Primroses
The Quarterly of the American Primrose Society
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Volume 63 No 1 WINTER 2005

The purpose of this society is to bring the people interested in Primula together in an organization to increase the general knowledge of and interest in the collecting, growing, breeding, showing and using in the landscape and garden the genus Primula in all its forms and to serve as a clearing house for collecting and disseminating information about Primula.

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About the Cover
A vast population of Androsace robusta ssp. purpurea blooming in the Sabche Khola in the Upper Marsyandi Valley of central Nepal. Photo by Jozef Lemmens.

This issue, which focuses on the greater family of Primulaceae, will take you from Nepal to Canada, and from Belgium to Nevada.

PRIMROSES • The Quarterly of the American Primrose Society

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President’s Message

ED BUYARSKI

Greetings from Alaska.

Just a hint of spring in the air as I write this in late January. It’s raining now after more than 50 inches of snow since Christmas and I’m thinking of seeding a few flats of seed to put outside to chill. I’m tired of shoveling but I know that if the snow disappears, we will still see more freeze/thaw cycles to remind me where I live. Of course all this snow is a wonderful blanket to protect our plants until spring really does arrive. In the meantime I have a few Primula marginata blooming in my garage to help me through my spring fever and acaulis and polyanthus hybrids are brightening our supermarket aisles.

Soon I’ll be flying to Seattle for the Northwest Flower and Garden Show where I plan to share some of our APS membership applications with interested folks. I also expect to see many more primroses in the beautiful display gardens.

Recently Robert Tonkin and Paul Dick of our Juneau Chapter helped teach a section in the local Master Gardeners’ class about primroses and of course offer the opportunity to join this fine organization. In many of our other members’ areas there are probably more chances for you to share your love for primroses with friends, neighbors, and gardeners. Offer your help to garden clubs, nurseries that have gardening seminars or even newspapers and radio stations that want to feature local stories of a seasonal nature.

I must thank the new editor for the look of his first Quarterly-great job, Matt! Remember, he always needs stories, photos, and suggestions for more articles. In this issue is the ballot for Officers and Board members so please cast a ballot or contact those people to see what they promise to do for you. Again, you must also tell them/us what you want out of our American Primrose Society.

Last, make plans to attend the National Show in Boston. Many of you who haven’t been brave or adventurous enough to make it to the West Coast and Alaska for the last 50 some years of shows have a fine opportunity to participate in our big social event of the year. I hope to see you there!
55th National Primrose Show and Convention
Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston, Massachusetts
April 28 - May 1, 2005

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday, April 28th 12:00 - 5:00 P.M. Show and Membership Set Up, Early registration and early show entries taken.

Friday, April 29th 8:30 AM New England Garden Tour Tour leaves from hotel at 8:30 AM
Richard Redfield Garden, Scotland, Connecticut
Paul Held's Garden, Westport, Connecticut - Lunch Provided
Sydney Eddison's Garden, Newtown, Connecticut

Friday, April 29th 12:00 - 5:00 pm Registration and show entries received

7:30-9:30 AM
10:00-11:30 Classroom C
11:30-12:30 Classroom B
1:00 Classroom C
2:00 Theatre
3:00 Classroom C

Saturday, April 30th
Entries Received 7:30 - 9:30 AM
Judging 10:00 - 11:30
Primula Round Table Discussion with Judith Sellers and Richard May 10:00 - 11:30 Classroom C
Judge's and Exhibitor's Luncheon 11:30 - 12:30
Plant Sales and Vending 10:00 - 5:00
Show Open to the Public 10:00 - 5:00
Talk: PRIMULA and FOLKLORE with Angela Bradford 11:30 - 5:00
Talk: ALASKA AND YUKON PRIMULA AND WILDFLOWERS with Ed Buyarski 1:00 Classroom C
APS Board Meeting 11:30 - 12:30
Show Open to the Public 11:30 - 12:30
Plant Sales and Vending 11:30 - 12:30

Sunday, May 1st
Show Open to the Public 10:00 - 5:00
Plant Sales and Vending 10:00 - 5:00
Talk: COME VISIT MY PRIMROSE PATHS with Arlene Perkins 10:00 - 5:00
Banquet - Crowne Plaza Hotel, Worcester, MA 6:30
Keynote Speaker: Angela Bradford "Hybridizing New Primroses"

July 1, 2005
Show Open to the Public 10:00 - 5:00
Plant Sales and Vending 10:00 - 5:00
Talk: SAKURASO-PRIMULA SIEBOLDII with Paul Held 1:00
Talk: COME VISIT MY PRIMROSE PATHS with Arlene Perkins 3:00
Breakdown and Closing 5:00

REGISTRATION AND HOTEL
We suggest flying into Boston or Providence, RI. The Boylston/Worcester area is centrally located about a 1 hour drive between those two cities. Please make reservations directly with the hotel. Mention that you are with the American Primrose Society to get our special $99. (plus tax) nightly room rate.
Crowne Plaza Hotel, 10 Lincoln Square, Worcester, MA 01607
Toll Free: 1-800-628-4240
Please select your choice for your banquet dish:

Baked Boston Scrod $20.00

Baked Chicken $19.00

Western Style Steak $22.00

Dietary Needs $20.00

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Talk: COME VISIT MY PRIMROSE PATHS with Arlene Perkins 3:00
Breakdown and Closing 5:00

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 1, 2005

Mail this registration form and your check to:
Arlene Perkins
580 Perkins Road
Montpelier, VT 05602

$85. Includes Tour, tour lunch, Sat. Banquet and show

$55. Show Registration Only, Includes Saturday Banquet
Nepalese Androsace of the Upper Marsyandi Valley

JOZEF LEMMENS

During the last two weeks of June and the first week of July, I visited the Marsyandi Valley in Central-Nepal, accompanied by Tim Roberts (English) and Jan Burgcl (of Czech origin). Although the expedition was primarily meant to study the Saxifraga species, I would like to talk exclusively about the Androsaces in this valley.

The hike mainly followed the Marsyandi river; the valley is dominated by the mountain tops of the Annapurna chain that reach higher than 8000 meters. By the building explosion over the entire hiking route, you realise this is the second most visited trekking route in Nepal.

The hike starts in the village of Besi Sahar (823m) approximately 180 kilometres west of the capital of Kathmandu.

The first couple of days we walked through a subtropical climate, which slowly evolves into a subalpine environment. With Arisaema tortuosum, A. costatum and A. erubescens as the most striking plants. In the more humid places grew many different Gesneriaceae species, such as the Corallodiscus lanuginosus, Didymocarpus primulifolius and Chirita bifolia.

