Primroses

The Quarterly Of The American Primrose Society

Summer 2009  Vol. 67  No. 3
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 of 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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Our apologies to Claire Cockcroft whose name was spelt incorrectly in the article “Two New Primulas from China” in the Spring issue.

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President’s Message

JOE PHILIP

I would just like to start by saying “Thank you” to all our members for voting for me as the new president of the APS. I promise to work hard for the society and hope to improve the public awareness of our club to get new members on board. I would really like to hear from our members. Please tell me your ideas or things you would like to see or have happen in the APS.

The 2009 National Primrose Show held in New England was a big success, and everyone had a fantastic time. The weather was a little strange here this year. It would be cold one day and then it would hit 90 degrees the next, not a good thing where the *Primula* are concerned. We did not have as big a show as in years past, but the plants we had were exceptional. Mary Malloy won the Best in Show division; let us all offer Mary many congratulations on her win.

Spring is now past, and our favorite *Primulas* are starting to set seed. We all look forward to collecting our seed in hopes of getting that one spectacular plant. Always remember to set some of the seed aside for the seed exchange of 2010. But until we can sow this year’s seed, we look to the other garden passions we have before us. For me, now is the breeding season of my show...
pigeons, and I have duck eggs in the incubator. The honeybees are getting ready to stockpile all of the sweet honey which I will harvest in the fall. The weeds are growing faster than I can pull them. When will I ever get to enjoy summer?

As you probably know, all gardening societies have experienced a great decline in membership, so we need to find ways to stop this happening to the APS. Therefore, this will be one of my first items of business, but I cannot do it all alone. We need to find solutions and implement them as soon as possible. So, I will be calling on all the membership to help in this effort.

To paraphrase President Kennedy, “Ask not what this society can do for you; ask what you can do for this society”. In order for a society to succeed, it needs volunteers to help in all areas of the society. We have the following committees that need help: The Website Committee, Membership Committee, Quarterly Committee, and Advertising Committee. These are just a few areas that can use your help.

Please call me personally to talk about being a club volunteer at: 508-736-9013, or email me at: josephp525@charter.net

Happy Gardening!

Joe Philip

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In Korea, the “Country of the Morning Calm,” there is a botanical garden named Pyunggang Botanical Garden. In Korean, Pyunggang means Peace, so Pyunggang Botanical Garden’s nickname is Peaceland. Pyunggang Botanical Garden has brought its facilities up to full functioning by collecting botanical specimens and carrying out botanical research, cultivation, propagation, conservation, and education. Pyunggang is designed with 12 theme gardens: Rock Garden, High Moor Garden, Alpine Bog Garden, Bog Garden, Wild Flower Garden, Rhododendron Garden, Pond Garden, Moss Garden, Native Plant Garden, Fern Garden, White Garden, and Lawn Garden. The Rock Garden is very famous as the biggest rock garden in Asia.

Currently, we collect and cultivate the alpine plants that grow only in our country, in the Baekdu Mountain and Halla Mountain areas, as well as the alpine plants from the Rockies, Himalayas and Alps. Primulas are one of the alpine plants we collect intensively, cultivate, propagate, and conserve.

Pyunggang Botanical Garden is located in Pochen, which is in northwest South Korea. Spring comes late to our garden because it is in the north, and Primulas arrive with the first warm spring breeze.

There are several specimens of Korean native Primulas; these are P. modesta var. fauriae, P. jesoana, and P. sieboldii. Other than those mentioned, we collect and cultivate P. denticulata, P. rosea, P. auricula, P. vulgaris, and P. japonica. Also, we propagate and conserve about 40 different Primulas that we collected from Index Seminum, APS, and AGS.

Primula rosea blooms first among all other Primulas in our Rock Garden. It produces pink blossoms in the middle of April, and announces, “Spring is here!” when other Primulas have only tiny flower buds. At the same time, in the High Moor, P. sieboldii is beginning to bloom with velvety violet flowers, which make my heart flutter even more than when I see the full blossoms. Also, in the Bog Garden, P. denticulata and P. japonica are in bloom. Soon, yellow P. auricula and Dodecatheon flowers will thrive here, there, and everywhere. In the middle of May, P. jesoana will have a myriad of beautiful flowers in the Rhododendron Garden, which was created in woodland.

