Thanks are extended to Sybil McCulloch for not always credited. A number of these were taken by Jennifer Lort. Photos on pages 13 -15 were taken by Cy Happy. The worst photos were taken by June Skidmore.

Many of the black and white photos for this issue were taken from the editor’s box of historical black and white photos which are not always credited. A number of these were taken by Cy Happy. The worst photos were taken by the editor experimenting with a new camera. Photos on pages 7 and 9 were taken by Jennifer Lort. Photos on pages 13 -15 were taken by June Skidmore.

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I Did it My Way
by Renee Oakley

At the end of last summer, Dennis, my husband, and I visited Victoria and the editor of the American Primrose Society bulletin, Maedythe Martin. We had a wonderful visit. Naturally, most of the conversation was about primroses — our trials and triumphs — and this included what, for me, was the unusual success I had with growing primroses from seed this year. I should have remembered that I was talking to an editor! She immediately suggested that I share my ideas to help other beginners.

First, I want to explain, just as I always have to tell the American seed companies, while we live in Canada, we are not in the frozen north. The southwest corner of British Columbia has a temperate climate and we are in the same hardiness Zone 8 as the coastal areas of Washington and Oregon. Richmond is situated at the mouth of the Fraser River and is actually on an island. The area used to be known by its name, Lulu Island and, as it gets more sun and less rain than nearby Vancouver, it is affectionately known as the “Banana Belt.”

Over the years, I have grown all kinds of things from seed — but alpines and primulas were a new experience and I am an absolute beginner. Thea Foster and John Kerridge of the Alpine Garden Club of B.C. introduced us to the American Primrose Society and gave us some of their own seeds, along with lots of advice, and we were hooked.

We borrowed back issues of the APS quarterly and learned a lot from the various ‘how to do it’ articles. I kept experimenting with the growing medium, using granite grit #1 and #2 to help with drainage. Every time that John visits Herb Dickson, he returns with more words of wisdom which he always passes on to me. The latest was that the mix must be so open that if watered from the top it would quickly drain right through.

In the kitchen, I follow recipes exactly. But in the greenhouse, I have developed a habit of tossing in some of this and some of that until my potting mix looks right. That’s not much help to anyone else, so for the sake of this article I measured everything and decided that the combination is approximately equal parts of peat, pumice and granite grit, (sometimes known as chicken scratch) numbers 1 and 2. If washed builder’s sand is available, this can be used in place of #1 grit. To these things I add a small amount of pasteurized potting soil to make a little food available for the new roots.

A young friend of ours puts his mix in a large drum with a tight lid and rolls it all over the back forty, using his foot to move the drum and that mixes everything up beautifully. All I have are those tall plastic pails available from doughnut shops and don’t have enough faith in the fit of the lid. I have a mental image of my potting mix strewn all over the lawn. Instead, I stick to mixing it in the wheelbarrow by hand, using a trowel or a spade.
I Did it my Way continued

Before describing my containers, I should digress a little and explain that as a new bride in England soon after World War II, I really learned to make do — so I reuse as much as possible. Paper bags were unavailable and newspapers were smaller than most of the flyers we get nowadays. Nothing was thrown away if it could possibly be used again. When we came to Canada in 1957 we were horrified to find that so many things were disposable and felt we had come to a very wasteful continent. So I trust that I shall not raise the ire of those who have only recently become aware of this waste when I say that I love Styrofoam for the greenhouse.

For years I have used, and reused, Styrofoam cups for my seeds and cuttings of geraniums (zonal pelargoniums). In fact, I have proved by using cuttings of the same varieties in the cups and in plastic pots, that the cups win out every time. They retain heat and moisture better than the plastic pots. Incidentally, we bring them home from meetings, coffee shops or other places, so that they can be recycled.

In the local super market I noticed some Styrofoam containers on the meat counter that would be ideal for use as seed starters. When I explained why I wanted to buy them, my friendly meat manager insisted on giving me some. There are two convenient sizes — 6.5 by 4 inches and two inches deep, and a larger size 11 by 6 inches, 2.25 inches deep. I don’t do metric! Incidentally, they tell us that the Styrofoam no longer contains the harmful CFCs and, as Dennis says, by the time I have finished with them, they are already disintegrating and will take up less room in the landfills than broken pots.

One of the many perks of belonging to a plant club or society is that the experts are always willing to share their knowledge. I have learned not to hesitate to ask for advice. As members of the Tacoma Chapter of the America Primrose Society, we usually attend the annual spring show. This year I found myself sitting next to Rosetta Jones at lunch. This was a chance not to be missed, so I asked how she starts her seeds.

Rosetta Jones at lunch. This was a chance not to be missed, so I asked how she starts her seeds.

Now, I really think that this was the reason for my success this year, as she uses Redi-earth (a commercially available mix of milled sphagnum moss and vermiculite), sprinkles the seed on the damp peat and covers them with perlite instead of the usual granite grit. This makes sense to me, as the Perlite, being white, reflects light needed for germination and the seedlings can easily poke their way through as it is so light in weight. I still use my own seed mix. I water it thoroughly, then spread a layer of Redi-earth on top, re-water, sow the seeds and cover them with Perlite.

To use the Styrofoam containers I poke holes in the bottom with an old kitchen fork. For greenhouse use, I put this container inside one without holes, using them double, and if necessary, I can easily water from the bottom.

After visiting a friend in North Vancouver and seeing her rows and rows of flats outside, sitting under trees and shrubs for protection from the sun and heavy rain, Dennis came up with a bright idea. At the east end of our lot there is a narrow space between the house and the fence which is not big enough for anything. Using saw horses and planks of wood, he made a very long bench and higher up on the fence, stapled a length of black fiberglass netting — the kind used for screens and screen doors — to drape over the flats. Some oddments of wood, such as broken stakes, are stapled to the lower side to keep it from blowing around. I later discovered that I needed some nails higher up on the fence to hang the netting on. When I pick up flats, I need both hands. Before putting them outside, be sure to remove the bottom containers, if you’ve used them double, or they’ll soon be floating in water.

I moved the flats outside to this screened bench in the late spring when the greenhouse was too hot, and it really worked. Every day we were out there checking on my babies, which were popping through everywhere. One mistake I made was in spreading the fine seed too thickly so that they came up like mustard and cress! As I don’t have any fine sand, next time I will mix some sugar with the seeds, as this works just as well. I will also try to start them earlier, as it is now November and I have what I usually refer to as forty million seedlings to prick out and don’t know what to do with them. In A Plantsman’s Guide to Primulas the paragraph under Primula helodoxa reads to the effect that these seeds do not remain viable in packets, and germination may be poor. Well, that really gave us a good laugh. In one of the containers — as Doretta Klaber says — more seed came up than I planted!

At last count, at least 60 different varieties have germinated, some of which I could not get to germinate before. I should add that when the seeds were from one of the seed exchanges, there were only five or six seeds per packet, so only one or two seedlings may have popped up. But I still look at some of the others and wonder if I will ever manage to prick them all out, and where will I put them when I do?

