President's Message

LEE NELSON

Hello everyone,

First, I'd like to thank you for your vote of confidence in electing me as your new president. I was sorry that prior commitments kept me from attending the national show in Juneau. However, I look forward to meeting with you all at next year's show.

My love affair with *Primula* goes back to my childhood in Buckinghamshire, England, where, on my walk to and from school, I would admire the primroses, both *P. vulgaris* and *P. veris*, that grew wild in the hedgerows and meadows near my home. Those childhood memories have never left me and the love affair continues.

Unfortunately many of those habitats have since disappeared; however, while driving through Northamptonshire last spring, I was thrilled to see thousands of *P. veris* growing right out in full sun, on the grassy slopes along miles and miles of the motorway. I wonder if we can encourage our own DOT’s or local highway authorities to do something similar in our communities.

Here in upstate New York, we have enjoyed a spring that was kind to the primroses; temperatures were cool enough to prolong the bloom time into several weeks, unlike some years when spring is so fleeting that the sudden heat of summer-like temperatures causes the blooms to pass all too quickly.

Since joining the New England chapter, I have had the privilege of meeting and making many new friends, and I am looking forward to doing the same as I come to know more of you. With your help, let's spread the word to promote The American Primrose Society as a resource of learning and sharing knowledge about growing primroses.

Lee Nelson, President
Show Reports

The American Primrose Society’s National Show
Juneau, Alaska; May 19th – 20th 2007

A personal view

ALAN LAWRENCE

Not unexpectedly, it was raining when we arrived in Juneau. The gardens at and around the vacation rental where we were staying seemed to enjoy it more than we did, and were full of drumstick primulas and juliae hybrids in bloom. Everything looked pretty good, but our landlady shook her head and muttered about 200 inches of snow, how everything was a couple of weeks late, and winter had hung on forever this year. Then it stopped raining, the sun came out, and the weather was perfect through the National Show weekend.

Friday afternoon saw a group of willing volunteers setting up for the Show the following day. The plant display tables quickly were covered, arranged in the correct order for judging, but there seemed to be rather a lot of P. denticulata and juliae hybrids; and the occasional muttering about 200 inches of snow, how everything was a couple of weeks late, and winter had hung on forever this year. But the Show must go on; and the show benches did look good despite the paucity of species. The awards were set up on a separate table for display, and the exhibition was capped off with a wonderful display of Primula watercolors painted by Sharon Lobaugh.

The Friday evening barbeque at the Jensen Petersen Arboretum was certainly a special treat. The Caroline Jensen gardens were a profusion of primulas with mass plantings of P. denticulata and hybrids in the Vernales group in full bloom. The former seemed to have taken over the seed beds, and looked superb; but at this rate P. denticulata may soon have to be added to the Alaskan invasive species list! It really was a wonderful garden.

Saturday morning was the plant sales event; the weather cooperated, and this outside attraction drew a large crowd. There was an extremely good primula selection on offer, and sales seemed pretty brisk. As I wandered around the sales stands there were occasional mutterings about 200 inches of snow, how everything was 2 weeks late…

Saturday afternoon started with the judges doing their thing. This year the judges were Ed Buyarski and Robert Tonkin, assisted by Bobby Lee Daniels and Becky Carls. Over 30 Blue Ribbons were awarded, but only 5 Best in Division Purple Ribbons were given shared between Becky Carls, with the Div. IV award for P. denticulata and the Div. XII award for “Denticulatas – All Colors”; Bobby Lee Daniels won the Div. VII award for P. cachemiriana; and Judith Hauck won the Div. II award with polyanthus “Bruce’s Fire” and the Div. III award for her juliae hybrid “City of Juneau” which won the Ivanel Agee Trophy for Best Juliae hybrid, and also was judged Best in Show. Bobby Lee Daniels won the John O’Brien trophy for best Denticulata in Show with his P. cachemiriana, and Becky Carls won the John Kerridge Trophy for most species in bloom.

The Banquet on Saturday evening was an excellent buffet accompanied by an excellent presentation by Marilyn Barker, a retired Professor of Botany at the University of Alaska, which complemented the afternoon seminar. The talk was entitled “Primulaceae: What makes a primrose a primrose?” and started with the botanical definition of Primulaceae. Each of the botanical terms was explained, and the matching relationship between pollen grain size and style cell length. This interesting talk concluded with illustrations of the Primulaceae native to Alaska including species from the genera Dodecatheon, Lysimachia, Trientalis and Primula.

Prior to the talk, the “formal” portion of the evening was completed with the presentation of the Juneau Chapter and National trophies to Judith Hauck, Becky Carls and Bobby Lee Daniels by APS outgoing president, Ed Buyarski.

Sunday morning was reserved for the Garden Tours, and we should thank Rosemary Hagevig, Clay McDole, Lee and John Sandor, Bonnie and Brad Gruening, and Robert and Kerri Tonkin for opening their gardens for the tour. With 200 inches of snow, everything being 2 weeks late and winter having hung on forever this year, the gardens had not yet reached their prime and the primulas were mainly denticulatas and juliae hybrids with an occasional rosea, although Robert and Kerri Tonkin had their growing bench open with a mass of auricula hybrids just beginning to come into bloom.

We thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Juneau, and I would like to thank Ed Buyarski, Robert Tonkin and all the members of the Juneau Chapter for hosting this successful event, and making us feel welcome. It must have been a real struggle after 200 inches of snow, everything except the Show being 2 weeks late, but at least winter had gone and the weather was perfect.
New England Chapter Show Report

JUDITH SELLERS, RECORDING SECRETARY FOR THE CHAPTER

The first weekend in May offered perfect weather for the New England APS Chapter's annual Primrose Show at Tower Hill Botanic Garden near Worcester, Massachusetts. Tower Hill's landscaped acres, orangerie, and terraced cafe, in addition to the Seven States Daffodil Society Show, attract a great number of visitors each spring. So even though we are not a large group, our plants and displays are admired by hundreds of people over the three days.

Like most plant groups suffering from a very cold spring this year, we worried about having enough plants, but the ten exhibitors succeeded in finding and potting a good variety of plants, though a few species were missing. Polyanthus, P. vulgaris, P. kisoana, and P. denticulata in all colors, shapes and sizes vied for the ribbons and awards to be determined by judges Kris Fenderson and Mark Dyen, assisted very efficiently by Debby Wheeler and her mother as clerks.

With lots of competition, Rodney Barker's large yellow polyanthus won Best Polyanthus and Best Of Division. Matt Mattus' plant of Sidney Edisson's "signature" pale yellow hose-in-hose, and Alex Malloy's startling coral Cowichan earned blue ribbons in their sections.