On the fifth day we finally discovered our first Androsace. We are now at an altitude of about 2750 meters. In the forests which consist mainly of Pinus wallichiana and Picea smithiana we found Androsace strigillosa. The plants were very thinly distributed, sometimes dozens of meters apart and mostly in small groups of two or three plants. The upper sides of the petals were white and the under sides were pink-red. The flowers were standing on stems of about 20 to 25 cm high, that were mostly supported by surrounding plants, such as the Cotoneaster microphyllus. Apart from this species, in the zone we also found Anemone rivularis, Euphorbia wallichii, ferns and a Thalictrum species. The plants were mostly growing mostly in dappled shade, where they received diffused daylight penetrating from between the trees.

The soil consists of fir needles containing lots of humus. This Androsace species is very widely spread throughout the Marsyandi Valley up to an altitude of about 4500 meters.

Slowly the track winds higher; at an altitude of about 3000 meters the first plant of the species Androsace robusta ssp. purpurea appeared, hanging over a rock. It was quite easy to determine this plant, as it keeps the same characteristics as the plants we cultivate. This very loose type of growth was most probably caused by poor light due to the surrounding plants.

The landscape slowly changes into an open and drier environment. Finally we enter a territory where there has been virtually no rain for the last 3 years. Here we find Androsace robusta ssp. purpurea in a very compact form. It was a shame that there were only a few plants in bloom. From a distance the plants resemble a silver white carpet. This might be caused by the dry weather conditions in which these plants grow. The soil is very dry and sandy. The accompanying plants were, among other things: Anthemis species with grey leaves, Thymus linearis, Juniperis squamata and Potentilla fruticosa.

A short distance past the village of Hongde, we leave the Marsyandi Val-
ley and follow the Sabche Khola river. In this sidevalley, along the flanks of the Annapurna IV, we hope to find the single known location of Saxifraga lownesii. On our trip to the end of this valley we come across hundreds of thousands, maybe even millions of plants of Androsace robusta ssp. purpurea. Most plants are blooming, and along with Rhododendron leptodorum they cause the slopes to have a red glow. It is an absolutely overwhelming sight. Although the upper part of this valley is a couple of hundred meters higher, the plants are less compact and greener. The length of the flower stems varies from between 2 and 6 cm. It caught my attention that the flower stems do not become shorter at these higher locations. The only difference that can be noticed is that the color of the flowers change to a more blue-ish tinge at an altitude of about 4600 meters. Androsace robusta ssp. purpurea is also widespread in the Marsyandi Valley up to a height of about 4750 meters. The plants are mostly to be found in dry, sunny places.

After leaving the Sabche Khola valley we again follow the Marsyandi river and come to a height of 4200 meters in a village where 4 different Androsace species grow within a couple of hundred meters of each other. Namely A. strigillosa, A. robusta ssp. purpurea, A. tapete and A. nortonii. There were a dozen plants of the A. tapete to be found in a mountain pasture.

The plants were being threatened by the building of a new hotel. Although the plants had just finished blooming, you could see that they had made only a very small amount of growth. The soil was neutral, containing light particles of humus and sandy.

On a slope facing north-west we found thousands of the species A. nortonii. The color of the flowers varied from deep pink to very light pink, almost white. The plants strongly resemble A. sarmentosa, but the leaves are very heavily covered with long, upstanding little hairs, especially near the sides of the leaves. The flower stems mostly measured between 4 and 8 cm in height. They grew in a quite humid meadow together with Rhododendron leptodorum and Cremanthodium arnicoides. A. nortonii is to be found up to about 4750 meters, but is less common in the other locations.

Near our base camp for the climb to Thorung La, at a height of 4600 meters, A. lehmannii grew in a mountain meadow with lots of humus. The gorgeous green cushions were no larger than 10 to 15 cm across. The white stemless flowers were grouped on a small part of the plant. The flowers were so close together that the corolla lobes were overlapping one another. The yellow eye of the flower changes color to pink-red after pollination. Given the location of the plants, I suspect that the soil is nearly always quite moist. I only found A. lehmannii in this very limited area. At about the same altitude the first plants of the A. zambalensis appeared, but at an altitude of 5000 meters we found this species in large numbers.

During the climb from Thorung Pedi to Higher Pedi and towards Thorung La pass we found A. robusta ssp. purpurea, A. nortonii, A. zambalensis, A. delavayi and one single plant of the A. tapete.

Androsace zambalensis is to be found on the screes that are facing north-east. The rocks of the debris slopes were mixed with a light acid loam soil, containing a large amount of small rocks. In the sunniest places these plants were very compact and beautifully in bloom.

We found A. zambalensis towards Thorung La (5200 meters). Most of the cushions had a diameter of between 10 and 20 cm. The rosettes of A. zambalensis are more robust than those of the A. delavayi and various flowerbuds are formed on each short flower stem.

At about 5000 meters we found a couple of plants of the A. delavayi amongst thousands of plants of A. zambalensis. Most of these plants had not started to bloom or were still in bud. A. delavayi forms smaller rosettes that are closer to one another. From the center of the rosettes grow 1 (sometimes 2) stemless white flowers.

Central Nepal and the Nepalese Himalaya offer some of the world’s most unspoiled vistas. Famed for its widely varied flora and challenging terrain. The area is still one of the few places on earth where the modern explorer can make discoveries that equal the great explorers of the nineteenth century.

Jozef Lennens lives and gardens in a small village near Louvain, Belgium with his family. Among his favorite plants are cushion plants such as Androsace, Dionysia and Saxifraga. He has traveled extensively botanizing to some of the world’s finest alpine areas such as the Italian Dolomites, Greece, Spain, China and Central Nepal.
Discovering and Cultivating Hardy Cyclamen

JOHN LONSDALE

There is hardly a region of North America that cannot provide a garden home for at least one species of Cyclamen, and the ease of growing most adds to their horticultural value. Starting your own collection by seed is one of the very best ways to collect a decent sized collection, yet a few specialty nurseries carry some of the more hard-to-find species. I will briefly outline the more hardy forms, as well as provide you a description of some of the more unusual species that you may wish to try growing.

One of the first concerns for North American gardeners, used to seeing photos of glorious pots of Cyclamen in England, is are they hardy enough to grow on this side of the Atlantic? The answer is yes. Cyclamen hederifolium is remarkably winter-hardy and weather-resistant, even in the coldest zones, C. purpurascens and C. coum just slightly less so. The remaining sixteen species that are in cultivation make excellent garden subjects in appropriate climates and sites (most are at least frost-hardy), and those whose basic needs cannot be met without protection are wonderful pot subjects under glass.