Renée’s Recipe for Lots of Primrose Seeds

* Seed potting mix: approximately equal parts of peat, pumice and granite grit #1 or #2.
* Put this mix in your container and water thoroughly.
* Cover the potting mix with a thin layer of Redi-earth (or wet milled sphagnum moss), re-water, sprinkle the seeds on the damp peat and cover them with perlite.
* Watch closely, water carefully from the bottom if necessary and wait for the seedlings to pop up.
American Primrose Society

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
The Board of the American Primrose Society met on October 19, 1991 in Chehalis, Washington. Minutes and treasurer's report were presented.

Membership Drive
An open discussion concerning ways to increase the membership resulted in the following suggestions:
* emphasize selling memberships at shows
* hold shows in public areas, like malls
* share plants with others and encourage them to join the society
* urge each current member to recruit one new member. Put a notice in the quarterly about this
* set up a membership booth at the International Symposium in April
* assist in the formation of new chapters
* adopt a philosophy in the society of putting members first
* distribute extra issues of the quarterly with an application form for membership enclosed in each one, as a public relations initiative
* put a membership application form in earlier issues of the quarterly that are distributed free to encourage new enthusiasts to join
* chapters should have a number of quarterly to distribute for public relations purposes
* print an application form in each issue of the quarterly, or enclose one in each issue mailed, or print one on the mailing envelope
* place advertisements in horticultural magazines and develop agreements for exchange membership ads with other plant societies.

A motion that the president appoint a membership chairman was approved. If anyone has any other ideas, or would volunteer to help in the membership drive, please contact Cy Happy.

Symposium Report
An encouraging number of early registrations have been received. All the registration forms (7500) have gone out. Duncan Lowe is unable to attend. Brian Burrows will speak on European primulas, and Larry Bailey will present the program on show auriculas.

The plant sale will be managed by the Berry Botanical Garden. Members are encouraged to donate plants for the sale. Contact your chapter president. The Japanese cosponsor has arranged for the Twyford Plant Labs to produce and donate 500 Kerrin polyanthus for the symposium.

Volunteers are needed for a number of jobs: setting up the APS display booth, videotaping, acting as extra host staff at open gardens, hosting speakers. Members are also requested to bring any items with primula decoration for the display, to donate door prizes, to lend slide projectors and camcorders. Pitch in and help!

National Show
Chairmen for the National Show are Thelma Genheimer and Etha Tate. Quality plants are needed. Each chapter was asked to designate one member to deliver plants to the show.

The next meeting will be held in Chehalis on Saturday January 18, 1992 at 10:30 am.

Primulas in a Botanical Garden

Primulas in the Garden at the David C. Lam Asian Garden at the University of British Columbia Botanical Garden in Vancouver, British Columbia.

by Bodil Leamy

The University of British Columbia Botanical Garden, found in a unique location near the cliffs at the end of the University peninsula, contain wonderful plant treasures. Bodil Leamy, a horticulturist at the Garden, is a keen primula grower, both at home, and in the Garden. She describes some of the primulas with which she has first-hand knowledge, hoping to encourage readers to share her enthusiasm.

The Asian Garden
The Botanical Garden at the University of British Columbia is composed of many individual areas, such as the Physick Garden, the Food Garden and the B.C. Native Garden. By far the largest component is the 14 hectare (35 acre) David C. Lam Asian Garden, dedicated to the cultivation of Asian plants with an emphasis on rare and endangered species.

Development of the Asian Garden began in the 1975-76 season and by now about half of it, about 7 ha (17 acres) has been planted. New areas are constantly being cleared and the collections of Asian plants, both woody and herbaceous, are constantly being enlarged.

Set in a Framework of Trees
The 14 ha (35 acre) site was probably last logged about 1910 or 1911, and mature trees of Abies grandis (fir), Tsuga heterophylla (cedar) and Acer macrophyllum (maple) cover the area. Selective thinning of some of these native trees has created a beautiful framework and supplied the high shade necessary for the successful cultivation of the exotic species. Our native sword fern, Polystichum munitum flourishes in the Garden, and frequently grows into plants 1.8 x 1.8 m (6 feet by 6 feet) in size. Their distinctive shape is one of the important elements in the Garden, and together with a rapidly expanding rhododendron collection supplies a cohesive background for the Asian plants.

Asia is very rich in climbing plants and vines, and many species have been trained to grow into the native and introduced trees. Many of these have grown to 7.5 - 15 m (35 to 50 feet) and give a lush and exotic effect to the Garden.

Large numbers of herbaceous plants have been planted in recent years, and collections of primula and meconopsis, among others, are constantly being enlarged.

A Unique Micro-Climate
The Garden is situated at the top of a 30 m (100 foot) cliff close to Georgia Straight. This situation close to the sea has created a micro-climate which keeps the summer temperatures three to four degrees Celsius (five to seven degrees Fahrenheit) cooler and winter temperature one to two degrees C (two to four degrees F) warmer than the surrounding areas. The average mean winter temperature at the nearby
Primulas in a Botanical Garden continued

The Garden slopes gently to the southwest and has excellent drainage. After clearing brambles and weeds from the site, the surface of the planting areas is covered with well-rotted leaf mold to a depth of 7.5 to 10 cm (3 to 4 inches). Top-dressing with leaf mold is repeated as necessary.

Primulas in the Garden

Many plants thrive here, and the primulas are no exception. One of my biggest problems, with the Primula candelabra section especially, is keeping the species pure, and I have had to plant the different species as far from each other as possible in the Garden.

In the Lam Asian Garden we have a continuous display of primula in flower for over seven months of the year, and there is rarely a month of the year when you cannot find a primula in flower. P. japonica 'Postford White' is especially prone to early bloom, and can be found to poke its flowers up even through a light snow cover. Our primula season usually begins in late February or early March, depending of course on what the winter has been like. We have several species that compete for the honor, but P. denticulata is often the first to show color. We have P. denticulata in a wide variety of shades of lavender, from pale to a very dark purple and, of course, white. Some even have farina over the leaves and stems.

The Drumstick Primula

Primula denticulata can be found all over our Garden, often following stream beds, or in large plantings under or near the rhododendrons. The 'Drumstick' primula, as it is popularly dubbed, fits into the landscape when grown in a naturalistic setting, and planted in masses. To my knowledge, it has never produced any hybrids in our Garden, nor have I ever seen any mention of hybridizing in the literature. Last year I bought a plant of P. denticulata in a local nursery of a deep reddish-maroon color. It did not survive in my own garden, but succumbed to a bad infestation of spider mites which I was unable to control. I hope to get another plant this spring.

In the Asian Garden, P. denticulata flowers at the same time as many of our rhododendron species, especially Rhododendron augustinii and R. lapponicum. The mauve and lavenders of the primula are exactly the same colors to be found in the rhododendrons and the combinations are very beautiful. A phrase coined at one of our study weekends says it all — "color echo."