Having judged flower shows for many years, our new APS President Lee Nelson finally got up the courage to enter plants, and won Best Acaulis (Vulgaris) for her plant covered with huge pink flowers, neatly edged in white wire. Camilla McLoud, another novice exhibitor, took Best Double Acaulis with her lavender and blue plant from seed.

Debby Wheeler's glowing purple hybrid 'Friday' earned first for Cushion Form and Best of Division in Juliana Hybrids. Judith Sellers' 'Little Dorothy', which flowers quite early and prolifically, was awarded a first for Stalked Form Julie Hybrid. The light purple stalked/cusion form combination called 'Lucky' and a yellow Jack-in-the-Green won two more blues for Judith.

Auriculas were very scarce, but Susan Schnare managed to bench a few, with a bright yellow garden auricula taking Best of Division. Matt Mattus benched the only alpine auricula, with 'Lee Paul's' unusually colored and very large flowers impressing the judges for a blue ribbon.

Among the plants in the Species division, Debby Wheeler's bubble gum pink P. rosea won Best of Division as well as a blue. Other first place winners were Amy Olmsted for a large P. farinosa, Elaine Malloy for P. marginata 'Herb Dickson', Judith Sellers for a small pink P. x pubescens hybrid and for a tiny 'Boothman's Variety' P. allionii hybrid. There were no P. sieboldii far enough into bloom to be shown, but several impressive P. kisoana vied for first place. Elaine Malloy's pale pink flowered form took first just ahead of Rodney Barker's larger white variety. Denticulatas looked particularly fine after a chilly week, and Amy Olmsted's white one with five perfectly blooming heads of flowers won first place.

The Vernales Section of the display was very well filled, with plain and hybrid oxlips, yellow and sunset -colored cowslips, white, pink and mauve P. vulgaris and P. sibthorpii, and P. elatior ssp. meyeri. A large plant of P. elatior won a first for Judith Sellers. Rodney Barker took blue ribbons for both his yellow P. veris and his sunset colored one. Amy Olmsted's white P. vulgaris and Matt Mattus' grayish pink P. elatior ssp. meyeri each received well deserved blue ribbons.

There was one entry in the 'Growers Exhibit' Section, of 6 differently colored small denticulatas in a single pot, which took Judges' Best in Show and added just enough points to award the Sweepstakes for most first place plants to Judith Sellers.

In addition to the fun of benching and viewing plants, we enjoyed presentations by Kris Fenderson, Judith Sellers and Richard May, and seed sales and plant vending by Amy Olmsted, Susan Schnare, and Richard May. A Chapter meeting was held over lunch in the Old Farm House, and a fabulous banquet prepared and served by Joseph Phillip and Matt Mattus, with tours of their garden and greenhouses, was a bonus on Saturday night.

We all thank Show Chairman Joseph Philip and everyone who worked to create a show that afforded so much enjoyment for us all.

Primulas in the Shows at the West Coast

MAEDYTHE MARTIN, PRESIDENT B.C. PRIMULA GROUP

The winter of 2006 seems to have been a cruel one for all primrose growers. In Victoria we seldom get serious freezing weather, but this year we had two different weeks of weather with more than 8 degrees of frost, not what we are used to. The cold season lingered on into the spring, and wouldn't you know, the annual rock garden show here in Victoria was booked early in the year, March 30 and 31 (it is usually in April.) Nonetheless, on the day, many fine pots of Primula arrived at the hall.

The benches were filled with many Primula marginata - it was the perfect time of year for them to shine. A particularly fine example of 'Allan Jones', one of the good new "blue" marginatas introduced by April Boettger, caught everyone’s eye. The color was particularly deep on a large plant covered in blooms.
This year the Primula judges for the Vancouver Rock and Alpine Garden Society were Michael Plumb and Rhondda Porter, who split the classes between them. Over 90 pots were benched. The winning polyanthus was a pretty fresh orange sherbert color, staged by Bryan Davies. The best Primula in show was a fine example of P. x forsteri staged by Joe Keller from Vancouver. This is a natural hybrid between P. hirsuta and P. minima. The hybrids range from looking like P. hirsuta, the largest, to resembling P. minima, the smallest. The shiny wedge-shaped leaves set off the bright pink flowers well. Like many of these Primula in the auriculastrum section, it likes a gritty compost and very good drainage.

One pale double pink P. vulgaris at the end of the bench caught my eye – it’s dusty pink color was unusual enough to ask for a second look, and the plant, covered in flowers, was the epitome of spring to me.

The Vancouver show, hosted by the Alpine Garden Club of B.C. was held two weeks later, April 14 and 15. The show had about 60 entries in the Primula classes and the stand out plant was the gold-laced polyanthus that won the John Kerridge Memorial Trophy for Best Gold-Laced Polyanthus. It was staged by Ian Gillam, show chairman and member of the B.C. Primula Group, and was a pretty example of a classic gold-laced dark ground plant.

The other trophy winner was a fine example of P. ellisiae, one of the North American Primula found growing in New Mexico. It was another entry by Joe Keller. This plant, a fine specimen, won both the best Primula trophy and best plant in show. There were some other interesting entries. A very pretty white polyanthus entered by Michael and Rhondda turned out to be ‘Early Girl’, first introduced in Washington State about 40 years ago. A purple and white picotee garden auricula took one’s breath away – such a vivid contrast in colors and such a large plant. And Maedythe brought some double auricula seedling she has raised from Derek Salt’s seed from England. In cinnamon, bronze and gold, they show great promise.

Roxanne Muth did her always superior job with the B.C. Primula Group display, and the Group had a successful sale of plants on the porch outside the hall. The shows are over for 2007, but growers can move on to hybrizing and then collecting seed to grow more plants for another show.

Roxanne Muth has designed the displays for the B.C. Primula Group for over 10 years. They are full of Primula-related material of all kinds: books, prints, old seed packets, and, of course, the plants brought in by members. How did she get started? Maedythe Martin interviewed her about her display interest.

Roxanne Muth’s Primula Displays

MAEDYTHE MARTIN

Roxanne Muth did her always superior job with the B.C. Primula Group display, and the Group had a successful sale of plants on the porch outside the hall. The shows are over for 2007, but growers can move on to hybrizing and then collecting seed to grow more plants for another show.

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narrow marquee and we were required to have a small display in front of our usual six-foot table. Panic, what to do? Being the second weekend in June there were limited primulas in bloom.