Species and Cultivars

Of the twenty species currently recognized by botanists, nineteen are in general cultivation. Almost all have been further subdivided, either botanically or horticulturally, and a number of interspecific hybrids have been described. Though it is impossible to do justice to all the variants here, I will briefly discuss the merits of the species and highlight some of the newer and more interesting forms now becoming available in the specialist trade, particularly in Europe. The premier garden Cyclamen species, C. hederifolium, is discussed in greater detail, as is C. graecum, the queen of the species generally considered not frost-hardy, but a superb pot subject.

Of all the species, Cyclamen hederifolium is without doubt the most garden-worthy. Not only will it provide flowers throughout the autumn, it will reward also with a carpet of beautifully marked leaves for up to nine months of the year. In the wild, C hederifolium is a woodland plant, but in the garden it tolerates a wide range of conditions as long as it has a well-drained but moisture-retentive growing medium. Once established, it happily seeds itself around, and in a few years a large drift can result, with seedlings in leaf forms that can be totally different from those of the parents. A more tolerant plant would be hard to find, and a place should be found in any garden for the everyman's Cyclamen.

Cyclamen africanum is virtually indistinguishable by eye from C. hederifolium, although its flower and leaf variation is not nearly as spectacular. Hybrids between the two species occur freely, and it can be very hard to tell exactly what one is growing. The leaves generally rise directly from the tuber whereas in C. hederifolium they spread laterally before rising. In a pot this is often manifest by a ring of leaves around the edge.

Cyclamen intaminatum, C. cilicium, and C. mirabile are three small Turkish species that are undeniably elegant, reasonably hardy, and very floriferous from relatively small tubers, blooming somewhat ahead of the foliage.

Cyclamen cilicium is another species of quiet charm, relatively invariant in both flower and leaf form. The foliage may be plain green or, more usually, may have a creamy-silver hastate (spiralhead) pattern; the flowers may be pink with deeper markings around the mouth, or pure white, and all have a delightful scent.

Cyclamen mirabile is perhaps the most exciting of these three Turkish species, especially with the recent introduction of some cultivars by Peter Moore of Tilebarn Nursery in the UK. The type forms are clearly distinct in both flower and leaf from C. cilicium, although their botanical distinctiveness has been questioned. The flowers of C. mirabile are delicately fimbriate (fringed), and the rounded leaves can have a curious puckered appearance, with marginal teeth, which are absent in C. cilicium. Flower color can be pink or white. 'Tilebarn Nicholas' has a bright raspberry flush in an outer band on the young...
leaves, the inner portion of the leaves being marked with a glossy green “Christmas tree.” The raspberry eventually fades to a muted pewter shade.

*Cyclamen rohlfssianum* is a very distinctive species and quite tender; even a light frost burns its foliage. It is native to Libya. The flowers are unique in that the cone of stamens protrudes well below the mouth, somewhat resembling a Dodecatheon.

If *Cyclamen hederifolium* is the premier garden cyclamen, then *Cyclamen graecum* is the ultimate species for pots. It is difficult to find a spot in most UK and northern US gardens where it will grow well enough to flower, even if it survives the frost.

It is impossible to speak too highly of *Cyclamen graecum*. It has a reputation of being difficult to flower well, but, given the correct summer treatment, it blooms profusely. It is easy to become obsessed with this species alone.

The last of the fall-flowering species is *Cyclamen cyprium*, which often bridges the gap between winter and spring. The flowers are white or very pale pink with attractive darker markings and very prominent auricles.

Although slightly out of chronological order, we can consider *Cyclamen libanoticum* here. The flower is uniquely broad and a lovely pale pink, paler at the nose, with little trace of auricles. It tends to be few-flowered, and the leaves are not spectacular, although better forms can be selected.

*Cyclamen coum*, *C. trochopleranthum*, and *C. parviflorum* form a complex of related late winter to spring flowering species, the time depending on growing climate. *Cyclamen parviflorum* is a high-alpine Turkish species that can be rather miffy in cultivation. Its flowers are small and dumpy, and with its small, plain, round leaves, it is not the glam queen of the genus. *Cyclamen trochopleranthum* is reasonably cold-hardy and is best known for its flowers, which are shaped like propellers and have a lovely spicy scent.

*Cyclamen coum* is the spring counterpart of *C. hederifolium*, making a superb garden plant in many regions and coming in a variety of flower colors and leaf patterns. Many cultivars have been named, and forms true to type are well worth seeking out. It has proved very disappointing as a garden plant in Pennsylvania, at least in the forms I am growing. Although the tuber is undoubtedly completely hardy, the leaves are very badly damaged by snow and ice, although they are untouched by very cold air.

*Cyclamen pseudibericum* is the most beautiful of the species flowering in early to mid-spring. The sweetly fragrant, long-lasting flowers are large and bold yet retain elegance.

*Cyclamen persicum* is often ignored in any discussion of “proper” *Cyclamen* because it is perceived to be responsible for the florist’s *Cyclamen*. Nonetheless, it is well worth growing in its wild forms, and there are some lovely ones around.

Bringing up the rear in the *Cyclamen* year are the members of the *Cyclamen repandum* group: the various subspecies and varieties of *C. repandum*, *C. balearicum*, and *C. creticum*, and their interspecific hybrids. All three species are plants of shady places, and they have very thin leaves which wilt easily in the strengthening spring sunshine.

**Cultivation**

The cold-hardiness of many *Cyclamen* species is surprising, and several traditionally considered to be tender in fact show some degree of hardiness. Many species survive and even thrive outside in areas where winter temperatures do not dip much below 20°F (-7°C). As I have found to be true of numerous other bulbs whose cold-hardiness proves greater than I expected, correct positioning and soil conditions are crucial. Excellent drainage is paramount; it is ice rather than cold that kills, and bulbs and corms in a soil that was only faintly moist when it froze can survive far lower temperatures than those that freeze in a wet medium. This phenomenon is exaggerated when plants are grown in pots.

Generally, most *Cyclamen* require some shade during the hottest part of the day, a very well-drained but moisture-retentive soil, and a relatively dry rest during their dormant season. The emphasis here is on “relatively”: several species, such as *C. hederifolium*, tolerate regular watering, whereas others require a dry (but not “baked”) rest. Several species in the latter category are best treated as pot plants, where watering is much easier to regulate. Bear in mind that species such as *C. graecum* experience long hot, dry dormancy in the wild, but their corms are frequently very deeply buried, and the long roots are probably always in contact with a cooler, slightly moist substrate.

**Cultivation in pots**

It is possible to grow superb specimens of all species in containers, as evi-
denced by the stunning plants regularly seen at the overseas shows. Although subtle variations in cultivation can benefit certain species, the reality is that most can be treated in exactly the same way. Seed-raised plants always position their corms at the interface between the compost (the soil mixture—not “compost” in the US sense of decomposed vegetable matter) on which they were sown and the grit used as top-dressing, and this is exactly the way we grow mature plants. Although little or no harm is done by burying the corms slightly, the emerging growth is much more likely to rot off if the compost is too wet. Control of fungal pathogens is facilitated if the growth points are above the compost.