Primulas are fascinating specimens because there are many varieties, they flower at different times, and each variety has its own distinctive character and unique beauty. If all the Primulas in our botanical garden survive and flourish, I would love to create a Primula Garden within the Rock Garden, or I would love to plan a special Primula exhibit in the Alpine House. That is my small dream for Peaceland, the Pyunggang Botanical
Ja-eun Son is a 5th year gardener at the Rock Garden in Pyunggang Botanical Garden in South Korea. She propagated and sowed seed plants with the Propagation team before she became a gardener. Pyunggang Botanical Garden intensively collects several genera of alpine plants, including Primulas. Ja-eun Son became fascinated with Primulas while she was collecting them one by one. She researched a lot of books and societies while learning about Primulas, which led her to the American Primrose Society.

Ja-eun Son has many dreams she would like to make come true.

- Visit the Himalaya in Tibet and China, where 60% of Primulas grow.
- Go to the Primula show sponsored by APS to see a lot of varieties of Primulas and meet people who love them.
- Create a Primula Garden in Pyunggang Botanical Garden.
- Organize a Korean Primrose Society.
- Attend graduate school for more advanced study about Primulas, and get Masters and Ph.D. degrees.

Ja-eun Son believes her dreams will come true because she is passionately in love with Primulas and with her work.

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### A Tribute to Roxanne Muth

It is with great sadness that we report Roxanne Muth passed away April 24th, 2009. She had a difficult and sudden struggle with cancer over the past winter. We in the B.C. Primula Group particularly miss her at show time, as she faithfully set up her country potting shed display with many Primula memorabilia each year.

This year Ruth Anderson, a member of our Group, put on a display of a Primula plant-a-holic’s kitchen and balcony corner, complete with colorful plants, half-eaten toast and a potted plant being groomed on the table! It was a whimsical moment and a fitting tribute to Roxanne, whom we will all miss dreadfully at every meeting.

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### Shows at the West Coast 2009

**MAEDYTHE MARTIN**

Spring was particularly welcome in Vancouver and Victoria this year after the cold and very long winter here. Despite being “lotus land”, we sometimes get a winter that kills the rosemaries, cistus and hebes, and this was one. But the hardy Primula and auriculas didn’t seem to suffer and were a welcome sight after snow in March and even an unexpected but short-lived snow storm in early April! (There are some winters when we get no snow at all, but not this winter!)

The Alpine Garden Club of B.C. held its annual show the second weekend in April at the VanDusen garden. About 40 pots of Primula filled the classes for these harbingers of spring. The season was behind after the cold winter, but the quality of the entries in the show was remarked on by a couple of people. The early small auriculas and hybrids, and Primula marginata were the most numerous entries – it was too early for the auriculas, the seiboldii and the denticulatas, with one exception.

The plant that first caught my eye was a very fine example of the P. x allionii hybrid ‘Clarence Elliott’. This plant is one of the Broadwell strain of plants developed by Joe Elliott in England. Dr. A.J. Marcham in his excellent article “Primula allionii, an end or a beginning?” (Alpine Garden Society Quarterly v.60 no. 3, Sept. 1992 – well worth finding as a reference source) says, “One outstanding cultivar was named ‘Clarence Elliott’, after Joe Elliott’s father, author of the sparkling Rock Garden Plants (1936). Joe has named another ‘Jo-Jo’ after his grandson… All cover themselves with flowers.” This was certainly the case with the entry at the AGCBC show staged by APS member Ruby Chong. Dr. Marcham continues, “Quite distinct in colour again is the superb ‘Clarence Elliott’ with its large [violet-blue] thrum-eyed flowers… The petals are overlapping with notched margins and … the eye is farinose, creamy white, fading to white and shading into the colour of the petal. The tube is violet in colour.”

A delicate little P. marginata in perfect form staged by a novice entrant, the show chairwoman, Diane Hume, won the trophy for best Primula in show. A superb example of a dark-colored P. denticulata deserved the first prize it won. A very pretty sparkling white ‘Dawn Ansell’, one of the micro-propagated double primroses of a few years ago, also took first prize in its class.