So, I had a small seed flat filled with one potted *P. florindae*, a few empty pots, trowel and a garden book, sitting on a vintage French bistro chair. Leaning against the chair, an old galvanized tub filled with vintage terra-cotta pots and an unusual pot-scrubber from Scotland, and best of all, a large mossy tree stump with potted candelabras clustered around. Luckily, Ruby Chong, another member of the Group, was growing outstanding candelabras and supplied plants, as did Perennial Gardens in Maple Ridge. For the display table, Ruby and other members also supplied *P. sieboldii*, *P. alpicola*, *P. capitata* and few auriculas.

We were awarded “Best Horticulture Area.” Judges comments: “Delicate, understated and cohesive design, informative, well labeled with excellent plant material in good condition. This exhibit is beautifully planned and executed”.

*MM*: Where did you find the copy of *Country Life with the gold-laced polyanthus on the cover*?

*RM*: Thea Foster, who belonged to the AGCBC and grew auriculas for years, had a copy that she showed me. It’s from 1987. On one of my trips to London, I happened to notice “The Vintage Magazine Shop” on Brewer Street. They located a copy at their Camden Town “Collector’s Emporium”, where stacks of magazines were piled to the ceiling! I’ve used it in the display off and on ever since.

*MM*: You’ve used some old weathered-walls for a number of years. How did you get those?

*RM*: To continue exhibiting at the June VanDusen Shows and filling a standard six-foot table with blooming plants was proving to be difficult. So, the following year I found a small pine table and incorporated more garden memorabilia with the potted plants. But, still I wanted a backdrop for the display.

One day, driving home from work, I noticed a wonderful weathered fence enclosing the backyard of a house that was soon to be demolished. Unfortunately, next time I drove by the house was gone, and so was most of the fence. One section was

abandoned and lying in the far corner. Construction crew gave me the OK to rescue the remaining boards. I went home for a crowbar and hammer (I wanted all the rusty nails, too) and hauled the boards home. Then I begged my husband to build two backdrop walls.

In June 2004, the VanDusen Garden Show theme was “Gardens in Literature.” Entering a horticultural club display, not one for a large nursery, I chose “Flowers in Literature” featuring five of Shakespeare’s flowers (roses, lilies, irises, pansies and carnations) with laminated prints of the flowers and excerpts that related to the flowers from his famous plays.

That year, two more “weathered-walls” were built: they became the inside walls of the “faux potting shed.” Against them was the small pine table, now a potting bench topped with seven potted primulas, a square wicker basket with primula books, a metal seed box, a divided wooden box filled with small gardening paraphernalia and an old zinc florist bucket. Assorted garden memorabilia clustered around and under the potting bench, including an old wooden crate with “Covent Garden” stamped on it. The B.C. Primula Group won 1st prize amongst the horticultural clubs. The judges’ comments: “Shakespeare’s Flowers - nicely executed display with interesting interpretation of the literary theme. Wonderful rustic props that enrich and support the flower display without overpowering the concept. Best signage of all horticultural displays”.

*MM*: Where do you find your collectibles?

*RM*: On my trips to London and Paris I enjoy browsing the flea markets and that’s where most of the garden collectibles come from. Flea markets in Vancouver turn up useful things like wooden seed flats and old garden tools. A quaint bookshop near Kew Gardens gave me a royal blue and gold-gilded book cover with only the preface attached: the rest of the book had disappeared. The book title, *English Wild Flowers*, dates from 1867. My latest find is an old leather Gladstone bag. It is well worn, just the way I like it, and now sits open on the floor of the “potting shed”, as if the old gardener has left it there to store his bundle of dusty, sepia-coloured RHS journals from the late 1940s.

*MM*: Will you add more antique finds?

*RM*: Hopefully not! It takes ten large rubbermaid boxes to store all the props, and four carloads to set-up the potting shed at VanDusen. Fortunately we live next door to the gardens. But then again, I can’t resist a good flea market, whether at home or abroad!
Farina may occur on any part of the plant, or on several or all parts. It occurs quite consistently in the flowers and flower-heads of the Muscariods, Sphaerocephalas, and Denticulas, and is further found on the leaves of nearly all Nivalids. It may appear so slightly as to seem a thin white dust, or so thickly as to flake.

Of the thirty-three sections into which the genus Primula is divided, twenty-one contain species that are to some degree farinose; while only twelve sections are efarinose, i.e. without farina. Among these twelve efarinose sections occur practically all the woodland Primulas, why we do not know. Witness the lack of meal on the Vernales section, to which belong P. Juliae and the Polyanthus, and the Cortusoids, the two sections containing the majority of commonly cultivated woodland species.

The purpose which is served by the farina on the various parts of the plants is an enigma as yet unsolved. It is generally accepted that meal is formed to prevent the plants from becoming burnt by the sun. The frequent presence of farina on the new growth—more easily burnt—of species in which the mature leaves are not farinose, or very slightly so, bears out this theory. Yet the presence of meal on such shade lovers as P. Winteri and many others raises a question which is not satisfactorily answered by this belief. As Farrer would say, it is hoped this short piece will amuse the uninitiated "and not enrage the learned", for the whole subject is more or less one of contention and would undoubtedly reward more thorough research, which will be forthcoming as interest in this lovely genus grows.

The word farina is taken from the Latin, and means flour, or meal, an apt description of its physical appearance. It is a phenomenon rarely found in Flora's kingdom, being almost peculiar to the genus Primula.

This meal is formed by a multiplicity of microscopic hairs, shaped like slender, blunt-nosed rods. They are glandular in character and secrete an opaque wax, which in chemical structure is remarkably similar to the more common floral coloring pigments.

In color, farina is either white or very pale yellow, as in the leaf edges of P. marginata and the underside of the leaves of P. longiflora. Yellow farina is less commonly found, however.

The appearance of gray farina on the rare gray-edged Show Auriculas is caused by a thin overlay of white farina upon a green ground. The wax-secreting glands on these and other edged forms of Show Auriculas are identical with those on the foliage of the plants, whereas that found on the flowers of Border Auriculas and Selfs are of a slightly different shape.

**Primrose article**

If you can find a copy at your library, have a look at the article, "In Praise of Primroses" by Bernard Jackson, in the April 2007 issue of Canadian Gardening. It covers a wide range of primrose plants with tips on growing them. There is some information on soil mixes for plants and list of easy to grow plants, as well as his favorites. Lots of useful information. Have a look!

**Constitutional revision**

The APS board has held meetings in an on-line chat format for some years now. When the constitution was drafted, such a thing was not even a dream! In order to make this legitimate, the language must be changed in the constitution. Please take the time to read the new wording and send in your ballot. If you don't want to tear the page out of your quarterly, photo copy it and send that, appropriately marked. If it is in an envelope postmarked where you live and with your address on the outside of the envelope that will be acceptable to the secretary.