There is no magical compost, either. I have used soil-based ones, suitably amended with grit and some peat or bark-based material to increase moisture retention. Because ready-made soil-based composts (referred to in the UK as “John Innes” composts) are not available in the US, I now have to find alternatives. All my bulbs, corms, and tubers are now grown in a mixture of BioComp BC5 (composted peanut hulls) and perlite. If anyone had suggested that mix to me while I was still in the UK, I think I would still be laughing—but it works wonderfully for Cyclamen, Crocus, Narcissus, Corydalis, Iris, and other genera. The pots are top-dressed with a half-inch or so of coarse grit.

As is the case in many branches of horticulture, especially alpine gardening, the real skill comes in turning on the hose at the right time and pointing it in the right direction for just long enough. Cyclamen are certainly vulnerable to over-watering, especially during dormancy.

There is no general agreement on whether to feed Cyclamen. I now use an in-line feeder that allows weak feeding every time watering is carried out, and this seems to have been beneficial. I use ‘Miracle Grow’ fertilizer, and the same effect can be had by watering with this at half strength whenever the plants are watered.

Cyclamen suffer from relatively few pests and diseases, however vine weevil can do serious damage to cyclamen. Aphids can also attack Cyclamen, but they are susceptible to many systemic insecticides. Squirrels have been known to strip seed capsules in the garden, but this is generally sporadic and localized and does little long-term harm to large plantings.

**Propagation**

Raising Cyclamen from seed is one of life’s great pleasures. Vegetative propagation by division of the corms into one or more pieces, each with a growing point, is possible, but it is little used and perhaps best saved for the rescue of diseased corms in which the rot has not spread too far. Growing them from seed, by contrast, is easy and very rewarding.

Seed should be sown as fresh as possible. If sown by late summer or early fall, it generally germinates the next growing season, fall or spring depending on the species. There are several accepted ways to sow and germinate Cyclamen seed, some more scientific and involved than others. Cool temperatures (below 59°F/15°C) and darkness are required, but these can be provided in many ways, artificially or naturally. The following method has worked well, generally giving timely, high-percentage germination.

The same compost used for mature plants is used for seed, which is surface sown and covered with a 1/2-inch (c.1 cm) layer of grit. After watering, the pots are stood in a shady place and kept evenly moist. When the time is right, the seeds germinate and the fun begins, although the first season, most species make only a single, usually unmarked leaf. It is beneficial to keep the seedlings growing as long as possible, keeping them cool, shaded, and well watered. When they finally go dormant, they should be given more moisture than mature specimens, because they can be very prone to desiccation, and they seem less susceptible to rots when young.

Seedlings should be treated like more mature plants from the second season onward, but not transplanted until they are a couple of years old.

Sowing seed collected from one’s own plants is particularly enjoyable, but this obviously requires getting seed set in the first place. As in most contexts, good children result from good parents. This is particularly true for Cyclamen, and it pays to start with some of the more interesting leaf and flower forms as seed sources. Fertility varies considerably from plant to plant, and seed is not always set naturally, especially on plants you value the most! Hand-pollination with a small paintbrush is certainly beneficial. Since we have moved to the US, I have found that early flowers are particularly difficult to pollinate, either naturally or artificially, and this seems to correlate with higher humidity earlier in the season. Seed set is better in the fall when the humidity is much lower. Fertilization is obvious because the flower drops rapidly from the swelling ovary and the pedicel starts to coil or bend to bring the capsule down to within the relatively protected area under the leaves. The way the pedicel-
coils or loops down is species-specific and is fascinating to watch.
Irrespective of the time of year the seed was set, it ripens the following mid-summer. Just before the capsule splits open, it becomes softer and "squishy." The seeds inside are now pale honey-brown and ripe for collection. If you miss this opportunity, the capsule will split, causing a terminal hole to appear through which the seeds can be seen. If not harvested, they will either be removed by ants (which love their sticky, sweet coating), or they will rapidly dry and fall from the capsule.

*Cyclamen* are beautiful, elegant plants, and growing and raising them from seed is a fascinating hobby, not particularly difficult but incredibly rewarding. Whether you want drifts of plants in the garden or beautiful pot-grown specimens under glass, they offer something for everyone. Give them a try if you are new to them, and if you already have some, experiment with a few of the less well-known species – and expect a few surprises and a lot of fun.

John Lonsdale is a highly successful grower of alpines (primarily *Androsace, Dionysia, Primula, Saxifraga* and hardy bulbs) in alpine houses and cold frames. John received the AGS Gold Medal in the UK in 1995. He and his family then moved from England to Pennsylvania, where he began work on "Edgewood Garden". On 1.5 acres of woodland, sunny slopes and sand beds, he now grows an incredible range of hardy bulbs, Daphnes and woodlanders, including hardy orchids. *Cyclamen, Corydalis, Crocus, Fritillaria* and *Iris* species are especially well represented. Almost all are grown, or at least attempted, in the open, with protection in the garden provided only to a few highly moisture-sensitive plants such as *Oncocyclus Iris*. The range of plants that are traditionally thought to be growable outside in eastern PA has been extended considerably to include a wide variety of exciting and beautiful plants, especially bulbs. Two greenhouses are used for propagation from seed and also to house the *Cyclamen* that are not hardy enough to survive in the garden. John is a member of the AGS, NARGS, *Cyclamen Society, All Iris Society, Species Iris Group of North America* and the *Fritillaria Society* and contributes articles to the publications of these and other groups. He has lectured widely on a number of these topics.

Sources
To enquire about membership of the *Cyclamen Society* contact:
Dr David Bent, Little Pilgrims, 2 Pilgrims Way East, Otford, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN14 5QN, United Kingdom. Email: membership@cyclamen.org
*Cyclamen* seed is always available through the seed exchanges of NARGS, AGS, and SRGC. All species are now covered by CITES regulations, importation of plants into the USA requires a permit.

OPPOSITE PAGE: Clockwise from top left, Ripe seed pods of *Cyclamen hederifolium* in John Lonsdale's garden in Exton, PA; A fine example of a patterned leaf of *C. hederifolium*; Two pure white blossoms of *C. coum 'Golan Heights*; A silvery speckled leaf of *C. cyprium ex PB200*; a seed pod of *C. hederifolium* showing the unusual habit of a spiraled stem that brings the ripening pod down back to soil level; the spiraled petals of *C. rohlfisianum*.