One sad note to the event is that Roxanne Muth, who has always put on the B.C. Primula Group’s display, was taken ill last fall, and in fact passed away shortly after the show. In a tribute to her long years of making the “potting shed corner” come alive, Ruth Anderson in the Group gathered together plants and props to create a “Primula grower’s kitchen corner” re-creation, complete with trowel on the kitchen table beside the half-eaten toast. A whimsical effort, and a fine gesture by Ruth on behalf of the Group.

Seeing old friends again after what
seemed like a long winter is always the highlight of the first show. The season was too early for most auriculas, but Ian Prenderleith managed to stage a fine yellow show self, which is probably "Kerridge’s Sunshine" – trophy winner from the APS National Show held in Vancouver in 2002. Lovely to see it again.

The show in Victoria where Primula growers can stage their plants, the Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Society show, was held this year on the third weekend in April and again demonstrated that the season was behind normal. Last year was one of the best shows with over 400 pots, but this year we barely made 300 entries. The Primula classes were well represented with 65 entries. Another suberb entry in the P. allionii class was ‘Aire Waves’ one of the fine hybrids raised by Peter Lister in England. Dr. Marcham mentions these hybrids in his article and comments, “Fine white hybrids have been raised by Peter Lister by crossing P. auricula var. alba with the well-known P. auricula cultivar ‘Blairside Yellow’. In view of the different flowering times of the two parents, this is an unusual alliance but the different flowering times of the two cultivars of the series require a richer compost than many of the pure P. allionii varieties to give best results.”

Certainly Sue Lee’s plant had been grown to perfection. Another magnificent example of the early spring Primula we love to see was a fine P. marginata ‘Alan Jones’. In a large 6 inch pot which it filled, this plant showed off the lovely blue color introduced a few years ago by April Boettger of Herb Dickson stock.

A very pretty example of the early P. sibthorpii ‘Springtime’ glowed pink and yellow. A few more auriculas appeared at this show, and a red garden auricula took a first. The trophy winner for Best Primula in show was an example of the relatively new striped auriculas. ‘Night and Day’ is a blue and white stripe raised by Derek Parsons. Maedythe managed to get the plant to the show in perfect form, and the mealy leaves showed off the well displayed flowers to perfection.

Many of the auriculas were entered by Bryan Davies, who has had health problems over the last year. Despite recent surgery, Bryan, with the help of a friend brought in about 30 entries. Bryan has been hybridizing auriculas (and primroses) over the last four or five years and is getting some very respectable show plants like the red selfs in a three pan class. A glowing toffee colored alpine was another one of his recent introductions. Pastel garden auriculas, also in a three pan class, looked lovely and fresh.

Of course, after the shows were over, all my striped auriculas came into their own. But the enjoyment, singularly or at a show, makes it all worthwhile.
Throughout the show, visitors funnel through the sales area studying the plants, asking questions, and choosing plants as gifts and for their gardens. Some are regulars. Our veteran vendors included Pierre Bennerup of Sunny Border Nursery in Connecticut, Richard May of Evermay Nursery in Maine, and my Mountain Brook Primroses from New Hampshire. This year Maria Galletti joined us, bringing wonderful plants from her Alpines Mont Echo nursery in Quebec. Although she won the Novice Award, she is in fact quite expert.

Although the weather was cool and grey, quite dismal really, nobody seemed to notice. There were good crowds and acceptable sales. Generally people were in a cheery mood inspired no doubt by the heady sight of so many primroses, combined with essence of daffodil wafting out of the back room.

As much as I enjoy seeing my old comrades and catching up on their winter events, I would love to see new faces in our midst and more vendors offering a wider selection of plants. Perhaps each member could invite a friend along to the next gathering.