**Board Member Mix-up**

Another reason to send in the ballot in this issue is to elect Julia Baldorson to the board! There was some slippage in the rush to get the spring issue mailed, and both Rodney and Julia were left off the ballot. So sorry, to both of you, for this oversight! Rodney was elected with a few write-in votes, but we didn't discover Julia's absence until too late. Julia has done a great job as treasurer for some years now, and has invaluable experience to bring to the board. Please take the time to send in your vote so she can sit in on the next board meeting.

**Much Maligned Primulas, the Candelabras**

At the May meeting of the B.C. Primula Group, Michael Plumb and Rhondda Porter brought a chart they compiled on the candelabra *prima* (sub-genus Aleuritia, section Proliferae). They put it together from a number of sources and feel this group is much under-rated. There is information on where they grow in the wild, conditions for growing, blooming time and a description of each species. We hope to include this chart in a future issue of the quarterly, for your enjoyment and use. If you have some in your garden, please save seed and send it to the seed exchange. Take the trouble to keep colors separate and send a good description such as: "apricot color with a yellow eye". And limit each packet to 300 or so seeds. There are usually lots of seeds and the temptation is to send hundreds, but that is hard on the dedicated workers of the seed exchange. There is nothing worse than getting 2000 seeds marked mixed *Pr. japonica*. Because there is no detailed description, no one is inclined to order them. This one is easy to grow and forgiving in the garden, as long as there is moisture in the summer. We can all learn more about them, by growing some. And look for the chart in the next issue!
Dodecatheon

APRIL BOETTGER

I just adore Dodecatheon. They are native North American wild flowers and form one of the 20 - 25 genus of the Primulaceae family. Most of the species appear along the West Coast from Alaska through British Columbia all the way to California. A few species do show up in the eastern U.S.

They have many nicknames, but my favorite is 'shooting stars'. Some of the others that I have heard though are 'rooster heads', 'bird bills', 'love darts', 'cupids darts', 'giant American cowslip', and even 'Johnny-jump-ups'. Most have a scent of grape to them—like grape pop when it is opened.

Cyclamen (another genus in the Primula family) and Dodecatheon share the same reflexed petals. There the resemblance ends, for the Cyclamen flowers are snubbed nosed and are bulbs. The Dodecatheon flowers have beaks or a protruding anther cone and a very fine root system, which almost disappears when dormant.

Flowers of Dodecatheon come in a range of colors and shades from red purple to lavender to white. They may also have different bands of white or yellow or other markings towards the tips of the flowers. All are spring blooming. Their blooming heights vary from about 4" to about 24". Some are quite shy-flowering and some produce a plethora of blooms.

For the most part they are quite hardy if properly located. Some need year-round watering, so they are fine in the perennial beds. Some need spring (or blooming time) moisture and summer dryness—good in the wild or natural garden. Some, like D. pulchellum, can grow in bogs. And a few need almost desert conditions, with very sandy or free-draining soil. Like most Primulaceae, they will be easiest grown with lots of morning sun, and with at least three of the hours between noon and 5:00 pm shaded.

Many go dormant after blooming, plant and all. So again pay attention to the fact that they have a very fine root system. It would be very easy to remove them when weeding while they are dormant. So mark them well.

The older books may list as many as 30 species or sub species, but current research offers 14 - 20, for it seems that some species had two or more names. We have 7 species here in WA. Oregon has 8. D. media, D. amethystina, and D. frenchii are the 3 species of the Eastern U.S. They stop about where the western species begin. See the chart for the others.

I have been trying to collect all the species and these are fun to grow from seed with many variations popping up. I had a few with fringed petals. Some have red in the leaves and stems and these seem to produce mostly the same results from seed. There are many shapes of leaves—those of D. hendersonii are almost round.

Flowers of Dodecatheon are used within this article are from Paul Slichter’s website at http://ghs.gresham.kl2.or.us/science/ps/nature/gorge/5petal/primrose/dodecatheondodecatheon.htm. A very long web address, but certainly worth taking a look!
This chart gives the distribution of many Dodecatheon species across the US and Canada. It is an interesting pattern, when projected onto a map. You can find information online at many sites but often just for one or two species. April has compiled this information into one chart. However, there are many beautiful photos on the web sites, so take a look sometime.

### Western Group

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### Eastern Group

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<td>ssp. brachycarpum</td>
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*Dodecatheon*

"Flowers of Dodecatheon come in a range of colors and shades from red purple to lavender to white."
"I had been to my first Chelsea Flower Show in 1993 and was enchanted with the "cottage garden" displays. Add this inspiration to my interest in collectibles and antiques, and I came up with a ‘vintage style’ for the display."

— Roxanne Muth
APS National Show, 2007
Juneau, Alaska

"...occasional mutterings about 200 inches of snow, how everything was 2 weeks late...

This page, clockwise from top left:
Becky Carls with her winning denticulate.
Bobby Lee Daniels with his winning denticulae.
Judith Hauck with her Best in Show 'City of Juneau'. Judges consulting.
Caroline Jensen's garden full of juliae.
Plant sale and Green Polyanthus on the Landscape Alaska stand.

Facing page, clockwise from top left:
Becky Carls' Div XII winner 'Denticulae - all colors'.
Bobby Lee Daniel's Div VII winner p. cachemiriana (also winner of the John O'Brien trophy for best dentciculae in show).
Judith Hauck's Div I winner 'Bruce's Fire'.
Becky Carls' Div IV winner.

All Photos Alan Laurence
New England Show Photos

Judith Sellers' Best in Show: P. denticulata. Susan Schnare's First, R. Barker's Best in Division, bench of garden auricula.

Facing page, clockwise from top left:
Joe Keller's Best Primula & Best Plant in Show (Vancouver), Bryan Davies Best Poly (Victoria), Ian Gilson's Best Gold-laced Poly (Vancouver).

Facing page, clockwise from top left:

West Coast Show Photos

23
Just Five Auriculas, 2007

TERRY MITCHELL

Show auriculas in North America are hard to come by. Serious and dedicated auricula growers do finally get some, one way or another, but it is a challenge. However, we can all admire them, and learn about them from one of the very good growers in England, Terry Mitchell. He attends the many shows they have over there, held by the National Auricula and Primula Society (NAPS) and Ossett, Cheadle and Newbottle are the sites of these various shows. I hope you enjoy the pleasure he takes from growing and showing them, and will learn a bit more about the standards by which they are judged, as he tells us about them.

I can’t remember when it was this winter that Maedythe Martin asked if I would consider doing an article for one of the quarterlies, the subject to be “Five Auriculas”, just five that I saw at this year’s shows over here in England. They were to be ones that I liked for one reason or another, with a bit about them and a picture. I gave it some thought and eventually said yes, I would do it, little knowing what a poor year this would prove to be for quality auriculas on our show benches.