Color Echo

Another color echo in flower at the same time of the year is created by two Primula veris subspecies — P. v. ssp. columanae and P. v. ssp. macrocalyx. At least these are the names shown in our records, but I have my doubts about these names, since both of these subspecies were grown from cultivated sources. I cannot see any differences in our various colonies, and I am convinced that we should simply call them all P. veris, drop the specific names and wait for wild-collected seed. But whatever name you call these primula, they look absolutely stunning when planted close to Rhododendron luteescens. The color of the primula flowers is a shade darker than the yellow of the rhododendron flowers.

Primula vulgaris ssp. sibthorpiii is also one of our early bloomers and it produces lovely mauve flowers over a long period of time. I think the species should be more widely grown, since all you have to do to make it happy is to plant it in any suitable soil that is reasonably moist and cool.

On the highest point, in full sun, in the Asia Minor section of our rock garden you will find another P. vulgaris sub-species, namely P. vulgaris ssp. sibthorpiii, to have that particular combination of colors.

I planted a few plants of P. amoena quite close to the path and, within a week, several had been "liberated." These plants were grown from wild-collected seed and I was so pleased to see that there were both purple and cream colored specimens. I find it intriguing to get such a mix of colors from plants in the wild. I wonder if there is some unknown factor that causes some species, such as P. amoena and P. vulgaris ssp. sibthorpiii, to have that particular combination of colors.

Interestingly enough, Viola altaica from roughly the same area also produces white,
Primulas in a Botanical Garden continued

cream and blue-purple flowers from the same batch of seed. This species of viola is one of the ancestors of our garden pansies.

Primula rosea is another early and welcome species to flower. Three years ago we planted about 150 plants in a shallow depression quite close to a ditch. We had grown candelabra primula here for quite a few years previously, and these had hybridized to such a degree that we could not find the true species any more. We sprayed the area with "Roundup," a herbicide, to clear the ground completely of both plants and weeds. We then spread four to six inches of leaf mold over the ground, and this is where P. rosea was planted. Other companion plants in the area included Iris siberica cultivars and rodgersias, to give some interest both plants and weeds. We then spread four to six inches of leaf mold over the ground, and this is where P. rosea was planted. Other companion plants in the area included Iris siberica cultivars and rodgersias, to give some interest later in the season. After two years, the plants of P. rosea are vigorous clumps with many crowns, flowering very well. This last fall I noticed that some self-sown seedlings had appeared. All of our primula beds are weeded by hand and we are often able to maintain and enlarge our planting through this care.

A close relative of P. rosea is P. luteola, and I wish I could say this species is flowering in the garden. Primula luteola is a very choice and lovely plant with leaves almost the same shade as P. rosea but of a lighter green. The shape of the flowers and the stalks are similar, but the flowers are a very beautiful, pale yellow, and the flowering time is much later than P. rosea — not until June. Quite a few years ago, in 1980, I obtained a plant of P. luteola and planted it in my own garden. It grew well, creating plants with multiple crowns and many flower stalks and set lots of viable seeds. Seed from this plant was sent to our nursery and was sown in December 1982. The seed germinated in March 1983 and was planted in the spring of 1984 in a cool and half-shady spot where other species of primula were thriving. The P. luteola plants flowered in that first year, but never since. I have moved it to several other new areas, but so far there have been no flowers. This fall I got seeds from a different source and my hopes are high that it will perform better.

To be continued in following issues of Primroses.

Bits and Pieces
from Bill Mason

I am one of the old school — the very old school. Getting on toward eighty, but still a very keen primula grower with a strong leaning toward Primula auricula hybrids.

Unrecognized Natives
I have a small front garden with a raised and well drained rockery bed adjoining a public pathway. Passers-by during the spring have frequently stopped to admire and comment on this pride and joy of mine. Quite a few have enquired about the lovely yellow primula on display. No one seemed to know the name. Being Londoners, they did not surprise me a bit. The plants were the common native Primula veris, the cowslip. About two dozen plants flowered, and they have been really magnificent. Several flower heads were very multi-flowered.

Sakurasoh
Inquires were also made about other primulas growing at the foot of the rockery in partial shade. Once again, these plants were really beautiful. No one had seen the like before. They were 'Sakurasoh,' Primula seiboldii, a strain of the Japanese primula of Barnhaven origin. For these, I had created a woodland sort of compost, incorporating leaf mould, old well rotted material from the compost heap, and peat. I also had a nice display of 'Barnhaven Fireflies' plus some of their other acaulis strains. Also in the front garden were P. yarngongensis, P. scandinavica and P. frondosa. In a large terra cotta pot nearby were a couple of androsace, saxifrage and some hybrids of your native lewisisas.

Bell Flowered Primula
In the spring of 1990 I received some seed of P. riedii williamsii from the American Primrose Society seed exchange. This produced half a dozen plants. For those who have not grown these plants before, I would recommend they have a go. To me, these Asiatic primula are the jewels in the crown. Absolutely magnificent, and the scent — well, it filled my greenhouse. My wife has fallen in love with them.

They over-wintered in my greenhouse where I kept them just a little moist until new growth started. Incidentally, two of the plants were white, and the remainder were shades of blue. The flowers actually remind you of a lovely bell flower or campanula. Needless to say, I did some pollinating and now have a small quantity of seed.

As regards the compost for these primula, I use one more or less based on the mix of elements recommended for this species in the APS cultural chart. However, as a booster, I used a very small amount of seaweed-based fertilizer containing chelated iron. I understand these plants grow adjacent to glaciers in their native habitat.

Auriculas
But on to auriculas. I love to cross-pollinate these and always live in hope of producing a real winner. From last year's seedlings, most of which I used to fill the compost bin, I have four nice plants: two handsome doubles, a lovely rich yellow show self and an alpine, a 'Sirius' cross with very flat flowers.
Bits and Pieces continued

This year my activities have been somewhat curtailed due to an accident to my right hand, but I managed to cross 'Sirius' with 'Applecross' and 'Galen.' All these are gold-centered alpines. I would suggest that those who don't try hybridizing are really missing out. A seedling you have produced from your own efforts is yours and yours alone. And who knows, your may produce IT, a real show stopper.

My London Garden

My rear garden is chock full of Primula acaulis types, garden auriculas, alpines (all Barnhaven) plus a sprinkling of 'Universal' pansies. Up against the fence, I have a nice row of named delphinium hybrids. Oh, and I have a pretty little garden pond with just three fancy goldfish — Mark, Mindy and Midge — named by my three grandchildren Mark, Sarah and Rachel.

I forgot to mention that I also grow Primula allioni (16 plants), P. marginata (12 plants) and P. pubescens (umpteen plants).

We live just a couple of minutes walk from Old Father Thames and a short distance from Kew Gardens which, incidentally, is not as attractive to the locals as it used to be. Not so long ago one could go into the gardens and sit on a bench, watching the squirrels lark about and enjoy the fresh air, all for three pence entry fee. I used to go several times a week. The entry now has increased to three pound, or around five and a half dollars. So, in common with some other pensioners, I have given it the brush off. (Further inquiries indicate there may be a season's pass. This will entitle you to visit Kew Gardens in the winter and get yourself frozen at no extra cost. I haven't heard of any concession for pensioners, but it is possible there may be a little off.)