It is to our benefit that primroses captivate no one type of person and that all are susceptible: children, oldsters, men, and women. As my friend Laura pointed out, if you just met us on the street you would never guess that any of us were primrose enthusiasts. I think she meant that in a kind way.
2009 American Primrose Society Annual Show Awards

Division I -- Polyanthus
Best in Division: Mary Malloy
Hose-in-Hose

Division II -- Acaulis
Best in Division: Judy Sellers
Anomalous

Division III -- Juliae Hybrids
Best in Division: Mary Malloy
Stalked form (polyanthus)

Division V -- Exhibition Plants
Best in Division: Susan Schnare
Alpine Auricula Light Center ‘Stonnel’

Division VI -- Species
Best in Division: Debby Wheeler
Primula rosea

Division X -- Growers Exhibit
Best in Division: Judy Sellers
6 different P. pubescens hybrids

Division IX -- Other Genera in Primulaceae
Maria Galletti
Androsace cylindrica

Best In Show: Mary Malloy for
Stalked form Juliana
Most Blue Ribbons: Judy Sellers
Most Species: Debby Wheeler
Novice Award: Maria Galletti
Dorothy Dickson Award for Service:
Jon Kawaguchi, APS Treasurer

Perennial Seed. Beautiful.
Useful. Native...
To the Planet.

Jelitto

SEED EXCHANGE TREASURES
Above and right Androsace carnea var. brigantica grown by Maedythe Martin from seed contributed by Riho Teras in Estornia. Below: Primula marginata and grey-edged Auricula ex. ‘Karen Cordray’ grown by Marianne Kuchel.
Western Shows 2009

This page,
top: *Primula maximowiczii* grown by Maedythe Martin;
below: *Primula marginata* 'Alan Jones'.
Facing page, top:
Best Primula in Show, 'Night and Day' grown by Maedythe Martin;
middle-left: 'Dawn Ansell'; middle-center: *P. x allionii* hybrid 'Aire Waves' entered by Sue Lee;
middle-right: Best Primula in Vancouver *Primula marginata*;
below: Judging at the VIRAGS show Michael and Rhonda Plumb with clerks
Clockwise from top left: Mary Malloy with Best in Show stalked Juliana, show bench, show winners (2), sale table.

2009 American Primrose Society National Show
Primulas of Peaceland: Pyunggang Botanical Garden, Korea

Facing page: Rhododendron Garden. This page, clockwise from top left: *P. jesoana*, *P. rosea*, *P. auricula*, Alpine Bog Garden with *P. sieboldii*. All photos: Ja-Eum Son
If you want to expand your growing horizon, try another Primulaceae, the Androsace. They need slightly more drainage than many Primula and may require winter protection, but are a welcome addition to the array of flowers in spring.

Last issue of Primroses featured some new Primula photographed by Claire Cockcroft and her son Dennis Hodge in Western China. ("Two new Primulas from China," v. 67, no. 2, p. 10-12) In this area there are also a number of Androsace, a cousin of the Primula. Yvonne Rorison was a member of the group that travelled in 2007 to Western China and the edge of Tibet. At a recent meeting in Victoria, she showed us some lovely photographs of these plants in their native habitat. Some of the photos are here in this issue of the quarterly for your enjoyment.

Androsace eurythana, with bright pink flowers, was captured on film in the Zhedu pass, the same area in which grows the amazing black Primula euprepes photographed by Claire. Another from this area is a tiny white A. hookeriana. Bright yellow A. bisulca var. aurata was found south of Litang. In the Beima Shan region Yvonne found the amazing cushion-forming A. delavayi with tiny pink flowers over grey rosettes of leaves. Androsace spinulifera, a larger plant, with the pink flower head on a tall stem, was seen in the region between Kangding and Yajaing. We are grateful to see these photos, for the trip was a difficult one at high altitudes much of the time, and yet the plants seen were amazing.

If you want to see more photographs of Androsace, look at Jozef Lemmens’ Androsace World, a website with many wonderful pictures. Some of the advertisers in the APS quarterly also have plants for sale. Check out the website for Evermay Nurser, which lists a few, and Rick Lupp at Mt. Tahoma Nursery also has some for sale. You may find plants at a local nursery that specializes in rockery plants. And check the seed exchange out in the fall – there have been Androsace listed there occasionally in the last few years.