All photos: J. Lonsdale
THIS PAGE: Left: Examples of the remarkable immature foliage from *Cyclamen mirabile* 'Tilebarn Nicholas' and 'Tilebarn 'Anne' with distinctive raspberry flush and flowers. Below, Silvery foliage of *Cyclamen ssp. coum*, and next to that, a pot of *C. coum ssp coum* photographed against the snow. Bottom RT: sparkling flowers of *C. intaminatum*; outdoors, and left, the harder *C. hederifolium* bloom in the Lonsdale garden. FACING PAGE: this close-up of *Androsace sempervivoides* in a New England garden, below: And below, *Androsace robusta ssp. purpurea* in Nepal's Marsyandi valley.

All photos: J. Lonsdale

Photo: J. Lemmens
ABOVE: The New England chapter of the APS met in Connecticut on a mild Saturday in February, then stepped outside for a group photo op. This large group met to discuss plans for the National Primrose Show. Below: A *Dodecatheon pulchellum* in a New England garden.

Above: Habitat of the alkaline spring phase of a *Dodecatheon pulchellum var. pulchellum* from Ash Meadows, Nevada. Below, details of variants with different expressions in regards to the inflorescence and the
The Dodecatheon pulchellum var. pulchellum is the most widespread and variable of the variants, being found in damp meadows throughout much of western North America (right) from Alaska to Durango, Mexico. Below, a detail of an inflorescence of a variant in its alkaline spring phase in Nevada.

Dodecatheon Variants

A closer study reveals possible new nomenclature.

JAMES L. REVEAL

Dodecatheon pulchellum (Latin for beautiful) is commonly called “dark-throat shootingstar.” The species was named by the brilliant but eccentric naturalist, Constantine Samuel Rafinesque-Schmaltz (1783-1840), a native of Constantinople, who described many American plants (Reveal & Pringle, 1993). Rafinesque never saw the plant in the wild. He proposed the name based on an illustration published by William Jackson Hooker (1785-1865) in The Botanical Magazine, and as this was the only element cited by him, it is designated here as the lectotype. The illustration was drawn from garden material grown from seed collected by Thomas Drummond (1780-1835) in the “Rocky Mountains” of Canada. The seeds were probably collected in 1825 when Drummond was in the Rocky Mountains of Alberta, Canada. Hooker indicated the plant was raised at both the Edinburgh and the Glasgow botanic gardens.

The genus Dodecatheon (Greek for twelve gods, probably the Olympians, coined by Pliny for an unknown plant but used by Michaux to allude to the number of flowers in an inflorescence) is a member of the primrose family, Primulaceae. The species may be subdivided into four varieties, var. cusickii (Greene) Reveal (Southwest. Nat.18: 399. 1974), var. alaskanum (Hultén) Boivin (Phytologia 17: 74. 1968), var. monanthum (Greene ex R. Knuth) C.L. Hitchc. (in Hitchc. & Cronquist, Fl. Pacif. Northw.: 353. 1973) and the var. pulchellum. The var. pulchellum is the most widespread and variable of the variants being found in damp meadows throughout much of western North America from Alaska to Durango, Mexico.
The distinction among these variants is not sharp, and populations with overlapping characters occur. The staminal tube of var. monanthum is a dark purple. This variety is dubiously distinct from var. pulchellum and has been reduced to synonymy in both Hickman (1993) and Welsh et al. (1993). However, the only chromosome count made for var. monanthum is 2n= 88 (from British Columbia) whereas that for var. pulchellum is 2n= 44 (from Alaska). The range of var. montanum overlaps that of var. pulchellum in portions of the Pacific Coast and the Intermountain Region.

The remaining variants all have yellow staminal tubes. The var. alaskanum is a coastal expression that occurs from Alaska to Oregon. The leaves of this variant are broader than those of var. pulchellum and tend to be distinctly petiolate. Unlike var. alaskanum and var. pulchellum, the herbage of var. cusickii is distinctly glandular-pubescent throughout. The var. cusickii occurs from British Columbia, Canada, southward to Oregon and eastward to Montana and is by far the most distinct of the segregates.

In the Intermountain Region there is an expression of var. pulchellum that is distinctive and may well prove worthy of formal taxonomic recognition. The name Dodecatheon spilantherum is available. This is a small-flowered form with thickish to even somewhat succulent leaves and an enlarged connective with a distinctive purple tip. For example, compare the flowers of the Rocky Mountain expression of var. pulchellum with those of the alkaline phase (from Ash Meadows, Nevada). As may be seen there is a pronounced white rim at the base of the corolla lobes in the former that is replaced by a less conspicuous, yellowish rim in the latter. This curious phase is seen commonly around alkaline springs and seeps among wiregrass, sedges and other graminoids.

The var. watsonii (sensu Thompson, 1953; Hitchcock et al., 1959; Hitchcock & Cronquist, 1973) is also distinctive for which the name, at the species rank, D. uniflorum is available. This is a subalpine to alpine phase in parts of British Columbia, central Idaho and western Montana. This expression is composed of short plants with inflorescences of only (1) 2–3 flowers. The type of D. watsonii is from the East Humbolt Range of Elko Co., Nevada, and appears to represent a depauperate but otherwise typical form of var. pulchellum.

References to Dodecatheon pulchellum east of the western edge of the Great Plains are due to the inclusion of a clearly related species, D. amethystinum (Fassett) Fassett (Rhodora 33: 224. 1931) as noted by Steyermark (1963). Thompson (1953) and Gleason & Cronquist (1991) referred this species to synonymy under D. radicatum, a species synonymized here under the earlier name D. pulchellum. Dodecatheon amethystinum is found primarily in the driftless area of southwestern Wisconsin and adjacent Minnesota, with scattered populations elsewhere from Illinois and Missouri to Pennsylvania. While Thompson (1960) continued to maintain D. amethystinum in synonymy, he did abandon D. radicatum for D. pulchellum.

Dr. James L. Reveal, emeritus professor at the University of Maryland, now lives in Montrose, Colorado, where he continues his studies of the Intermountain Flora and concentrates on the wild buckwheats (Eriogonum and relatives) in association with The New York Botanical Garden, The Academy of Natural Sciences, and the Missouri Botanical Garden. His other areas of interest include suprageneric nomenclature of extant vascular plants, history of western North America botanical explorations and discoveries, and floristics.

References
Some Hardy Alpine Primula

MARGARET BROWN

The primula I shall be describing belong to the Auriculastrum Section. Almost any of these will do well in a Calgary, Canada garden. Just browse through this section in John Richard's book "Primula" and see what is possible.

I first saw some of these small Primula growing in Bill Metzlaff's garden and was enchanted. They were so small, with such large flowers, I could not believe that I could grow them, was sure they were too delicate for such as me. Then a friend gave me Primula pubescens "Bewerly White' and P. marginata 'Linda Pope', both grew and survived the winter and flowered gloriously. I had by this time realised gravelly soil was the answer to growing alpines, even Primula. When they bloomed the next May I was hooked.