The first auricula of my five was one that I benched at the Ossett show the first Saturday in April and which won the Show Self’s class, a variety called ‘Taffeta’. ‘Taffeta’ was one of three sister seedlings raised by the late and great Tim Coop of Harrogate some time in the early nineties if my memory serves me well, the other two being ‘Chiffon’ and ‘Chanel’. They were classed by Tim as his “pink series”. Color is, they say, in the eye of the beholder, and while some see Taffeta as pink, to me it is more like a pale lilac. The purists over here would tell you it has a bad tendency to have shaded pips, and I would agree to some extent; however, it looks much better some years than others. It also has a tendency to full trusses of nice flat round pips and good smooth paste. I well remember when Taffeta made its debut at the Harrogate Spring Show in our society’s display in the auricula theatre. The public drove the commercial nurseries at the show crazy asking for plants of Taffeta. The nurseries obviously didn’t have it to sell, unfortunately, because the one on our display was the one and only that time. So I still grow and show Taffeta; I was very happy to see it win its class on the day, and it brings back happy memories whenever I see it. It offsets well, so it is obtainable over here to anyone who cares to seek out an offset.

Three other of my choices come from the show at Cheadle this year and my last choice from the Newbottle show, making five in total. As I have already said, this year’s shows will not go down in the history books as good shows by any means; however, a few quality plants still turned up on the day, one of which was ‘April Moon’, my second choice and a yellow self, again raised by Tim Coop in 1988. It is said to be a ‘Moonglow’ and ‘Helen’ cross. ‘April Moon’ is stunningly beautiful when grown to standard, a good rich yellow with a full truss of flat round pips, the foliage carrying...
a good dusting of farina that gives the appearance that the plant is delicately frosted. ‘April Moon’ was one of Tim’s “yellow series”. Other varieties of note from those crosses were ‘Corntime’, ‘Partytime’, ‘Tomboy’, ‘Lemondrop’ and ‘Sherbet Lemon’, all superb varieties, but to my eye ‘April Moon’ was and still is outstanding. It also gives a reasonable number of offsets.

My third choice turned up in the class for Six Pots of Alpine Auriculas, a gold-centered alpine auricula called ‘Bolero’. It was raised by C. F. Hill in the 1960s and was one of his “O” series (plants with names ending in “O”), ‘Rodeo’ being another of quality. ‘Bolero’ has a reputation for being “difficult” and mean with offsets. It is one that has always been in demand. In my experience of growing it I’ve found it has a tendency to produce trusses with far too many pips – I’ve seen it with fifteen small pips or more. It is best to carefully remove some as soon as possible, thin the truss out and thus get fewer pips on a truss but larger flowers. This one had nine pips – flat, round and beautifully arranged into the classic ball, a gold centre that glowed, and they had the wonderful shading necessary in a good alpine auricula.

The fourth one on that day at Cheadle was a green-edged auricula raised in 1979 by David Hadfield of Cheadle in Cheshire, the variety being ‘Jupiter’; it was awarded the Premier Medal on this occasion as the Best Show Auricula in the show. With ‘Jupiter’ being a seedling from ‘Fleminghouse’, one would expect a quality seedling from such parentage, and to prove the point it is still winning premiers almost 30 years on. The green-edged auriculas are notoriously difficult to grow to the standard seen here and even more so in a year when conditions have been so fickle in the UK. ‘Jupiter’ has a good lush green petal with the well-balanced characteristics sought by Florists: a good ratio of petal, paste, and tube. Body color should be as black as possible, regular and even, but should not flash wildly up the petal and petal edges; and the ring of white farina (paste) should be round, smooth and in proportion to laid-down standards. When grown to show standard like this, ‘Jupiter’ just looks stunning.

The last but not least of my five is the grey-edged Auricula ‘Gavin Ward’. It was raised by Peter Ward in 1976. Peter lives in Bristol in the UK, and this auricula was named after Peter’s son Gavin. It has classic proportions like ‘Jupiter’, and has been in great demand by Florists since its first appearance. It does not freely produce offsets, unfortunately, so demand has always outstripped supply, but it is seen on the show benches most years over here and it is seldom out of the cards – more usual than not it’s the red card 1st. I have seen ‘Gavin Ward’ shown as a white-edged auricula on a few occasions; in some years and for some growers it seems to produce a very heavy coating of farina that makes it look white rather than grey, but it still looks superb as either to my mind. Peter raised some fine auriculas over the years but it is said he considered ‘Gavin Ward’ to be his best, and I am inclined to agree.

So if you chance on any of these for sale or swaps, grab them with both hands, grow them well, and enjoy them.

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**Saving Seeds, Sharing Promises**

**JUDITH SELLERS**

Yes, it is work, but what a wonderful way to spend a rainy September evening or two. I’m speaking about the rewarding activity of cleaning and packaging seeds for the American Primrose Society Seed Exchange, with, of course, some specially marked packets to keep for oneself.

More of us than ever before need to save and share many kinds of *Primula* seeds, as importing them from the international seed producers and collectors has become all but impossible under current customs regulations. Commercial sources in America simply do not offer a good variety of *Primula* seeds, and the seeds they do sell are often old and no longer viable. One of the main attractions of our society is the seed exchange, but only a handful of dedicated individuals have been donating each year to provide us with a good variety of choices. *Primula* seeds are tiny promises of beauty to come with a little care and patience. They are one of the best gifts we can share with others. Without seeds, we’d all end up with very limited and identical collections of micro-propagated plants, which is hardly “gardening.”

There are lots of articles in back issues of *Primroses* and on web sites available to tell you if and how you might hand pollinate your primroses or leave them for Nature to open pollinate, so I won’t try to go into the process here. Bear in mind that a cross between two plants is preferable to “selfing” or pollinating a plant with its own flowers. It is important to maintain good cultural practices with the seed parents, as a stressed plant seldom produces seeds.

**DO NOT DEAD HEAD!!!!** I know this sounds ridiculous, but it is surprising how often, in a fit of neatness just before houseguests are due to arrive, one might snap the unsightly seed-producing stem from a plant, and remember too late that it should have been left. Marking stems that are to be kept with a label on a plastic baggie tie twisted loosely around it around looks even worse, but helps one think before cutting, and usually provokes ice-breaking questions from those visitors.

Beginning about July 1st in my northern New York garden, earlier if you are in a warmer area, a check of all seedpods should be part of the daily garden round. As soon as the first crack appears in the tip of the seed pod, or the pod turns light brown and feels dry, the entire seed head should be harvested or pods will pop open first thing next morning, and all the seeds will be lost.

