail orders yet.

DICKSON'S PERENNIAL GARDENS
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Seattle 88, Wn.
CH 4-5846
The Legend of *Sieboldii*

Many, many years ago before the white man came, a young brave named Kee-eechi-kowa lived with his mother not far from Siwash Rock. Since his father was dead he had to spend all his day providing food for himself and his mother and had little time to gather wealth to buy a bride.

Just before the rainy season Chief Kaman-chuk sent canoes to the ends of the earth calling all to a great potlach honoring both the return of the salmon and the fact that his only daughter See-bold-ee, the Blue Star, was now of marriageable age.

Kee-eechi-kowa had often secretly met See-bold-ee and they had pledged undying love. Kee-eechi-kowa's mother warned her son of the law of the Potlach that prescribed that whoever brought the greatest gifts to Kaman-chuk would in turn receive the chief's dearest possession, his daughter, in marriage.

Kee-eechi-kowa prayed to the Great Spirit and was changed into an eagle. "Go search the world for the strangest gift and you will win See-bold-ee for your bride, but you must be back before the moon is full" said the Great Spirit.

As he roamed the earth all things could be his, but he found that they were all too heavy to carry back in time for the great Potlach. He alighted one night in a strange garden and in the moonlight he saw stars of sapphire nodding in the breeze. He looked closer and they seemed to change into the pattern the frost makes in a spider's web. Here at last was the prize he sought. He looked to the moon which was not yet full and knew that he would have time to take home these living stars.

As he returned the great Potlach was in progress and the last chief had arrived from the far north, Queen Charlotte Islands. He had many boat loads of fur, gold, fish and copper, and there was now no doubt whom See-bold-ee would have to wed.

Kee-eechi-kowa alighted near the great circle of chiefs and was changed back from an eagle to himself. "Here, Oh Great Chief," he cried, "is the strangest gift in all the earth—a living star." Alas, the loneliness of the Star Flower had jaded, for its time out of water had been too great. All the gathering laughed and sneered.

See-bold-ee knew her fate was sealed and called to the Great Spirit to care for her and flung herself into the surf. Kee-eechi-kowa cried aloud that he had been wronged. "Take your Star Flower and crush its petals in the water and then follow your love" commanded the Great Spirit. On doing this Kee-eechi-kowa was changed into the Great Blue Whale, mightiest of all animals.

In the waters he found his love, See-bold-ee, and once every year they go back to Siwash Rock, and even into Burrard Inlet to honor the spot where they at last were united forever.

There are folks, it is said, who roamed the world until they found the garden where the Star Primrose was found. They gathered seed and today, Sieboldii, the Star Primrose, is beloved for its own sake for it is not only the easiest to grow but one of the most beautiful. Perhaps the one Kee-eechi-kowa saw was a "Southern Cross" or a fringed type.