I could not, of course, find these little fellows in Calgary at that time. A couple of years later, in 1999, another friend brought me, from the American Primula Society show in Vancouver, six small plants with 'marginata' in their names. They looked so charming and they also looked as if they belonged to the Auricula group. I had a common border Auricula that had grown very well in a semi-shady spot by the front steps under an overgrown 'Mugho' pine. I ripped out all the snowberry that made a trouble free ground cover there, mixed the soil with an equal quantity of small gravel, re-built the boulder garden and planted them. They loved it. One looked 'peaky' the following spring and finally died, but the other five flourished and became the foundation of my collection. They have grown bigger and better with the years and in May are covered in sweetly scented blooms in all shades of mauves and pinks. When they fade their leaves are so decorative, covered with a silver or golden bloom and gold or silver serrated edges. All had to be dug up to make way for new driveway and steps up to my front door. I propagated them and now have several plants of each and am hoping that all my favorites make it. I am sure they will.

Now to describe some of the small Primula that I have grown successfully here in Calgary with no special care but to ensure a fast-draining soil and snow cover over winter. My entire rock garden is in shade from October to early April, so the snow that falls, stays, and Chinooks are not a problem.

Primula marginata

I recommend this group highly. They are tough and hardy and easy, there are many cultivars and hybrids to choose from. The species is itself delightful, with smaller flowers and the same decorative leaves. It has been in cultivation since 1777 and has so far proved long-lived and healthy. I particularly like Primula marginata 'Linda Pope', a strong grower with larger-than-species mauve flowers, given to me first by Kim Bruce. P. marginata 'Herb Dixon' is perhaps my all-time favourite so far.

Primula marginata 'Jimmy Long' has very deeply serrated leaf edges and mauve flowers. The pinks and blue-mauves of these plants are truly lovely. Almost any of the named varieties will please. Grow in a partly shaded spot in very well-drained soil. They do well with morning sun and filtered sun in the hottest part of the day, but they are not fussy.

They develop long necks or long fleshy stems, as they age and every few years need to be dug up and re-planted to bury the necks. You also can add another handful of gravel to cover them. This is an adaptation to living on scree slopes where they can elongate to keep ahead of the rubble.

You can propagate by division. I do it as soon as the flowers are over. Another friend is trying to encourage them to shoot out from the necks by weighing them down to the earth with a stone and it seems to be working. They are native to north faces and screes of the Alps of Provence and the extreme north-wast of Italy.
Primula allionii

The most enchanting plants are the P. allionii hybrids. These are very small with relatively large flowers, just what we rock gardeners love. This group has a reputation for being very difficult and subject to rotting off during the “winter wet” of milder climates. We do not have winter wet and many of us are having very good luck with these little plants. People from the West Coast and England cannot believe that we just plant them and they do well for us. They have to grow them in alpine houses in pots. Just make sure that you have a fast-draining soil, lots of gravel and sand, and they do well with rather more sun than P. marginata. You do have to be sure they don’t dry out, and they seem to like to snuggle up to a rock. It gives them a cool moist root run and helps a lot. Also I would make certain that you have a mulch under the plant leaves to make sure that it is airy around the crown of the plant. I would say you should, here in Calgary, try any that you can find. Some will do well, others will be ‘iffy’. The colour range is quite wide. One of the loveliest hybrids, readily available, locally is ‘Airemist’, a small plant smothered with very large white flowers.

Primula pubescens

Many and varied are these hybrids, vigorous, but small, like half-size plants of the garden Auriculas. Many of the plants that no one can decide how to classify get this designation. They may or may not have much farina on the leaves, but they will be tough and floriferous. One I particularly like is P. pubescens ‘Freedom’, a brilliant neon pink which plumps up very readily and grows almost anywhere. You notice that I like plants which are easy and willing. I don’t have time or patience for things which aren’t prepared to flourish! I like to welcome my little friends each spring and see them get more beautiful, then be able to propagate and share them with other people. The word ‘pubescens’ will pretty well guarantee that the plant will flourish.

Primula wulfeniana.

A very desirable small primula with a distinct shape and shining dark green leaves that make handsome pointed rosettes. Mine are in semi-shade in gravelly soil tucked in to the north side of tufa boulders. The flowers are large for the size of plant and a lovely clear pink. I gather that they are shy flowering: I must have been lucky to get a free-flowering clone.

Primula minima

I have several of this well-named plant, both a pink form and alba, the white-flowered form. They like more sun than some of the others and seem to enjoy being up against a rock in gritty soil. Don’t let them dry out. The presence of a rock helps the root run. The books say it flowers poorly, but mine seem to do quite well despite the minute size of the plant, giving disproportionately large flowers that are deeply cut. I also have the very similar hybrids of P. minima. These include P. x forsteri, P. x bilecki. I have replanted them together and will now watch with interest their development. They do bloom but they look so alike to me that, apart from their attractive minute rosettes of leaves, I haven’t made time to study them. P. x vochinensis is another of P. minima’s natural hybrids, between P. minima and P. wulfeniana. All are hardy and very attractive.

Primula hirsuta

Another handsome small alpine primula. It has a rich dark pink flower and is easy to grow in gritty soil in part shade.

Primula auricula

I have not mentioned the garden Auricula, which does very well here and is reliable, but too large for my alpine garden. I put them in the general garden where they make a very brave show in spring, their flowers so sweetly scented and so long-lasting. They do seem to like gritty soil and part shade, but are not very fussy. I have not had luck with the grey and green show Auricula. They are too highly bred for my conditions.

There are a number of others in this Auriculastrum section which I haven’t tried but which would be well worth picking up. There are two which Pam Eveleigh feels would be unlikely to be successful for us. She has tried P. palinura, which is found on sea cliffs and is summer dormant. It needs baking and is suitable to a Mediterranean climate. It may well be able to grow for us in the right spot. The other is P. glutinosa, which requires acid conditions, very hard to provide here.

This is a very brief and personal gallop through this section. These are charming plants and worthy of their place in any alpine garden in Calgary or anywhere else.

By kind permission of the Calgary Rock and Alpine Garden Society 2004 Newsletter.
Androsace101: An Introduction

The Primula relatives that are worth growing, collecting and displaying

JOZEF LEMMENS

Androsaces belong to the kind of rockery plants that fascinate me most. If some species could be called slightly ‘awkward’, most will readily establish themselves in any garden, alpine house, trough or rockery, and demand very little attention. There is plenty to choose from amongst varieties easily grown in gardens. The loveliest species are those growing in rosettes forming dense cushions. The color of the flowers is mostly white or slightly red (varying from pink to purple). A few exceptions have yellow flowers, but these are not, or very seldom, grown. There are some 155 species in the wild, spread over the whole of Europe, Asia and North America. In South America there is only one. Half the species are found in China, where some unknown species may remain to be discovered. About 90 species are known to have been grown in cultivation, so far.