After harvest, there are as many ways to dry, clean and pack seeds as there are seed savers. I’ll make suggestions, and leave trial and error to teach the best method for you. Most of my comments will involve “don’ts”, as I have experienced most
of the problems one might encounter, and would like to prevent the loss of your valuable seeds.

Some people put their seedpods into paper bags for finishing the drying process, but I have found that there are critters that eat the seeds in the dark bag, and when I go to shake out seeds, I find unpleasant things instead. Small paper cups (which I write on with a felt tip marker to indicate contents) or recycled plastic containers without lids seem more satisfactory. They can be nested into each other during the collecting process and held in one hand, saving steps and preventing spills. Left open on the dining table (or perhaps the kitchen counter??) they can be monitored daily, and the seeds can be cleaned as soon as they are completely dry.

Some strong cautions: Never try to hurry the job. Never sneeze at or blow on the seeds. Never work above a carpeted area or outdoors. Never try to clean seeds without your strongest reading glasses (or a magnifying pair from the dollar store) or in low light. Never pour seeds into a plastic container that has built up a static electrical charge. Most importantly, never let your spouse leave toast crumbs on the dining table on a plate that matches the ones you are using for seed cleaning.

As for special equipment, most is already in the kitchen. You might assemble the collecting cups, some toothpicks, 3 or 4 ceramic plates or shallow bowls (plain white is easiest to use) and probably a selection of metal strainers and sieves, paper towels, a compost container for all the chaff and stems, a plastic knife or plant label for picking out (using static power) the last tiny bits of non-seed material, and the cup of tea you will leave by your elbow until it is cold. If the kitchen is not well equipped, the dollar stores usually offer an assortment of utensils and containers that you can buy when you go to find those magnifying eyeglasses. These are the items I have found work most efficiently, but you can try using anything you think might work for the job of separating the seeds you want from all the “other stuff” you have brought into the house.

There are wonderful Origami-style patterns used by seed savers to make little paper envelopes, but I highly recommend ordering small glassine envelopes from the APS or from another society that offers them. Plastic bags encourage molds while in storage, and paper envelopes tend to leak or become soggy when stored in the refrigerator, which is where you must keep all your Primula seeds very soon after they dry. Seeds in glassine envelopes inside a screw top jar in the veggie compartment of the refrigerator keep for a couple of years, while those stored at room temperatures usually lose viability in just a couple of weeks.

The first rule of cleaning seeds is DO NOT CRUSH SEED PODS -- another inane injunction, but, if you crush them, you’ll never get the seeds separated from the tiny bits of chaff without going blind. Instead, spend a minute with a magnifying glass examining the structure of the pod to see how best to disassemble it. P. sieboldii is my favorite one to clean -- it needs only the “Asian farmer’s hat” pinched off, and the tiny seeds poured onto a clean surface for inspection and final cleaning before packaging and labeling. The candelabras are easy too, as there are so many seeds that those which pour freely from the upended dry pods can be saved and the rest discarded, with no great sense of loss. If the farina, which is microscopic and a bit sticky, gets into the seeds, placing the “batch” in a cold metal bowl and swirling it around before gently pouring out the seeds will usually result in the farina remaining on the bowl’s surface to be wiped away with a paper towel.

Keeping each paper cup well away from the others to avoid mixing seeds while working, open and empty each seedpod individually onto a clean plain surface (a plate or bowl). Some like to prick out the seeds from each opened pod with a toothpick or darning needle at this point, avoiding many of the later cleaning steps. I use assorted sieves, beginning with the largest mesh, to collect stems and pod material while letting the seeds fall through onto the plate. My finest mesh tea strainer allows traces of dust and farina to fall through, while holding all but the very tiniest seeds. Gently shake, swirl, or tip the plate from side to side to encourage the seeds to roll to the edge, from which you can transfer them with your fingertip to another plate or bowl. Continue until all seeds are on the second plate and all the chaff is left in the first. As the shampoo bottle says, “repeat” -- until ONLY seeds remain on the plate. Any chaff (or -ugh! - dried, pressed insect parts) remaining among seeds can carry disease or fungus which can spoil an entire seed sowing and tends to poke holes in the packets. All the chaff and debris can be tipped into the compost for spreading where you would like some of those plants to appear next year.

If you are not sure what a specific seed should look like, or whether you have collected anything better than dust, try to find several identical shapes and sizes among the bits on the plate. Good seeds should weigh slightly more than the chaff, move like tiddly winks when pressed with the back of a fingernail, and be relatively uniform in color and appearance. Florindae seeds are almond shaped, candelabras like mini cubes, polyanthus like tiny lentils, with an occasional white dot in the center, and show auriculas like big dust. If in doubt, clean and share them anyway.

Once all the seeds of a specific batch are clean, label enough envelopes with the species, variety, your name, and the year’s date before filling them, or your pen or pencil will make holes in the lumpy packet. A tiny funnel (doll’s kitchen equipment) or curled bit of paper is helpful in coaxing the seeds into the envelopes, but work over an “overflow” bowl to catch strays. Try not to overfill the envelopes,
as they are neat, but not strong. If there are open seams, cover them with clear tape to prevent leakage in the mail. If the seeds are VERY tiny, they may need to be folded into a little 3 cm x 3 cm square of paper before being placed in the glassine envelope to prevent their being lost into the corners.

Mail those seeds in a padded envelope, as soon as ready but before the end of October, to the APS Seed Exchange so they can be listed and drooled over. Any amount of seed from 40 seeds to a half-teaspoonful is welcomed by the APS exchange. Donation of just 3 different kinds (but not 3 colors of one kind) qualifies one as a “donor” with all the privileges conferred by the Seed Exchange (your name in print on The List, a larger seed order allowed and filled before other’s orders) and the right to wear a particular sort of smug smile when among other Primula folk.

But don’t forget to keep a few for yourself, as the enjoyment of discovering what will grow from your own home saved seeds is hard to beat.

Seed Exchange – The Basics

What seed to save and send? Primulas, and any other Primulaceae; clean seeds please; and properly document them. Note the botanical name, and/or cultivar name and whether garden origin or wild collected, hand pollinated or open pollinated.

Where to send the seed? Donors from the USA should send directly to:
APS c/o PO Box 67
Millwood N. Y. 10546.

In this age of increased difficulty with mailing seeds, it is perhaps better that the word “seed” doesn’t appear in the address. Canada and overseas members, send seed to:
Maedythe Martin
951 Joan Cres.
Victoria, BC V8S 3L3
Canada

When to send them? Any time from now up to the end of October.

