The Quarterly of the American Primrose Society

Volume 72 No 1 Winter 2014

The purpose of this Society is to bring the people interested in *Primula* together in an organization to improve 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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- Winter issue - October 15
- Spring issue - January 15
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- Autumn issue - July 15

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Dues for individual or household membership, domestic and Canada are:
- $25 per calendar year
- $70 for three years

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  - 1/8 page: $15

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**President’s Message**

**ALAN LAWRENCE**

It has been a long and very cold winter here in the Mid-West, and there is no sign of spring arriving despite what the calendar might say. My “up north” garden in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan is still deep in snow, where two years ago I had primroses in bloom at this time of year. Last year we had 60 inches of snow in April, so I expect it is another of those bad years when spring happens on the third Monday in May. The snow has just about gone from my “down south” garden in Central Wisconsin, and the ground is slowly thawing. There is little sign of growth yet and spring clean up will have to wait until I get back from the APS National Show in Portland.

I have just returned from my usual trip to the UK, where I was pleased to see the floods had subsided and spring was definitely in full bloom. One benefit of the heavy rains was the abundance of *Primula vulgaris* which was in bloom just about everywhere I traveled. I searched out a location where there has been a few pink-flowered plants for at least 50 years; only one plant was found. As I was traveling in N. Devon, I called on Penny Jones who, with her husband Melvyn, has the UK National Collection of *Primula sieboldii*. It was a little early for flowering, although a few were just starting to bloom. It is an extensive collection of UK and Japanese cultivars. (See www.pennysprimulas.co.uk) I also had to travel to N.E. England and so took a slight diversion over the border to visit Edrom Nurseries in S.E. Scotland (See www.edrom-nurseries.co.uk) Their garden display of *Primula marginata*...
and Androsace sps. was impressive, as was the selection of plants for sale. Thank goodness for digital cameras with storage for 500+ photos.

My continuing interest in viability of Primula seeds when dry-stored in a refrigerator has yielded another datapoint. I have had excellent germination with 4-year-old Primula malacoides seed.

We are heading for the Natinal APS Show in Portland OR, and this year, despite the continuous winter weather through the northern US, we are driving there in our RV. Hopefully crossing the Rockies will be winter-storm-free, as we are getting too old for such adventures. Although I have no plants to take, I am looking forward to bringing some back with me.

As your Primula are finishing their bloom...
Please remember to tag them to save their seed for the 2014 Seed Exchange.
Your donations keep our seed list diverse and our costs for commercial seed down.
Details for cleaning and sorting, and addresses to mail seed to will be listed in upcoming issues.

Gold-Laced - Still a Show Stopper

LYNNE LAWSON, BARNHAVEN PRIMROSES, FRANCE

After being in existence for over two centuries, gold-laced polyanthus came very near to extinction during the Second World War. This is Florence Bellis’ account of what happened next and the part played by Mr. R H Briggs, then secretary of the National Auricula and Primula Society (Northern Section) of England:

“About 1944 Mr Briggs sent us a few seeds of Gold Lace. The history of this seed should not be lost. He wrote that at the beginning of the war there were only two small nurseries in England still engaged in the growing of traditional Gold Lace Polyanthus. What happened to one, Mr Briggs did not say. The other was just barely hanging on. The seeds Mr Briggs sent us resulted from pieces of plants gathered by the owner of this nursery over a radius of half a mile, more or less. His nursery had been bombed and to recover sufficient remains with which to begin again, he set out with a basket on his arm and began the search. From these shreds and scraps of roots he grew plants enough to provide a few seeds, some of which were given to Mr Briggs. Mr Briggs, in return, sent some to Barnhaven.”

Florence Bellis began line-breeding them and by 1948 offered them in her catalog for the first time. This has continued without a break right up to the present day.

Here at Barnhaven in France, we presently we have two strains – the Barnhaven strain, mostly with a dark acajou ground color, and the ‘Beeches Strain’, with a red ground. The latter have their origins in seed sent to us by Laurence Wrigley in the UK, who gained the RHS Award of Garden Merit in 1995.

Of all the plants that we hand-pollinate, the gold-laced polyanthus
has to be the most difficult at the selection stage. We use legitimate crosses, that is crossing pins and thrums in our line breeding as our aim is for hardy garden plants, not ones for the show bench, although that’s not to say that show standard plants don’t appear. Show gold-laced should be thrum flowered, amongst other criteria. We can have a whole bench-full of what appear at first sight to be beautiful gold-laced, and then when we start looking very closely they all have some flaws: flowers too big, pedicels too long, lacing irregular, too wide or not complete. If I was as strict as I’d like to be I’d end up with 2 or 3 plants, but that wouldn’t give enough to have seed to sell, so each year we select the very best and aim to improve the strains as much as possible.