Bill Mason, as he tells us, lives in London and is a keen primrose grower. He is very willing to exchange plants or seeds. Don't hesitate to write him if you share any of his particular interests.

This called for drastic action! Peter's garden was awash with every conceivable primula. There were candelabras: P. japonica, P. sulphurea, P. bulleyana, Inshriach hybrids, Pagoda hybrids, and Oriental Sunrise hybrids; belled primula were represented by P. sikkimensis, P. alpicola violacea, and P. florindae hybrids. P. capitata, P. chionantha and P. nutans flourished and were duly photographed as a reminder of our success. And of course there were the Barnhaven primroses and polyanthuses — Cowichans, gold-laced, Violet Victorians, Harbour Lights, Juliana primroses and many others. I also acquired my first six show auriculas, as my husband decided he liked the look of them! You don't have only six auriculas for long! We were all well and truly hooked — and there were the lewisias I'd raised as well.

I couldn't stop there. I had to succeed with things like P. reidii which sounded so tempting in Jack Drake's catalogue. Luckily, 1987 was a vintage year. By the end of it, my collection of seed-raised primula species had increased to about 30, along with many hybrids and strains. The auriculas, too, were increasing at an alarming rate once I had plucked up the courage to make my first divisions of those old faithfuls, 'Remus' and 'Chorister.' It was quite clear, as 1987 progressed, that we needed somewhere to grow all these plants as Peter's garden was awash with every conceivable primula.

News from the Chapters

Eastside

The November meeting featured a program on botanical names and their meanings as they pertain to members of the Primula family. At the December meeting there was a discussion of events in the coming year and a dessert pot luck.

The Chapter newsletter also mentioned that primula seeds are available from Peter Atkinson, Dr. John Kerridge and June Skidmore (Field House Alpines seed from England). Contact Don Keefe for more information.

The catalogs are starting to arrive! Don has found Sakata Julian seed listed in the 1992 Thompson and Morgan and in the 1992 DeGiorgi Seed catalog.

Washington State Chapter

The October meeting discussed programs for future meetings.

Tacoma Chapter

Master gardener and former resident of England, Kristine Countryside, presented the November program on cottage gardens. She spoke of the history of some of the English gardens, illustrating her talk with slides.

December was the annual Christmas pot luck dinner.

The Editor wishes to thank all the editors and secretaries who faithfully send the newsletters to her. Please continue to send them, so we can all share the news from the Chapters.

Primulas at Field House Alpines

by Valerie A. Woolley

I suppose it is not surprising that someone who, as a child, spent many happy hours picnicking and walking in the primrose woods of Kent should have a lifelong passion for primulas! It was years later that I offered to grow some plants for Edmund (my brother) and Peter (his father-in-law), little knowing where it would all lead. The autumn of 1985 was spent pouring over endless books and seed lists, and soon a fine collection of primula seed was assembled. I had grown Barnhaven primroses and polyanthus before but had never attempted 'real' primulas — so started a voyage of discovery which continues to this day.

From December 1985 onwards I purchased and set seed of every imaginable primula, but the conditions were all wrong initially and I wasted vast masses of seed. The first primula species to come up was the lovely Primula frondosa. I produced about ten of them and was thrilled to bits! Gradually I got things right and in autumn of 1986 I had about 500 primulas in pots on two simple raised gravel beds — quite a few more plants than Peter and Edmund had envisaged. This called for drastic action! Peter's garden was hastily redesigned and suitable areas were constructed to accommodate all these new treasures.

There were candelabras: P. japonica, P. sulphurea, P. bulleyana, Inshriach hybrids, Pagoda hybrids, and Oriental Sunrise hybrids; belled primula were represented by P. sikkimensis, P. alpicola violacea, and P. florindae hybrids. P. capitata, P. chionantha and P. nutans flourished and were duly photographed as a reminder of our success. And of course there were the Barnhaven primroses and polyanthuses — Cowichans, gold-laced, Violet Victorians, Harbour Lights, Juliana primroses and many others. I also acquired my first six show auriculas, as my husband decided he liked the look of them! You don't have only six auriculas for long! We were all well and truly hooked — and there were the lewisias I'd raised as well.

I couldn't stop there. I had to succeed with things like P. reidii which sounded so tempting in Jack Drake's catalogue. Luckily, 1987 was a vintage year. By the end of it, my collection of seed-raised primula species had increased to about 30, along with many hybrids and strains. The auriculas, too, were increasing at an alarming rate once I had plucked up the courage to make my first divisions of those old faithfuls, 'Remus' and 'Chorister.' It was quite clear, as 1987 progressed, that we needed somewhere else to grow all these plants as Peter's garden was awash with every conceivable primula.
Primulas at Field House Alpines continued

My husband, Jack, took things into his own hands and built a superb shade house—a sort of pergola structure 14' by 21' covered with green shade netting. Inside were neat wooden beds filled with gravel or sand and a network of gravel paths. It all just evolved and, needless to say, was full of plants in no time.

In this cool haven I was able to grow and keep many primulas which I might otherwise have lost to our sticky Midlands' weather. I still have some *P. reidii* plants raised that year. I harvested masses of seed and carefully refrigerated it. Things were developing quickly, and by 1989 we had added a small polytunnel and a large shaded fruit cage to our growing areas. The original shade house was doubled in size. That year I sent some plants to the Alpine Garden Society rock garden at Chelsea. Where would it all end? I now had over 50 species of primula and about 30 named show and alpine auriculas, all madly offsetting and needing good homes.

I was also starting to collect the named European primulas—*marginata*, *pubescens*, *allionii* and so on. I had stock lists on my computer and was compiling a descriptive list for my own interest. An idea to sell these plants by mail order was forming in my mind.

Quite by chance in autumn 1989 I received an exciting auricula list from Field House Alpines in Gotham, Nottingham. Eventually I plucked up the courage to contact Doug Lochhead, the owner of the nursery, and cheekily sent him a copy of my proposed price list! A visit to the nursery followed in January 1990 and I was duly presented with about 60 named auriculas, free of charge. There were all the varieties I had wanted for years! Doug came and inspected our primula collection and the rest, as they say, is history.

By September we had decided to pool our resources and my plants were being sold through Field House. In the meantime Jack had erected a new and very large polytunnel for our now enormous auricula collection of over 200 named forms. Doug and I were beavering away over our new catalogues and making plans for what we would grow in the future. It was exciting and exhausting, to say the least.

June Skidmore was in England that autumn and came to visit us at the suggestion of my pen-friend, Don Keefe. We chatted to June for hours and she was clearly very taken with our collection of primula seed. We had already decided to sell seed and it was not long after June returned to Seattle that she kindly agreed to become our agent for the United States and Canada. A few weeks later 300 packets of primrose seed, like those Valerie started with, you may end up on your own voyage of discovery. Contact June at: 6730 West Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040.
All in the Family
by Cliff Lewis

The family Primulaceae is a large one. All the members are herbs, of which there are 30 genera. Can you imagine cyclamen and creeping charlie in the same family? At this time let's consider two worthy rock garden plants — androsace and soldanella.