What about a donor form? Please print the donor form from the website and fill it in.

Be sure seed packets are carefully sealed and no seed will leak out. It is useless when loose in the envelope -- we don’t know what it is.

Be sure seeds are mailed in a sturdy, padded envelope, to keep them safe in the mails.

Note from the Editor

As newly appointed Editor for the next while, I thought it would be a good idea to introduce myself, and let you know about some of the changes going on.

My name is Jane Guild, and I live on 4 acres of farm and woods in Sooke, an hour outside Victoria on Vancouver Island, Canada. My mother is Maedythe Martin, and if you know her, I’m sure you can guess where any interest I have in plants comes from. I don’t show Primula and those that I grow, I grow for pleasure; mixed into the rest of my gardening. Nevertheless, I do have an abiding love of all things flora, and can tell a pin from a thrum (most of the time!).

You have probably noticed some physical changes in your quarterly. We have changed printers, and I hope you will forgive some ‘oops’ while we get the wrinkles of this new relationship ironed out. We have changed to digital printing and also gone to matte paper for the text pages for many and varied reasons. We have also changed the format a touch, in order to free up more space for articles and information.

On the subject of articles and information – we need your help! I ask on behalf of the Editorial Committee, that you send in your articles, photos, and anything else you would like to see printed. This is your quarterly – let’s see it represent this group! If you have a comment on something you’ve seen, or have a tidbit of information to pass on, please do not hesitate to send it in; email is quick and easy: editor@americanprimrosesociety.org.

I have been aware of the APS ever since I can remember, and I am very pleased to be part of the inner workings now. I want to thank the Board and the Editorial Committee for their support, and look forward to hearing from you, dear Reader.

Sincerely,
Jane Guild

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Becky Carls: Overall Winner of the 2006 APS Photo Contest

JULIA HALDORSON

Becky Carls, the overall winner in the 2006 photography contest, gardens in Juneau, Alaska. The white Primula denticulata plants featured in her photograph came from a single plant grown by long time Juneau gardener, Elfrida Nord, 8 – 10 years ago. Many divisions later resulted in a garden full of white P. denticulata.

The photograph was taken with a Nikon Coolpix 8800 digital camera. Becky decided to enter the contest after seeing the contest notice in the American Primrose Society journal, Primroses. The photograph is from her 2006 garden.

A biological oceanographer, Becky approaches gardening in a systematic way. For example, when trimming the spent flower stalks of her many P. denticulata she counts the number of stems trimmed. She said that she trimmed 1200 stems last year.

Recognizing that wave patterns, such as ocean waves, occur often in nature, Becky has derived a garden design feature from overlapping sine and cosine waves. The sine wave is comprised of P. denticulata, white in the center phasing lavender to purple to the left and pink to red on the right. The cosine wave has the same color scheme, but is planted with P. japonica. Midway between the crest and troughs created by the two “waves” Becky has planted yellow P. florindae. The result is a very striking and original composition.

Becky’s winning photograph was featured on the cover of the spring 2007 issue of Primroses, and is the “Feature Photo of the Month” for May & June, 2007 found at the American Primrose Society website, americanprimrosesociety.org. Click on “Photo Gallery”. Inside the spring issue can be found photographs of the other winners including more photographs by Becky.

Proposed Revisions to the Constitution and Bylaws of the American Primrose Society – 2006

PREFACE

Dear Members of the American Primrose Society:

We need to keep pace with the times and way of doing business. The world is getting smaller, changing with advanced technology. Thanks to Internet communication, our members from coast to coast can connect instantly. Our directors feel that in order to use this technology to advantage, we must amend the Constitution and Bylaws. The changes would allow for online meetings and establish the position of webmaster. They are also intended to make meetings even more efficient.

Our constitution requires a two-thirds majority vote by you, the members, in order to make these changes.

We trust you will concur. Please complete the accompanying ballot and mail it to the Secretary by July 31, 2007.

Amendment Committee:
Linda Bailey, WA
Rodney Barker, MA
Michael Plumb, B.C., Canada
Robert Tonkin, AK

The changes are underlined

PART I: APS OFFICERS
CURRENT WORDING:
CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS, SECTION III
The board of directors shall consist of the six elected directors, the current officers of this society, the immediate past president, editor of the quarterly bulletin if an A.P.S. member, and president of each regional or local chapter.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
CONSTITUTION, ARTICE IV – OFFICERS, SECTION III
The board of directors shall consist of the six elected directors, the current officers of this society, the immediate past president, the editor of the quarterly bulletin, the webmaster, and the president of each regional or local chapter. All board members shall be current APS members.

CURRENT WORDING:
CONSTITUTION ARTICLE VIII – PUBLICATION SECTION II – The president with the consent of the rest of the board of directors shall designate an editor to have charge of, and responsibility for, the preparation and publication of the quarterly bulletin, and such other functions as naturally devolved upon such a position.

SECTION III – The editor shall be responsible for collecting and handling of editorial material and for the editing and arrangement of all material in the quarterly bulletin according to the guidelines, rules and limitations determined by the board of directors.
PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
CONSTITUTION ARTICLE VIII PUBLICATIONS SECTION II – The president, with the consent of a simple majority of the board of directors, shall designate an editor and a webmaster to have charge of, and responsibility for, the preparation and publication of the quarterly bulletin and website.
SECTION III – The editor shall be responsible for the collection and handling of material for editing, arranging, publishing and mailing the quarterly bulletin.
SECTION IV – The webmaster shall be responsible for the collection and handling of material for publication on the society’s website.
SECTION V – The duties of the editor and the webmaster shall be performed according to the guidelines, rules and limitations determined by the board of directors.

PART 2: MEETINGS
CURRENT WORDING:
BYLAWS, ARTICLE II – SPECIAL MEETINGS
Special meetings shall be called by the president or vice-president, or may be summoned by the board of directors. Notice shall be given to all members of any special meeting and the objective of the meeting shall be stated in the notice. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except as stated in the notice.

BYLAWS, ARTICLE IV – QUORUM FOR MEETINGS
Twenty members in good standing, including of the board of directors, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business at the annual meeting or any special meetings. A quorum of the board of directors shall be 50% of the board roster plus one.