I have recently been delving into Florence Bellis’ old articles and she talks about reading of six-petalled gold-laced being a standard in 1822 and then going on to find some among her own plants. I then found a mention of gold-laced with six petals appearing in England from Barnhaven seed in the 1970s. Maybe I’ll keep an eye out and see if there are six-petal genes still lurking among our plants. Let us know if you see some in yours.

My daughter, Jodie, is keen to pursue some avenues of her own and is presently working on separating out a Barnhaven Silver-Laced strain, but it looks like being a fairly long-term project to get them to the required standard. Silver-Laced plants used to be rejected by the purists but can be very attractive plants and it seems there is a demand.

Not always the easiest of flowers for companion planting, gold-laced are planted with Harvest Yellows, Spiced Shades, pure white Sorbet, black grasses or dwarf daffodils. They can easily get lost in a busy border and, indeed, Florence Bellis seemed to think “it was heresy to grow them in the border along with garden polyanthus,” but then did not continue to say where they should be used, unfortunately! At one time there was a fashion of “florists making them into a corsage tied with gold bow to be worn on the new spring suit, preferably brown,” but she didn’t approve of that either! They look terrific in containers, often nearer to the eye, where they can be appreciated. This is particularly true when we constantly strive to keep the flowers as small as intended.

The gold-laced still aren’t very well known in France and visitors to the nursery often think it is an amazing new introduction until we start talking about 18th century origins and how we can’t, unfortunately, take the credit.

Gold-laced polyanthus continue to give an enormous amount of pleasure and we owe a large debt of gratitude to Mr Briggs for his part in rescuing them. There are records of a few other individual enthusiasts who had managed to maintain small stocks of gold-laced in England after the war but without Mr Briggs, Barnhaven certainly wouldn’t have been able to play such a large part in their rescue. In France, they are by far our biggest selling polyanthus and still have the power of stopping people dead in their tracks at the shows.

References

For more information on Mr. Briggs one can refer to the article “R.H. Briggs” by G. Lancaster, Vol. 11, No. 2, p 43-45, Spring 1953.
Primula in Arunachal Pradesh, North East India

JEANIE JONES

Long-time member of APS and a staunch supporter of the APS seed exchange, Jeanie Jones in Scotland is passionate about Primula — travelling to the far east to see them in their native home. But she also has many Primula in her own garden. Here is her account of the trip and the plants she saw last year, and you can see some of her photos in the color pages.

In July, 2013, I spent four weeks in Arunachal Pradesh with David and Margaret Thorne: three of the weeks camping and trekking in the Himalayas near the Bhutan and Tibet borders. While Britain baked in weeks of sunshine, we had only one dry day, but the monsoon season is the best time to see Primula and Meconopsis flowering.

We saw Primula every day of our trek, starting with the leaves of P. denticulata and on our last day, there were a few fading P. denticulata flowers. What I had hoped to see was Primula kingii, with its beautiful deep velvety red flowers, but we were just too late to see it en masse, as there were only a few flowering plants past their best, in meadows full of P. dickieana which have similar leaves. These flat-faced pale yellow flowers were the most numerous plants of our trek, covering acres in boggy areas. When we went higher into the mountains P. munroi replaced the P. dickieana, but it was not just the usual white ones (growing even in running water): there were pale pink, candy striped and shades of lilac and purple flowers.

Primula glabra, a very small plant with from one to twenty-plus tiny flowers in a tight cluster, was seen nearly every day in many different habitats. The most spectacular plants found in several areas, were of a deep red, shading to pink of what I originally thought was a hybrid of P. sikkimensis or P. var. hopeana (which is usually pale cream to white) but the jury is still out on indentifying them.

We saw many rosettes of leaves with seed heads but it was not until we were really high that we saw the flowers of P. elongata, a yellow species with a darker yellow eye and a related species with lovely dark blue flowers, but whose identity is not yet confirmed. P. strumosa also has yellow flowers which we saw and its hybrid P. calderiana x P. strumosa with blue flowers.

Another dark blue Primula macrophylla was still flowering in high up, rocky habitats.

There were some tiny beautiful plants of Primula tenuiloba, P. sappharina, P. primulina, P. occlusa, P. muscoides and P. soldanelloides. An outstanding Primula was P. tsongpenii growing in large mats, which is very like P. dryadifolia which I had seen in Yunnan some years ago. The flowers are bright magenta with a white pom-pom of hairs in the throat.