Rick wrote an article about Androsace in the quarterly some years ago, but focused on the European high alpine ones. (Primroses, v. 54, no. 2, Spring 1996, p.18-19) He recommends a well drained mix of two thirds sand and pumice or grit, and one third peat. One feature to remember, especially here at the West Coast, is to keep the plants relatively dry through the winter. Either in the European Mountains or those of Western China, these plants will be under snow cover all winter, which we don’t usually have here. Winter wet will not suit these plants. And some will not tolerate temperatures much below freezing if grown in a pot. Comments on the experiences of growers in climate zones with winter snow would be welcome.

The little Androsace may be a challenge, but an intriguing one for the expert Primula grower.
A Day in the Gardens

CHERYL WILSON

May 1st was a cloudy, overcast day with a threat of showers, but nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of a dozen American Primrose Society members as they toured three gardens in the Boston suburb of Carlisle.

The day started at the private garden of Jim Jones, a member of the American Rock Garden Society. Over the past 20 years Jones has eliminated the lawns that once surrounded his modest house and replaced them with gardens filled with unusual plants. He even built a small greenhouse with an underground tunnel to his basement.

Stone walls create raised beds in the front yard and a sunken terrace is a feature on one side. The back garden is filled with epimediums, many of them introduced to America by his friend Darrell Probst. Interspersed are unusual shrubs, especially viburnums that provide shade and protection for the wild flower and rock garden plants below. Along one stone wall was a bright pink cardamine which attracted the attention of Joe Philip. He saw me taking notes and asked me to write down the complete name. I recorded it as C. pentafyllos but can’t find it anywhere on the Internet or in garden books.

Anemone nemorosa was another eye-catching plant especially a white variety with a tiny green ruff around the flowers. Someone reported the variety is called ‘Green Feather’. Later at Blanchette Gardens, a commercial nursery on the tour, APS members found a similar plant Anemone nemerosa ‘Bracteata’ and eagerly purchased it for their own gardens.

Along a stone wall in the back yard were dozens of small paper or plastic cups holding seedlings Jones had grown from the NARGS seed exchange.

Although few primroses were in evidence, many plants in Jones’s garden would be very compatible with primroses. They included trilliums, Iris pumila, Ramunculus ficaria ‘Bracteata’, Fritillaria pallidiflora, cyclamens, Adonis amurensis, miniature daffodils, Lathyrus vernus, glaucidiums, hellebores and an epimedium with very tall yellow flowers named E. x perralchicum. The rain held off during the hour-long visit to Jim Jones’s garden and didn’t threaten again till late in the day.

The second stop was at Joe Pye Weed’s Garden, home of Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks. They breed Siberian iris and Primula sieboldii for mail order sale and have a thriving cut flower business at the Boston Flower Market. Upon arrival we were served iced tea or coffee with homemade coffee breads. Jan then led a tour of the gardens which encompass an acre and a half. The gardens feature their introductions as well as many plants introduced by Darrell Probst. One charmer was Iris koreana, a yellow-flowered gem similar in growth to Iris cristata, which Probst found on a plant hunting expedition in 1997.

Many visitors were impressed with Primula ‘Radical Red’ a Primula x polyanthus cross which is currently unavailable but should be in stock next year. Schafer and Sacks are breeding P. sieboldii but they also buy seeds from places like Jelitto and select seedlings to be propagated.

In contrast to Jim Jones’s tightly packed small, shady garden, Joe Pye Weed’s features a great deal of sun in a rocky setting. Primroses nestle along the periphery under stands of pines and other trees. The iris is displayed in the sunny center on rock outcroppings. One charming tree in bloom was an ornamental peach with double cerise flowers. Jan Sacks said she has sent seeds to Broken Arrow Nursery in Connecticut in hopes they can propagate it for sale. The couple declined to sell plants on site but had dozens for sale at Tower Hill during the weekend. They also provided catalogs for future mail order.

As we bumped along back roads on the bus to our final stop, we enjoyed a delicious sandwich lunch provided by Joe Philip. The efficient bus driver handed out plastic trash bags so that his bus would stay neat. Little did he realize that the last stop would be a challenge in terms of neatness. Everyone, even those who had to fly home, bought plants at Blanchette Gardens. The driver begged us to keep our purchases on the floor since the bus was reserved for a wedding party that evening.