Androsaces are members of the Primulaceae family, and differ from other genera in that their flowers have quite short stems, whilst the remainder of the Primulaceae display both short (thrum) and long styles (pin), with some exceptions. Another difference is the slightly thick edge lining the eye of flowers.

Propagating can be done using seed or cuttings. Some (European) species can easily be crossed, whereby a large number of plants on sale are actually hybrids. I usually resort to sowing as early as possible, whereby several seedlings appear well before winter. If one sows during the winter, most species will start to germinate in early spring, but some may not germinate until June.

Striking cuttings generally takes place once the flowering period is over; it can also be done at any time during the summer.

Now follows a list of the Androsaces I have been trying to grow in my own garden, leaving out excessive detail. In the field of annuals I only have Androsace septentrionalis. This species (colour: white, 5-8 cm high) seeds itself in the rockery.

The following biennial flowering species develop umbels on stems some 10 to 20cm high. The prettiest and most striking species is Androsace bulleyana (Yunnan). Its flowers are flame-red. There is very little difference between Androsace albana (Caucasus) and Androsace wiedemannii (Turkey). The color of the flowers varies from white to slightly pink. Androsace armeniaca var. macrantha (Turkey) has cream-coloured flowers. Androsace integra, from Sichuan, has pink ones.

Now moving to the true perennials. Among the true perennial European species Androsace vandelli can most definitely be called the loveliest. Its grey cushion is completely covered in white flowers without any stems. This is a species frequently found in Europe (Alps, Pyrenees, Sierra Nevada) on acid stone. It prefers to be propagated from seed, whereby the best clones with the largest flowers can be picked out. Its little brother, Androsace helvetica, has green rosettes, and needs chalky soil. Flowering is often not very spectacular. Androsace cylindrica (white, Pyrenees, chalk) grows easily in an alpine house or trough. This species is readily crossed with Androsace hirtella (white, Pyrenees, chalk). In fact, most of the plants found in nurseries tend to be hybrids of these two. Then there is Androsace pyrenaica (white, Pyrenees, acid) and Androsace pubescens (white, Alps, chalk).

The Androsace carneæ group, including the carneæ (pink, acid, Alps), halleri (pink), taggeri (pink, Pyrenees) and cantabrica (pink, Spain) species, are too small for the rock garden and can best be kept in a trough. I never managed to keep Androsace cantabrica outside a plastic pot. Androsace carneæ ssp. brigantia (white) is the easiest species within this carneæ group.

Impossible to grow well in an Alpine house is the carpet forming Androsace alpina (white or pink, acid) because the plants then grow completely out of character.

Androsace haussmannii (white, chalk, Dolomites) and Androsace mathildae
(white, chalk, Abruzzes) are short-lived species, easy to propagate from seed. *Androsace brevis* (pink, acid, from the mountains surrounding Lake Como - Italy) and *Androsace wulfeniana* (pink, acid, Dolomites and Tauern) are really wonderful, and well worth the trouble as they are particularly rewarding. *Androsace chamaejasme* (white, chalk) is a loose carpet former, readily found in the Alps. *Androsace villosa* (white, chalk) has a number of slightly differing varieties, depending on the place of origin, such as the *arachnoidea* variety (slightly hairier, Carpathes), *taurica* (Crimea), *kosopolynskii* (Central Russia), *glabra* (slightly less hairy, Turkey), *barbulata* (Caucasus), *congesta* (denser, Turkey).

Differences among these varieties are hardly noticeable. In fact, one has to hold them up to one another to tell them apart. *Androsace ciliata* (pink, acid, sometimes chalk, Pyrenees) has a number of different clones from very loose plants to very dense. Flowers vary from tiny to huge. The number of blooms also varies. *Androsace hedraeantha* (light pink, acid, Balkans) and *Androsace obtusifolia* (white, acid) are easily kept species that ought to be given more attention. *Androsace obtusifolia* var. *aretioides* from Switzerland, stays dense. Its flowers have almost no stems.

The above are strictly European species. American *Douglasias* according to their DNA, also belong with the *Androsaces*. The more widely known species is *Androsace laevigata* (pink), including its *ciliiolata* variety (larger), another species which forms a loose straggly mat if grown in too much shade. *Androsace montana*, usually comes in pink, sometimes white, and spreads in the way of dense cushions to looser matting. *Androsace constancei* (pink) is fairly difficult to grow. *Androsace idahoensis* (pink) needs a lot of sunshine to go on thriving. I never managed keeping one alive in an open garden so far.

*Androsace nivalis* (pink) comes in 2 varieties, *nivalis* and *dentata*. Remarks formulated under *Androsace idahoensis* also apply here.

The *chamaejasme* category further subdivides into a number of subsections, one of which is subsection *villosae*. The more recent species within this subsection being quoted first: *Androsace baltistanica* (white, Pakistan), *Androsace caduca* (white, Pamir), *Androsace dasiphylla* (white, Pamir), *Androsace ovzinnikovii* (white, Kazakstan), *Androsace incana* (white, Mongolia) and *Androsace sericea* (white, Pamir, Kazakstan). All are fairly easy to keep and develop into beautiful plants. *Androsace foliosa* (light pink, Himalaya) is a taller species with large leaves. Easy to keep in semi-shadowy places. *Androsace globifera* (pink, Himalaya) is not difficult when kept in the sun, but it does not flower well. *Androsace jacquemontii* (pink or lilac, Himalaya) is one of the easiest species in the rockery. But there is some doubt as to whether or not the true *Androsace jacquemontii* still occurs in our gardens.

*Androsace lamuginosa* (pink, Himalaya) does well in the open. The main part of the plant dies away during the winter but comes up again in spring. The garden variety known as *leichtlinii* has white flowers. This species does not come into seed in my garden, possibly because the flowers appear too late. Down in Paris, however, a mere 300 kilometres South, the plant does seed.

There has been no permanent solution as yet for the *Androsace muscoideal robusta* team. *Androsace muscoidea* is believed to have solitary flowers whilst *Androsace robusta* flowers in umbels. This rather simplistic way of splitting them up may not be entirely correct. *Androsace robusta* ssp. *purpurea*, has purple flowers.

There is a lot of confusion also between *Androsace sarmentosa* and *Androsace studiosorum*. The differences between these two become more obvious in winter. *Androsace studiosorum* is the easiest to keep by far.