Androsace
The androsaces on the whole are not of particularly easy culture, but most of them are so delightful it is worth the extra effort to study their individual needs. You will get good response if you provide perfect drainage or a rocky crevice, and some protection from winter rains.

Most of the species are pink, occasionally white. Nearly all are mat forming. The choicest of the group — the high alpine species — should have alpine house treatment. The following species should respond to a sunny gritty soil:

- *A. carneae,* and any of its named forms
- *A. chamissoi:* good companion plant for *Geotina verna*
- *A. hausmannii:* a cushion plant
- *A. lanuginosa:* effective draped over a rock
- *A. sarmentosa* (primuloides) and its clones: easier than some
- *A. sempervivoides:* an easy one to start with
- *A. villosa:* this one is fragrant.

If you have success with any of these, your appetite will be whetted to try some of the more difficult ones.

Soldanella
Soldanella montana in a deciduous woods.

The soldanellas are welcome in early spring inch high stems. Relatively easy to grow in a rich gritty soil, they like a moist cool position. They have a reputation for being shy flowering, but this is most likely due to the fact that flower buds, nestling at ground level, are often eaten by slugs.

There are about 20 known species, but the following are the most easy to obtain. And all soldanellas are easier to raise than androsaceae! Nevertheless, they are considered to be choice alpine plants:

- *S. alpina:* quite dwarf — fringed lavender bells
- *S. carpatica:* the leaves are reddish on the underside, flowers are deeply fringed and purple-blue
- *S. montana:* fringed purple bells, slightly taller than the others at six inches and one of the easiest
- *S. villosa:* purple blue, also easy and one of the tallest at nine inches.

To walk around Cliff Lewis' garden is like a geography lesson. The plants come from all over the world — this one from Greece, that one from New Zealand. A long-time member of the American Rock Garden Society, Cliff grows many of his plants from seed, including a wide variety of species primroses. This garden is not big, but does include an alpine house and some island beds in which are found the little jewels such as the soldanella.

Notes from the Editor

Disaster in the Nursery Business
The Du Pont Company has recalled Benlate 50 DF (dry-flowable), a standard fungicide product used extensively by commercial growers. A "bad" batch has been poisoning any plants on which it was sprayed. In most cases, the plants languish and die. However, there are not problems with the products more commonly used by hobby growers, Benlate WP (wettable powder) and benomyl. All of this information is reported in the American Orchid Society Bulletin, December 1991 issue, page 1190.

For commercial growers in South Florida, the plant damage has been horrendous. Benlate poisoning causes the plant to look sick, and of course many growers simply applied more of the contaminated fungicide, expecting it to correct the problem. Symptoms of the sick plants mimic other causes, making the problem hard to diagnose. Whole greenhouses of plants had to be dumped. The contamination has not been isolated to date.

There is a hotline to call if you suspect you may have a problem, or if you require any information: 1-800-441-7515.

Primrose Tea Set
Primrose fanciers are always looking for items with a primrose design. There is a real gem available in some gift stores. A tea set, complete with cups and saucers, small plates and a tea pot with two different designs of *Primula seiboldii* has been spotted in The Old House Mercantile Company on Proctor Street in Tacoma.

Soft blues, lavenders and pinks on a white background have been used by designers from the Takehashi company in this pattern called 'Primula.' It may be available in other gift stores that carry fine china. The importner in this case was CTO, San Francisco. Keep your eyes open for this elegant item.

Botanical Prints of Auriculas
"English Garden Favorites" is the billing for two prints of old fashioned auriculas available from the magazine *House Beautiful.* Just the thing for a gift for the auricula lover who has everything. Stephanie Hoppen, dealer in fine arts, has commissioned Luca Palermo, a master of botanical illustration to paint two auriculas which have then been reproduced in "exquisite" color and detail.

Both prints are in the Flemish 17th century fashion. The plants are displayed in blue and white china bowl, the composition completed with peeled lemon and knife in one case, or a sea shell and ink pot in the other. The label on one reads: "Edged auricula 'Colby'" while the other appears to be a yellow ground fancy auricula. They are framed in a golden Florentine-style frame, and available at only $175 the pair.

Fancy Cushions
Another decorative item with an auricula theme are velvet cushions, seen in London. An auricula design has been printed onto the velvet in an offering by Colefax and Fowler, fine interior designers. Smashing — at 170 pounds a pillow! That's over $200 each. Well, maybe not this trip.

Primulas in the Bulletins
The Alpine Garden Society Quarterly Bulletin for September 1991 has some stunning photographs of *Primula allionii* crosses. There is a controversy about naming hybrids of *P. allionii* and *P. marginata,* one of which was called *P. x* 'Miniera.' The name has at various times been applied to two plants of very different form. However, the form currently in cultivation is shown in this issue in glowing color — with flowers a frilly, soft lavender. If plants like this will arise through crosses of *P. allionii* and *P. marginata,* I wish there were more.
Notes from the Editor continued

The notes in the AGS bulletin about the naming muddle also mention the death of K.R Wooster, who devoted much of his life to raising P. allionii hybrids in England. Glorious color photos of some of his hybrids certainly do his work justice. Included are P. 'Beatrice Wooster' and P. 'Joan Hughes.' The former plant has been shown in Victoria at the Vancouver Rock and Alpine Shows in the last few years, with a wonderful plant staged by Sybil McCulloch only last year. I wonder how many are grown in the Seattle/Tacoma area? Let's have a display one year at the show.

The Alpine Garden Club of British Columbia Bulletin has two information notes of interest to primrose growers. One is that John Kerridge, vice-president of the American Primrose Society presented a program at the November meeting. He spoke on propagation of polyanthus and auriculas. Thanks for spreading the word, John.

In the same issue, November 1991, there is a note about the unusual primula grown by the Botanical Garden at U.B.C. I mentioned it in the summer issue of Primroses: a single star-shaped flower of an unusual maroon color, on a long flower stalk. It was grown from seed collected in China. Two names have now been suggested. It could be from the subsection Maximovizii of the Nivales section, even P. maximowiczii itself. Or it could be P. tangutica. ♦

Primula Notes

A Visitor from Alaska
Marie Skonberg, who you will remember from her article in the Spring 1991 issue of the quarterly, was able to get down to the Seattle area for a visit in early December. Don and Mary Keefe and Barbara Flynn were some of her fellow members in the American Primula Society that she was able to visit.

Of course it was rainy, but Don and Mary took her to Molbak's nursery and to the Elisabeth Miller Horticultural Library over at the University of Washington Seattle campus. Barbara says her photo album of the primroses and other flowers in her garden show what a great range of plants she grows. And Don gave her a hose-in-hose primula to take back to Alaska with her.