Leo Blanchette was well prepared for the drizzle that arrived with the bus. He handed out large umbrellas as well as catalogs with laminated pages. The Blanchette Nursery specializes in shade plants, particularly astilbe and hostas. He also had a good selection of primroses. There was a run on the Anemone nemorosa ‘Bracteata’. Many primroses also left the nursery, which is a family enterprise with only two other employees – Leo’s wife and son. They produce more than 100,000 plants a year from divisions, cuttings and seeds. The plants are all in containers set out on landscape cloth. In the winter they are covered with foam. In the summer, shade cloth protects from the hot sun. Last winter, with its alternating frigid temperatures, wind and vole population explosion, was a hard one for the nursery, but still the plants stretched row by row in amazing order.

The day was a contrast in gardens: from Jim Jones’ rarities grown in profusion along shady paths, to the open sweep of Joe Pye Weed’s garden where Marty and Jan are the only gardeners, to the neat rows of Blanchette Nursery. It was an inspiring day and nearly everyone took home a plant or two as a remembrance.

Please contact Cheri Fluck for more information:
17275 Point Lena Loop Rd
Juneau, AK 99801-8344 USA
cheri44@comcast.net
Seed Exchange Treasures

MAEDYTHE MARTIN

One of the great benefits of the society is getting seeds from the seed exchange every year. There are few places to get specialist Primula seed, and no other place to get hand-pollinated seed of some species and cultivars except in the exchange.

And every year the seeds go off to the new owners who have sent in orders and happily receive their seed, with all the promise of things to come. But what happens after that? Here are a few examples of treasures grown from our very own exchange donations.

Grey-edged Show Auricula?
Marianne Kuchel in Vermont has donated seed to and raised plants from APS seed. One of the newest treasures she has is what looks to be a promising grey-edged show auricula seedling. The picture shows the flowers just opening, and with seedlings in the show auricula classes it often takes a year or two before they settle down to what they really mean to be. But what an attractive silver edge and deep black ground to this ‘Karen Cordrey’ cross sent in by Maedythe Martin.

Primula marginata
Another of Marianne’s treasures, now in its second year is a Primula marginata raised from seed sent by Rick Lupp in Washington State. Sometimes this Primula can be difficult to germinate, but planting it in the late fall and leaving it outside may be the answer. It will benefit from the freeze and thaw that breaks its dormancy. I have had some success with P. marginata crosses just raising them on a cool window sill in December/January in my normal seed compost (for me that is 100% vermiculite, totally clean and sterile, and no chance of damping off.) This treasure from the Maritime Alps is a very garden-worthy plant, and well worth a place in your collection.

Tiny Androsace
Finally I have my first success with Androsace! We have all enjoyed the wonderful photographs from Rhio Teras in Estonia. She also donates regularly to the seed exchange and sent in Androsace carne var. brigantiaca a couple of years ago. Up it came the next spring, and surprisingly for me, it lasted through the whole season! This spring it flowered with a crown of tiny white flowers over the spikey green leaves – a feast for the eyes. Rhio assures me it will likely live a few more years and hopefully I will get seed to pass around next year, when it is past its infancy.

There are all kinds of treasures to meet a wide variety of tastes and inclinations. This paragraph from the seed exchange report tells us what went first! Those of you lucky enough to have any of these plants, please save seed and send it to the exchange. Others will be grateful for the surprises to come out of the seed packets.

“Anything double and anything blue found many takers… The most sought after [seeds were:] double vulgaris, named forms of sieboldii, gold-laced polyanthus, gold-laced Jack-in-the-Green polyanthus, Elizabethan primroses, double red auricula, vulgaris Barnhaven Blues, hose-in-hose, Juliana Fireflies, and blue Cowichan.” (From the report of the Seed Exchange Chair.)
Linda Bailey has chosen the article for us this time. She was showing a gardening friend the great information to be found in the old issues, with one chosen at random, and this piece was in the summer issue, 1945. It is a lovely descriptive parable of life, death and immortality, Linda says.