BYLAWS, ARTICLE V – BOARD MEETINGS
The board of directors shall meet at least three times each year, including one meeting during the occasion of the annual meeting. The new board shall establish the calendar of meetings.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:
BYLAWS, ARTICLE II – BOARD MEETINGS
SECTION I – Regular meetings of the board of directors shall be held at least three times each year, including one meeting during the occasion of the annual meeting. The president shall at the annual meeting establish the calendar of meetings from the current annual meeting to the next annual meeting and have these dates posted on the society’s website no later than thirty days from the end of each annual meeting. The secretary shall distribute to the board of directors an agenda with the treasurer’s report, previous minutes, editor’s report, webmaster’s report and any optional reports or documents such as chapter and inter committee reports at least ten days prior to any meeting. No business shall be transacted at any regular meeting except as stated on the pre-distributed agenda unless all directors present at the meeting approve such action. A quorum for regular meetings of the board of directors shall be 50% plus one of the board roster.
SECTION II – Special meetings of the Board may be called by the president or vice-president, or may be summoned by a two-thirds majority of the board of directors. The secretary shall distribute an agenda to the board of directors at least ten days prior to any meeting. No business shall be transacted at any special meeting except the originating purpose of the special meeting. A quorum for special meetings of the board of directors shall be two-thirds of the board roster.
SECTION III – Meetings shall be held in person but may be supplemented by telephone conference call, online “chat”, or any combination thereof.

As three articles would then be subsumed under one (Article II – Board Meetings), the articles that follow would need to be renumbered.

** Please approve these amendments in the ballot on p. 36 **
American Primrose Society
Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws

BALLOT

I approve of the proposed amendments as expressed in Part 1:
☐ Yes
☐ No

I approve of the proposed amendments as expressed in Part 2:
☐ Yes
☐ No

American Primrose Society
Vote for Officers and Board Members

BALLOT

☐ Board of Directors – Julia Haldorson
☐ Board of Directors – write-in candidate

Please mail your ballots BY JULY 31, 2007 to:
Michael Plumb
Secretary, American Primrose Society
9341 Kingsley Crescent
Richmond, B. C.
V7A 4V6 Canada

Please note:
If you don’t want to tear out this page, photocopy it and mail to
Michael Plumb.

American Primrose Society
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
May 19th, 2007

The meeting was held online and by telephone.

Present: Linda Bailey (Director), Ed Buyarski (outgoing President), Susan Gray (Website and outgoing Director), Julia Haldorson (outgoing Treasurer), Jon Kawaguchi (incoming Treasurer), Maedythe Martin (President of BC Group, and member of the Editorial Committee), Marianne Kuchel (new Director), Michael Plumb (Secretary), Judith Sellers (Vice President)

Others present:
Regrets: Lee Nelson (incoming President), Rodney Barker (Director)

Meeting opened at 4:15 (Alaska)

1. The Minutes of February 24, 2007 accepted as presented (Linda / Julia)

2. Treasurer’s Report
   • Total liabilities and equity as of March 31, 2007: $26,753.09 [March, 2006: $23,621.93]
   • Total liabilities and equity as of May 14, 2007: $24,671.62
   • Total income less expenses for the quarter January 1, 2007 to March 31, 2007: $1,949.78. An anonymous donation of $5,000 was received during this quarter.
   • Total income less expenses for the period April 1, 2006 to May 14, 2007: ($2,685.56)
   • Membership: As of May 14, 2007: 375 [As of April 26, 2006: 390]. There has been a drop of about 65 members since February this year.
   • Thanks were expressed for the anonymous donation of $5,000.
   • A strong recommendation was made that the next board set up a membership/fundraising committee.
   • The spring quarterly cost $2175 to produce and mail out.
   • The Treasurer’s report was accepted as presented (Susan / Michael).

3. Committee Reports
   Seed Exchange (Summary of the Report provided by Jacques Mommens, Seed Exchange Director)
   • The Seed Exchange produced a small profit: revenues; $2056; expenses: $1713 (including $1160 to purchase commercial seed and $281 to print and mail the seed list).
   • Orders received (and filled): 153. (142 for the main distribution, 11 for the second round (“surplus distribution”).
   • The New England Chapter earned an extra $34 from surplus seed. This money has yet to be sent to the APS Treasurer (and therefore not included in the revenues).
   • Jacques suggested sending a printed seed list only to those who asked for it, and printing the complete list (including order forms etc) on the APS website, which would allow for the posting of updates on seed availability.
   • Jacques emphasized the importance of seed purchased from commercial sources for the Exchange. Members avoid the hassles and costs of import permits, handling and shipping of small orders, etc.
   • Some commercial seed lists arrive very late, even sometimes after November.
Meanwhile, many donated seeds have reached us in October, along with Barnhaven and Jelitto seeds. Perhaps we should consider running an exchange based only on what has reached us by 10/31, and then run a separate, joint-order scheme to purchase seed from commercial collectors later.

- The Board expressed the hope that Jacques would oversee the Seed Exchange for 2007-2008. MOTION (Michael / Linda): That should Jacques Mommens wish to continue as Seed Exchange Chair, he be given free membership for the year of his oversight of the Seed Exchange. Carried.

**Primroses Quarterly: Editor's Report**
- MOTION (Michael / Susan): That Jane Guild be invited to continue her work as editor for the next four issues of the *Primroses* quarterly, starting with the Fall 2007 issue, with an honorarium of $350 per issue; editorial input to come from the Editorial Committee under Maedythe Martin. Carried.
- The Photo Contest was a success. An ad for the 2007 contest will be placed in the summer quarterly.
- Copyright: The Board is determined to protect the work of contributors. Judith is clarifying the legal situation. The new board will examine the findings. Maedythe will examine the wording in the quarterly in the meantime.

**Primroses Quarterly: Sales of old quarterlies**
- Cheri Fluck keeps the stock of old quarterlies. Maedythe reported that Cheri would like permission to sell these at special rates to dispose of them responsibly as she is moving soon. After some useful suggestions were made, it was agreed to pass the matter to the Editorial Committee for finalizing, and they will report back to the Board.

4. **Changes to the Constitution and By-laws**
- The board had previously reviewed the proposed changes. These now require approval by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership. The ballot will be sent in the next quarterly.

5. **Results of the 2007 Ballot for Directors and Officers**
- Michael reported that each candidate on the slate received the full 26 votes sent in. Rodney Barker was added to the Directors by three write-in votes. The full list of APS Officers and Directors will be published in the next quarterly. One Director's position has yet to be filled.
- Michael will send relevant old APS minutes to the new board members.
- Julia will send her records to Jon, the new Treasurer.
- Ed received a vote of thanks for all his efforts as President over the last few years. Ed continues on the board as President of the Juneau Chapter.

6. **National Show**
- Ed gave a brief report. Michael announced that next year's show will be held in Victoria, B.C. towards the end of April 2008.

7. **Schedule of future board meetings**
- These will be held at three-month intervals, the first being on Sunday, August 26th. The meeting dates will be printed in the quarterly and posted on the website.

Meeting adjourned (Susan) at 6:15

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Plumb, Secretary