Disappearing Primrose Seedlings
One of our members has written a note to pass on a helpful hint. "Some of my seedlings were disappearing, so when I read an article that mentioned 'sow bugs' as a possible menace to young plants, it rang a bell. Every time I moved a flat I noticed one or two of these bugs scurrying away. Because we know them as wood bugs, I thought that they were just attracted to the wooden bench.

"Spotting a box labelled 'Sow Bug and Cutworm Bait' in our local nursery, I decided to give it a whirl. It comes in pellet form and I scattered them underneath the bench and near the flats of seedlings. Within a couple of days the bugs were lying on their backs, dead. I did not miss any more seedlings, so am pretty confident they were the culprits."

About to Start Again with Primroses
Ran into Floyd Keller the other day in Tacoma. He was a member of the Primrose Society some years ago, but other things took up his time, and he got away from it. However, he has just bought a new place, in the same general area as Howard Larkin used to grow his primroses. So now he's very interested in building up a collection of primroses to grow on his sunny hillside. Anyone got any primroses to share?

Contact President Cy Happy for Floyd's new phone number.

Barnhaven News
The Society has just received a letter from Barnhaven Primroses in France! Angela Bradford, a former helper of the Sinclairs in England, has taken stock to France and has seed available. You can obtain a catalog from: Barnhaven Primroses, 25 Warstones Cres. Perp, Wolverhampton or Barnhaven Primroses, Langerhouard, 22420 Plouzelambre, France.

Late News Flash
from Renee and Dennis Oakley
Renee has some further cultural directions to pass on. She uses superphosphate in weak solution on her seedlings to help them develop roots. Once they have good roots, she assures me, they'll really grow. Also, she often gives them a shot of 10-52-17, or even mixes this into her potting mix. It's really for wonderful flowers, but she has found it makes for all round vigorous healthy plants.

And another word about pests. Renee has heard recently that if you have those pesky fungus gnats in your soil in the greenhouse or in your pot plants, Diazanon crystals worked into the soil may help. They should control the gnat in its grub stage.

If you happen to get those insidious root meally bugs (not root aphids, a different problem) Renee says she has good success with Malathion. Drench the plant and, of course, repot it into fresh, clean soil. You can often tell if you have these pests by noticing a blue film around the top of the pot. Once you know what to look for, it is distinctive and easy to see.

And finally, Renee put in this note: "Dennis worries that any handymen reading about the benches he made for me will think that they are pretty 'Mickey Mouse.' As I told him when he said that - the wood was there, just lying around, the saw horses were there, and put them to good use. What is more, they work perfectly and I think they were a wonderful idea!" ♦

Bring a Friend, add a Member

To encourage membership growth.

The American Primrose Society is encouraging new members in 1992. Remember that there are good things in store for members:

* Primroses, the quarterly of the Society, comes to you every three months with news and information on obtaining and growing primroses.

* Round Robins, a unique opportunity to meet friends that share your interest and will exchange information in answer to your particular questions. Write to Elizabeth van Sickle, address inside the back cover.

* Seeds, seeds, seeds. List are distributed to each member for 1991 seeds. Make a selection and get started with your own choice of the many types of primula available.

* Questions about how to grow primroses? Back issues of the quarterly are available from the secretary. Address inside the back cover.

* Slides of primroses, so you can see some examples, can be obtained from the slide librarian. Plan a lecture, or an informal evening of slides. Invite the neighbours, and find a new member for the Society. Write to Gerry Flintoff — address inside the back cover.

Remember that each new member gets a set of quarterlies for the past year in which they join, the color issue of the quarterly as part of the set.

The international symposium 'Primula Worldwide' is about to happen in April in Beaverton, Oregon. Bring a friend. After you both are inspired by the speakers, take home a primrose plant or two, and get started growing primroses. There's more to primroses than the bedding plants at the corner nursery. Discover the world of primroses and share it with a friend. ♦
50 Years in Print

The last issue of Primroses marked the 50th anniversary of the society, but this issue marks the beginning of volume 50 — 50 years in print. The quarterly bulletin began in 1942, the year following the registration of the society the year before, and has continued through all the intervening years. No mean feat for the bulletin of a non-profit, special interest garden club.

To mark the first number of the 50th volume, here is a list of all the editors who have donated so much time and energy to the publication of the society’s quarterly. This is a very small tribute to their dedication and the knowledge they have helped us all to share. Thanks are also due to Herb Dickson, who wrote a tribute to all these editors in the Winter 1990 quarterly, where you can find Herb’s reminiscences about past editors.

1942 - 1952 Florence Bellis
1952 - 1956 Susan Watson
1956 - 1960 Charlie and Alice Gilman
1960 - 1964 Nancy Ford
1964 - 1967 Anita Alexander
1976 - 1973 Emma Hale
1973 - 1977 Dorothy Springer
1977 - 1981 Cyrus and Rita Happy
1981 - 1984 Larry Bailey
1984 (Commemorative issue) Cyrus and Rita Happy
1984 - 1989 Richard Critz
1990 Thea Service Foster
1990 - 1991 Larry Bailey
1991 - present Maedythe Martin

Judges Meetings
Mini-workshops to improve judging skills

Two meetings will be held to review the judging standards and rules, and to gather information that will be helpful in improving the standards. This is also a chance to brush up on our judging skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 8</td>
<td>Al Rapp’s home, 4918 - 79 Ave West, Tacoma, WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 22</td>
<td>Thelma Genheimer’s home, 7300 - 209 Ave SW, Beaverton, OR</td>
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<td>Al Rapp, Judging Chairman</td>
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1992 Seed Exchange
American Primrose, Primula and Auricula Society

The A.P.S. seed exchange is open to all members in good standing. Any member who has not paid his 1992 dues can renew by including a check or money order for $15 U.S. dollars, payable to Jay Lunn, A.P.S. Treasurer, with your seed order.

Seed prices are 40 cents (U.S.) per packet, with a minimum order of $4.00 (U.S.) for 10 packets. Make all remittances payable to American Primrose Society Seed Exchange by personal check, money order or bank draft.

Personal checks from foreign members will be accepted in currencies of the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Holland, Federal Republic of Germany, Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Japan (Roman Alphabet and Arabic numerals, please) New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. Please insure that foreign checks are made out to cover the U.S. dollar amount plus 5%.

Mail all orders to Candy Strickland, A.P.S. Seed Exchange, 8518 - 28th Avenue East, Tacoma, Washington 98445.

The seed is listed, first by Primula Section and then the species name. G.K. Fenderson’s book “A Synoptic Guide to the Genus Primula” was used for classification and spelling. I chose to list under both the Fenderson listing and the Pictorial Dictionary listing for the benefit of those not having Mr. Fenderson’s book.

Abbreviations and symbols used in the seed listing are as follows:

- HP = hand pollinated
- OP = open pollinated
- I = open pollinated in isolation
- coll = collected in wild
- ssp = subspecies
- var = variety
- (15) = number of seed per packet
- [D1] or [-] = either the person donating the seed or in [-] indicates several donors
- B.G. = botanical gardens

The number of seed in each packet varies according to the quantity of seed available. The director reserves the right to limit the number of packets of the scarcer seed to each order. In case you do not list substitutes, the director will substitute with like seed whenever possible.