The *Chamaejasme* subsection: *Androsace akbaitalensis* (white, Pamir) is highly demanding. The plant vanishes during the winter and one can but hope to see it come up again in the spring. Most of the garden grown plants belong mainly to a different species. *(Androsace lehmanniana??)*. *Androsace lowariensis* (white, Pakistan, Afghanistan) is a newcomer in cultivation.

*Androsace tapete* (Himalaya) refuses to bloom under cultivation. The closely related *Androsace selago* on the other hand, yields a fair amount of flowers.

*Androsace zambalensis* and *Androsace yargongensis* do not invariably thrive. In its natural state, *Androsace zambalensis* is hardly distinguishable from *Androsace yargongensis*. Only *Androsace zambalensis* plants from Nepal are readily recognisable.

The *Pseudoprimula* category: *Androsace geraniifolia* (white, Himalaya), *Androsace henryi* (white, Sichuan) and *Androsace rotundifolia* (white, Himalayas) need a slightly shady space and a humus rich soil. *Androsace*
strigillosa (white/pink-purple, Himalayas) is easy to keep. Androsace spinulifera (pink, Yunnan) does not survive winter well. Androsace wardii does not flower well at all. Last spring, I managed for the first time to have one single specimen bloom. Androsace stenophylla (pink, Sichuan) I find very difficult.

The difference between Androsace sublanata and Androsace limprichtii is very slight; both are short-lived. According to some reports, Androsace nortonii (pink, Himalaya) strongly resembles Androsace hookeriana (white) in the wild. But I found a marked difference between the plants I keep in the alpine house. Androsace mucronifolia (pink, Pakistan) is not easily kept true to character unless grown outdoors.

Androsace sempervivoides is one of the easiest species and well worth growing. Androsace mariae has, as far as I am aware, only one garden growing specimen left (pink, Sichuan). Androsace rigida (pink, Yunnan) responds reasonably well, but its plants are loose.

Androsace delavayi, originating in the Himalaya, have white flowers, whilst plants from China have pink flowers. The Chinese version is far more difficult to grow. Androsace bryomorpha (white) is the densest and the slowest species. The toughest time will be shortly after cuttings. Androsace bisulca var. aurata (yellow, Sichuan) has practically disappeared, or is barely being grown.
AMERICAN PRIMROSE, PRIMULA AND AURICULA SOCIETY

Officer and Board Member Biographies

Ed Buyarski  I have served as APS President for almost six years (or almost forever as my wife says) and would like to continue to lead the American Primrose Society with my enthusiasm for the Genus and the people who enjoy growing them. I cannot continue to do this, however, without your help as volunteers in your cities, Groups and Chapters.

I am a past President of the Southeast Alaska Master Gardeners and have taught classes in Southeast Alaska for the benefit of our towns and neighborhoods. As a landscaper and organic gardener I try to promote safe and healthy gardening practices. Thank you for your past support.

Robert Tonkin  Robert Tonkin has served the Society as former Secretary, former Editor and current President of the Juneau Chapter. He says he will fulfill the responsibilities of serving the Society in whatever position he is asked, to the best of his ability. In addition to other Society responsibilities, he is currently working on a multi year project of updating and codifying all Society judging documents. Future plans include digitizing our Quarterly archives, with search capability.

Julia Haldorson  As a certified public accountant, who enjoys gardening in Southeast Alaska, primroses from plant sales of the Juneau Chapter of the American Primrose Society have helped to shape my garden. Luckily many species of Primula thrive in the thin, acidic soil and cloudy, rainy conditions of the region located in the Tongass National Forest, the nation’s largest rainforest. My accounting expertise coupled with a keen interest in Primroses should be an excellent combination for treasurer of the Society.

Michael Plumb  I live in British Columbia, Canada, where the climate allows me to experiment with many kinds of primula, so our garden is festooned with clumps of P. japonica, sieboldii, veris, vulgaris and elatior. I also have a large collection of auricula in pots. I teach English as a Second Language at a local university college, which is why I need primula and my roses to help keep me sane. I was Secretary to the Board of my church for several years, and have also taken the minutes for numerous meetings at the college where I teach. I believe this experience, combined with my enthusiasm and what knowledge I possess, will help the APS Board to further the interests of the Society and its members, and to promote the love of the genus Primula.

Susan Gray  I was first introduced to cowslip primroses by my landlady in early eighties and it was not until ’89 when I moved into my new home that my love affair with primulas blossomed. I was a greenhorn then and am now as far as the APS goes, having joined only a year ago (Jan.’04)! What fun it’s going to be. I live in Nova Scotia, Canada.

Linda Bailey  My interest in Primula dates back to the 70s when Larry and I bought property in Edmonds, WA. The grounds were planted with several kinds of plants we’d never seen before. When we found they were primroses, we joined the Washington State Chapter and APS to learn about them. Larry edited the Q for several years. We have since gone our separate ways. I am still pursuing and attempting Primula species. It has been awhile since being actively involved in APS but I am willing to participate as a member of the Board at this time. I’m so pleased at the interest in the genus through the online Chats. It is absolutely wonderful!

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AMERICAN PRIMROSE, PRIMULA AND AURICULA SOCIETY

2005 Ballot
for Officers and Board Members

For your vote to count, your ballot must be postmarked by April 15, 2005. Please be sure to write ‘Ballot” on the outside of your envelope. Please tear out this page, complete the ballot and mail to:

Mary Kordes
2138 N. Farmers Block Rd.
Allovez, MI 49805-6942

The following names have been submitted by the APS Nominating Committee. Biographies of these nominees follow.

President  Ed Buyarski
President Write in Candidate

Vice President  Robert Tonkin
Vice President Write in Candidate

Treasurer  Julia Haldorson
Treasurer Write in Candidate

Secretary  Michael Plumb
Secretary Write in Candidate

Board of Directors Position 1  Susan Gray
Board of Directors Position 1 Write in Candidate

Board of Directors Position 2  Linda Bailey
Board of Directors Position 2 Write in Candidate

Comments and/or Suggestions for APS Officers, Board or Editor
The American Primrose Society is an organization that aims to increase the general knowledge and interest in the genus Primula and its cultivation. The society works to bring people interested in Primula together to share information and expertise.

**Membership and Renewal Rates**

(Dues for 2005 are currently due since Autumn issue was late. Membership runs on the calendar year)

- Individual, Domestic and Canada, One Calendar Year at $25.00
- Individual, Domestic and Canada, Three Calendar Years at $70.00
- Individual, Overseas One Calendar Year at $32.00
- Individual, Overseas Three Calendar Years at $90.00
- Individual Life Membership at $350.00

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Tower Hill Botanic Garden
April 28 - May 1
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