We are reprinting the page as it first appeared in Volume II, No. 3 January 1945. Another suggestion from Linda is the tribute to Linda Eickman, a gifted hybridizer who introduced the pink strain of polyanthus in the 1950s. Here is a reprint of that page, from Volume XIV No. 4 Fall 1956.

Linda A. Eickman
Deceased July 11, 1956

By DR. MATTHEW C. RIDDLE

Among the many rewards of the gardener are the friendships he makes with other gardeners. Some consolation for Linda Eickman’s death may be had from the memory of her friendship as well as the beauty of the Primroses she leaves behind. A hybridizer achieves a sort of immortality in the lasting beauty of his or her floral creations.

Linda Eickman, whose name literally means beauty, was a gentle person whose life was devoted to the service of humanity. Professionally she was most successful as a nurse and educator. Personably she selflessly cared for her aged and ailing mother and brother. As an avocation she developed the world renowned strain of “Majestic Polyanthus Primroses”, the “Linda Pinks”. This is a distinct contribution to horticulture and an expression of her discriminating love of nature.

I have known Linda many years. My first acquaintance with her was in 1934 when she became superintendent of nursing for the University of Oregon Medical School at the Multnomah County Hospital. Later when she retired in 1940 to care for her aged mother, I visited her garden on the old family farm near Dayton, Oregon. Here under the shade of a grove of ancient apple trees she lived in a garden of western and mid-western wild flowers. Here she developed her renowned majestic strain of pink polyanthus Primroses, derived from a strain of imported British polyanthus. In a tiny greenhouse in this rural garden, she patiently pollinated her Primroses year after year until she had her “Warm Laughter” and “Crown Pink” Primroses which have brought her fame and awards, and which have given pleasure to so many others. Climax to her honors was the Premier Award for Hybridizing by the American Primrose Society Quarterly in 1953, the highest possible tribute in this field.

So long as the Linda Pink Primroses bloom, Linda Eickman will be remembered. They serve as a lasting memorial to this “gracious, generous, and humble lady” who loved and created beauty.
American Primrose Society
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
May 2nd, 2009

The meeting was held online and by telephone. It opened at 12:10 pm, Eastern Time.

Board members present: Rodney Barker (Director), Ed Buyarski (President, Juneau Chapter), Mark Dyen (President, New England Chapter), Cheri Fluck (Director), Jon Kawaguchi (Treasurer), Marianne Kuchel (Director), Lee Nelson (President), Michael Plumb (Secretary), Judith Sellers (Vice President)

Regrets: Julia Haldorson (Director and Membership Secretary)

Also present: Joseph Philip, Chairman of the 2009 National Show and President Elect, Maedythe Martin (President, BC Group and Chair of Editorial Committee)

1. The Minutes of February 1st, 2008 - Accepted as presented (Ed / Judith)

2. Treasurer’s Report (Emailed before the meeting)
   - Total liabilities and equity as of March 31st, 2009: $27,528.85
   - Income less expenses January 1st, 2009 to March 31st, 2009: $2,868.43
   - The gain for the 1st quarter was mainly due to membership dues, advertising income, and seed exchange revenue.
   - Advertising income for the Quarterlies as of April 16th, 2009: $1,209.00. Total funds presently available for the 2009 Quarterlies including advertising and donations: $3,994.01.
   - Donations are still a vital source of funding.
   - The Treasurer’s report was accepted unanimously (Michael / Marianne).

3. Committee Reports
   Seed Exchange (winter 2008 – spring 2009)
   MOTION (Lee / Michael): “That in future, excess seed be distributed by the seed exchange chairperson equally, or as directed by the APS president, to the membership chair, the National Show chapter, and other chapters and affiliated groups.” Carried.

   Website
   - Joe Philip has volunteered to look after the website until a webmaster is found. Joe received the board’s thanks.

4. Business Arising and Old Business
   Results of Elections for APS officers
   - President: Joseph Philip; Vice-President: Alan Lawrence; Secretary: Michael Plumb; Treasurer: Jon Kawaguchi
   - Ballots received were as follows: Joseph Philip (President) 25/34; Marianne Kuchel (President) 9/34 (but withdrew during the voting); Alan Lawrence (Vice-President) 34/34; Michael Plumb (Secretary) 25/25; Jon Kawaguchi (Treasurer) 25/25. There were no other candidates for VP, Secretary or Treasurer.
   - Michael, who as secretary received and counted the ballots, told the board that more members had participated in voting this time because he believed they were not required to tear a page out of the Quarterly.