Orders will be processed in the order they are received with the donor orders being processed first.

Contributions to the seed exchange are welcomed until Oct. 31, 1992 at which time the seed list will be compiled for 1993. Orders for seed this year will be filled until May 15, 1992.

All contributions of seed should be made to:
American Primrose Seed Exchange
P.O. Box 112157
Tacoma, Washington 98411-2157
SECTION REINII
189 tosoensis [A26] (5)

SECTION SIKKIMENSIS
190 alpicola [A22] (10)
191 alpicola alba [A22] (10)
192 alpicola var Luna [A22] (10)
193 alpicola var violacea [A22] (10)
194 alpicola var violacea [A4] (10)
195 firmpes [A22] (10)
196 florindae O.P. [A7] (10)
197 florindae copper colored [A14] (10)
198 florindae red select [A22] (10)
199 florindae mix [A17] (10)
200 florindae mix [A41] (10)
201 loessa [B2] (5)
202 secondiflora [A22] (10)
203 secondiflora [A25] (10)
204 secondiflora [A9] (10)
205 sikkimensis [A21] (15)
206 sikkimensis crimson and gold [A22] (15)
207 sikkimensis mix [A2] (15)
208 sikkimensis mix [B6] (10)
209 waltonii [A21] (10)
210 waltonii [B6] (10)
211 waltonii purplepink-yellow mix [A40] (10)

SECTION SOLDANELLOIDES
212 flaccida [A22] (10)
213 reidi williamsii [A22] (5)
214 reidi williamsii [B2] (5)

SECTION SPHONDYLLA
215 edelbergii coll. in Afganistan [A22] (5)
216 edelbergii [A22] (5)
217 floribunda var isabellina [A30] (10)
218 verticulata w/fricina [A30] (10)
219 verticulata [A27] (5)
220 verticulata [A22] (10)

SECTION AURICULA HYBRIDS
221 auricula alpine mix [A43] (10)
222 auricula 'Border' mix (1990) [A43] (10)
223 auricula 'border-Beeshel Strain' mix [A43] (10)
224 auricula Garden mix [A10] (10)

225 auricula Garden mix [A11] (10)
226 auricula Garden mix [A8] (10)
227 auricula Garden blue [A8] (5)
228 auricula Garden brown [A8] (5)
229 auricula Garden red [A8] (5)
230 auricula Garden white [A8] (5)
231 auricula Garden yellow [A8] (5)
232 auricula red show self [A8] (5)
233 auricula yellow show self [A8] (5)
234 auricula green edge [A8] (5)
235 auricula blue show [A34] (5)
236 auricula picotee outer edge colored [A8] (5)
237 auricula doubles mix [A8] (5)
238 x pubescens [A21] (10)
239 x pubescens gigante [B6] (10)
240 x pubescens 'Christine' [A34] (10)
241 wanda hybriden mix [B1] (5)
242 wanda hybriden salmon [B1] (5)
243 wanda hybriden rose tones [B1] (5)
244 wanda hybriden rose [B1] (5)
245 wanda hybriden blue [B1] (5)
246 wanda hybriden lavender [B1] (5)
247 wanda hybriden raspberry [B1] (5)
248 wanda hybriden velvet red [B1] (5)
249 x pruhoniciana F1 hybrid mix [B1] (5)
250 x juliana Stalked form H.P. [A7] (5)
251 x juliana Cushion form H.P. [A7] (5)
252 x juliana 'Little Gem' red [A17] (5)
253 x juliana 'Dorothy' cream [A17] (5)
254 juliana 'Cheerleader' [B4] (5)
255 julia 'Gold Ridge' [B4] (5)
256 julia minature acaulis mix [B4] (5)
257 julia acaulis bicolor [B4] (5)
258 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' [B3] (10)
259 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' rose [B3] (10)
260 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' pink [B3] (10)
261 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' scarlet [B3] (10)
262 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' white [B4] (10)
263 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' yellow [B4] (10)
264 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo blue [B3] (10)
265 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo blue [B3] (10)
266 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo mid blue [B3] (10)
267 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo yellow [B3] (10)
268 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo orange [B3] (10)
269 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo golden yellow [B3] (10)
270 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo gold [B3] (10)
271 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo birdsye [B3] (10)
272 x polyantha 'Pacific Giants' stereo pale cream [B3] (10)
273 acaulis robust mix [1990] [A43] (10)
274 acaulis double mix [A1] (10)
275 acaulis 'Pageant' white [B4] (10)
276 acaulis 'Pageant' wine red [B4] (10)
277 acaulis 'Pageant' carmine rose [B4] (10)
278 acaulis 'Pageant' mix [B4] (10)
279 acaulis 'Pageant' yellow [B4] (10)
280 acaulis 'Pageant' apricot [B4] (10)
281 polyantha 'Big ole yellows' [A7] (10)
282 polyantha mix [A29] (10)
283 polyanthus Cowichan mix O.P. [A16] (10)
284 polyanthus 'Gold Lace' mix [A41] (10)
285 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' apricot shades [B4] (10)
286 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' bicolor [B4] (10)
287 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' blue [B4] (10)
288 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' pink [B4] (10)
289 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' rose shades [B4] (10)
290 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' scarlet [B4] (10)
291 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' white [B4] (10)
292 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' yellow [B4] (10)
293 polyanthus 'Pacific Giants' mix [B4] (10)
294 polyanthus 'Super Giants' crimson [B4] (10)
295 polyanthus 'Super Giants' lemon yellow [B4] (10)
296 polyanthus 'Super Giants' pink [B4] (10)
297 polyanthus 'Super Giants' mix [B4] (10)
298 polyanthus 'Super Giants' white [B4] (10)
299 polyanthus 'Super Giants' mix [B4] (10)
300 primula x poly 'Hose-in-Hose' H.P. [A7] (5)
301 veris mixed hybrids red, bronze, crimson, yellow [B6] (10)
302 vulgaris 'Orient Star' hybrid [B6] (10)
303 vulgaris 'Heterosis Ernst Benary' mix [B1] (10)

SECTION PROLIFERAE HYBRIDS
304 candelabra hybrids mix [A36] (10)
305 candelabra 'Aperle Strain' coll. in Stanley park, Van. B.C. pulverulenta x Lissadel [A35] (10)
306 chunglenta chungensis x pulverulenta [A22] (10)
307 cockburniana dwarf [A22] (5)
308 japonica 'Harlow Carr' [A35] (10)
309 japonica 'Harlow Carr' [B6] (10)
310 japonica 'Inshriach hybrids' [A10] (10)
311 japonica hybrids mix [A10] (25)
312 'Lissadel' pulverulenta x cockburniana shocking pink (1990) [A13] (25)

OTHER PRIMULACEAE
313 Androsaceae grandifolia [B5] (15)
314 Androsaceae lanuginosa [B5] (15)
315 Sredinska grandis [A20] (10)
316 auricula Pot-Luck [A21] (50)
317 Gambler’s Choice [A21] (50)

COMPANION PLANTS
318 Althaea rosea double form [A21] (10)
319 Cornus mas [A21] (10)
320 Daphne mezereum [A21] (10)

321 Gentiana asclepiadea [A4] (10)
322 Lewisia cotyledon mix [A1] (10)
323 Lewisia cotyledon pink and white [A10] (10)
324 Lewisia cotyledon pink [A10] (10)
325 Lewisia cotyledon red [A10] (10)
326 Lewisia cotyledon white and pink [A10] (10)
327 Lewisia cotyledon 'Sunset Strain' [B6] (10)
328 Lewisia tweedii [B6] (5)
329 Lilium hardy x tsiatic from Central Asia [A21] (10)
330 Lilium martagon white [A21] (10)
331 Pulsatilla violacea Rupr. coll. near Kozbegi [A28] (10)
332 Pulsatilla vulgaris [A21] (10)

UNIDENTIFIED
333 P. briscoi [A22] (10)

CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS SEED EXCHANGE 1992

Members of the A.P.S. Seed Exchange Committee wish to extend a very special "Thank You" to those who have contributed to this year's listing. The enormous amount of time and energy it takes to grow the plants, hand pollinate, collect and clean the seed, and package the seed for mailing is very humbly appreciated by all members of the American Primrose Society.

This seed exchange would not be possible without the contributions from you, the donors.

DONORS

A1 Rosetta Jones Washington A26 Tsunehiro Ogiyama Japan
A2 Lyle and Darlene Heller Washington A27 Takao Maki Japan
A3 Ray Brown Plant World England A28 J. Cuba Czechoslovakia
A4 Janice Anthony Maine A29 Mary Lopez Massachusetts
A5 Nancy Goodwin North Carolina A30 Dr. Roy Preston Washington
A6 Karen Schillinger Minnesota A31 Miss M. A. Town England
A7 Peter Atkinson Washington A32 Thea Oakley Washington
A8 Herbert Dickson Washington A33 Tony Dickerson England
A9 Francis Cabot New York A34 Mr. S. B. Truscott England
A10 Vasco "Flip" Fenili Washington A35 Jocelyn Harder Washington
A11 Dennis Oakley Canada A36 Marietta O’Byrne Oregon
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A14 John O’Brien, Sr. Alaska A39 Shan Cunningham North Dakota
A15 Martin Carter Scotland A40 Esther Chemikoff Alaska
A16 Roger Luce Maine A41 Alan Arnold California
A17 Marie Skonberg Alaska A42 Pleasant Hill Farm Michigan
A18 Ivo Benes Czechoslovakia A43 Edith Ordille Germany
A19 Dr. U. Paim Canada B1 Klaus Jellito Hamburg Germany
A20 Bodhi Leamy Canada B2 Jack Drake Scotland
A21 Plaskota Roman Poland B3 K. Sahin Zaden Holland
A22 Dr. Horst Georgii Germany B4 Sakata Seed Co. Japan
A23 E. M. Healy Mossburn New Zealand B5 P. Kohli and Co. India
A24 "Mrs. W. D. Behan" Scotland B6 Chiltem Seed Co. England
A25 Elinor Moyer Canada B7 Southwestern Native Seeds Arizona

Primula polyantha (4 natural size)
American Primrose Society - Winter 1992

1992 SHOWS

Tacoma - Lakewood Mall - April 4-5
Seattle - South Center Pavilion - April 18
Eastside (Seattle) - Totem Lake Mall - April 24-25
Victoria, B.C. - Rock and Alpine Garden Show - April 3-4
Portland/Beaverton - National Show at the Symposium - April 10-11

My Way
continued from page 5.

By the way, for some small numbers of seed I divide the containers using strips of Styrofoam meat trays to save space. For labels, I cut up large plastic jars that held bleach or other household products. The base makes a good saucer for larger plant pots and the top section, with the lid on, makes a good scoop — as I said, nothing that can be reused goes in the garbage.

Many thanks to Rosetta for her advice, and also for the gorgeous double primulas we have grown from her seed.

P.S. If your method works, stick with it!*

Round Robin

"Join a Round Robin, exchange ideas and information, become friends..."

So how do you join a Round Robin? Just write to Elizabeth van Sickle, at the address below. Its unlikely you'll get to join one of the highly successful ones now on their rounds, but Elizabeth will match new applicants for Robins with others sharing your interests, and you can start your own successful APS Round Robin.

Send your letters to: Elizabeth van Sickle
654 Marine Drive
Sequim, WA 98382

SEED OF DOUBLE ACAULIS and DOUBLE AURICULA
NEW SEED CROP IN AUGUST
Minimum order - 50 seeds - $5.00

Rosetta Jones
Phone: 206-426-7913

E. 170 Dunoon Pl.
Shelton, WA 98584
CHEHALIS RARE PLANT NURSERY
2568 Jackson Hwy., Chehalis, WA 98532
Herb Dickson, Prop.

After 30 years of selecting and breeding, I have developed an improved strain of Garden Auricula with a complete palette of color.

Garden Auricula
Mixed, Yellow, Blue, White, Brown, Red, Petite Hybrids

Picotee - a new flower form with only an outer fringe of color

Exhibition Alpine
All the above $2.00 per packet of 75 seeds

Primula Florindae $1.00 per packet
Mixed Candelabra $1.00 per packet
Hand pollinated Show Auricula
Red Self, Yellow Self, Green Edge

.10 cents per seed, any amount

Hand Pollinated Double Auricula Mix
.25 cents per seed
50 cents postage & handling in U.S. & Canada

Other foreign orders $1.00 postage & handling
Washington residents add 7.5% sales tax

MINIMUM ORDERS $50

"Schultz-Instant"
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We invite you to join gardening enthusiasts worldwide interested in growing plants from above treeline, other low-growing perennials and wildflowers. Take this opportunity to expand your knowledge of plants, propagation techniques, design, construction and maintenance of special interest gardens. Join today!

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American Primrose Society
Winter 1992

American Rock Garden Society

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American Primrose Society
Winter 1992
The symposium is right around the corner! I know there are some of you that plan to attend, but just haven't sent in your registration. Please ... do so ASAP! Some clinics are filling up!

I know some of you are not sure if you're going to attend, and I say to you ... Please do! We need and want great representation from APS members. As I write, only 4 out of 10 registrants are from our Society. Who knows when another primula event of this magnitude will take place in the U.S. again? We are receiving local and national press, so a great symposium with large attendance definitely will be a prestigious moment for our society. We've got a great program -- all we need now is you! It's your chance to rub shoulders with primula enthusiasts from around the globe and meet people you've formally only read about. I guarantee you won't be disappointed!

So drop this issue, grab a pen, fill out that form and drop it in the mail!
"Primula Worldwide" truly is a once in a lifetime event, and it just won't be the same without you.

Greg Becker,
Conference Chairman