5. New Business
   Dorothy Dickson Award for work benefitting the American Primrose Society over the past year
   - MOTION (Michael / Judith): “That Jon Kawaguchi be given the Dorothy Dickson Award for his exemplary work as Treasurer”. Carried unanimously.

   Technical improvements to communication at APS meetings
   POSTPONED to the next meeting

6. Adjournment (Judith/Cheri) at 1:05 pm Eastern Time. The meeting had to finish early owing to the unexpected rescheduling of a major presentation at the show.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Plumb, Secretary
North American Rock Garden Society

Yes, I am interested in a seed exchange, discount book service, slide library, field trips, fact-filled Quarterly, garden visits, and plant sales. Sign me up!

Membership:
USA, Canada: US$30
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Please contact:
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Executive Secretary, NARGS
PO Box 18604
Raleigh, NC 27619-8604

Make checks payable to
North American Rock Garden Society

https://www.nARGS.org/info/smemb.rship.

JOIN THE NATIONAL AURICULA & PRIMULA SOCIETY

Midland & West Section

www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk

£10.00 Overseas Membership.

to: The Honorary Treasurer, Roger Woods,
44 Tansey Crescent, Stoney Stanton,
Leicestershire, LE9 4BT United Kingdom.

NATIONAL AURICULA AND PRIMULA SOCIETY

SOUTHERN SECTION

The National Auricula & Primula Society - Southern Section was founded in 1876 by and for enthusiasts who raised and exhibited Auriculas, Gold-Laced Primulas and other primulas.

The Annual subscription is £7.00 (UK) for single or family membership, Overseas £8.00.

Members receive an illustrated Year Book and a Newsletter - Offers containing interesting articles on growing and raising Primulas together with their history and cultivation.

Applications for membership of the N.A.P.S. Southern Section should be made to:
The Honorary Secretary, Lawrence Wigley,
67 Wanhan Court Road, Carshalton Beeches,
Surrey, SM5 3ND.

NATIONAL AURICULA AND PRIMULA SOCIETY

NORTHERN SECTION

Please consider joining the National Auricula and Primula Society - Northern Section. Overseas memberships are some of the best ways to learn more about your favorite plants. Benefits include publications and more.

Write: Mr. K. Leeming, 3 Dairbank Drive, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 4JR

Overseas membership £7.50 ($10.00 US)

Please make checks payable to NAPS.
www.auriculas.org.uk

NEW MEMBERS THIS QUARTER

Robert Ellis 12151 – 101 A Avenue
Surrey, British Columbia  V3V 2Z9  Canada
Nancy Galvin 52 Sunset Hill Road
Simsbury, Connecticut  06070  U.S.A.
Joni Koerner P. O. Box 6292
Ketchikan, Alaska  99901-6292  U.S.A.
Beth Rham 271 High Meadow Road
Southport, Connecticut  06890  U.S.A.
Arija Robinson 112 Shutesbury Road
Levertell, Massachusetts  01054  U.S.A.
Karen Searles 691 – 7th Street
Lake Oswego, Oregon  97034-2207  U.S.A.
Marika Sniscak 9059 Meadowvale Court
Elcott City, Maryland  21042  U.S.A.
Georgianna Reilly 27 Franklin Drive
Stony Point, New York  10980  U.S.A.

SHOULD THERE EVER BE A QUESTION ABOUT YOUR MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE CONTACT:
Julia L. Haldorson, APS Membership
P.O. Box 210913
Auke Bay, Alaska  99821 U.S.A.
membership@americanprimrosesociety.org

Please remember to save your seed now for the Seed Exchange this year. The success of the seed exchange, and the society, depends on you - the members.

Please send your seed to:
Joe Philip 26 Spofford Road
Worcester, MA 01607
in the USA
Maedythe Martin 951 Joan Cres
Victoria BC  V8S3L3
in Canada

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