When we were in the far west, near the borders of Bhutan and Tibet in the town of Tawang, we had hoped to be allowed to go into the surrounding countryside where 80 years ago Frank Kingdon-Ward had botanised, but we were not given permission. The army is still very active in the area since the Chinese invasion in 1962, when 2,420 Indian soldiers died. The town did have wet areas where the yellow P. prolifera was flowering.

There were other Primula in leaf which I still have to try to find out what they were, but I think they may have been P. assamica, P. capitata ssp crispata, P. muscarioides and P. bhutanica.

This was my fourth time visiting the Himalayas to photograph flowers, but my first visit to India, where I saw the greatest number of Primula species. Despite the unrelenting rain, a trek to remember!

My thanks go to Pam Eveleigh of www.primulaworld.com for her help with this article, confirming and identifying my photos. Do look at the species gallery on her website to see more photos of any of the Primulas.

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Looking for Juliana Primroses

DIANE WHITEHEAD

About 1970, I planted a row of hazelnut trees and was advised by my friend Joyce Carruthers to plant a primrose path under them. That sounded delightful, so I sowed some Barnhaven seeds and bought Juliana hybrids bearing my aunts’ names. Forty year old ‘Harbingers’ are still thriving, but I don’t think ‘Kay’ and ‘Millicent’ survived long enough to flower. I tried again at the turn of the millennium, with some different Julianas from Rick Lupp. I don’t think I saw a flower on them, either.

A few years ago April Boettger brought some plants up to a convention in Victoria and I bought just one plant: ‘Jay-Jay’. It did not go in the primrose path, or under any rhododendrons where all my other Primulas are. I planted it in the raised bed where all my special seedlings get close attention, automated watering in our rainless summers, and no root competition from rhododendrons, trees or giant ferns.

Success! ‘Jay-Jay’ has more than just survived. It has quintupled and today flowerbuds are opening. I’m so excited. At last! Now that I’ve discovered how to grow Julianas, it is time for lots more.

I made a tentative list from Peter Ward’s ‘Primroses and Polyanthus’ (London, Batsford, 1997) and then headed out to shop. None. Not just none on my list, but none at all. I asked the clerk at my local nursery if there were any on order. No. Well, what are the wholesalers offering? Just the ones I could see over there on the benches, giant-flowered acaulis and ‘Belarinas’. Even our local rock garden wholesalers offer none.

Modest success at a nursery – ‘Wanda’. “You’re too late,” said the nurseryman. “Our Primula supplier died fifteen years ago.”

I checked the websites of all possible Canadian sources - one sells the species, the others have closed down or switched over to cactus.

On to U.S. nurseries. Rick Lupp offers three, Kelly Dodson at Far Reaches has three, though two are out of stock, and Edelweiss has two forms of the species, plus ‘Kinlough Beauty’. Any other specialty nursery I am familiar with has none.

Then I discovered plantlust.com – “56 Plant Catalogs in a Single Search.” What a wonderful resource! 229 results for “Primula”.

I had to search all of them, though, because the Julianas were under many different classifications: juliae, x juliana, x polyanthus, x pruhonica, and the individual names of many. I compiled my list and checked the websites of all the nurseries, fruitlessly. Maybe they had once offered the Julianas, but most no longer did so.

The couple of Eastern U.S. suppliers I found did not seem to have accurately named plants. The photo of ‘Kinlough Beauty’ did not show its distinctive stripes, and the description did not mention them. ‘Jay-Jay’s’ photo did not show its ruff, nor was it mentioned that it is a Jack-in-the-Green.

I even checked the Royal Horticultural Society Plant Finder, as I read that it included overseas suppliers. The only Primula one I found was Barnhaven which will send plants, mostly auriculas, but a few Julianas, including ‘Kinlough Beauty’, to the whole world, from France.

There is a dramatic difference in the popularity of various primulas - 200 U.K. nurseries sell P. allionis, 2000 sell auriculas, but only a few sell Julianas.

With such a paucity of Julianas available commercially, where can an aspiring collector acquire some?

The best source is club plant sales: APS of course, but also rock garden societies. There are a couple of annual sales in Victoria in which a dozen or so growers sell their excess plants. The plants available vary each year according to the developing obsessions of the growers. It’s worth looking anywhere you see pots with a bit of green - tables along a suburban road, or outside a grocery store. A friend found two named ones at a church bazaar.

Breeding one’s own is a possibility, and the best way to have a healthy collection, particularly if a build-up of viruses is one reason that historic
varieties have disappeared.
About twenty years ago a man in England collected as many named forms as he could, hybridized them, and produced lots of seedlings. He took a summer trip and England had an unusual hot dry summer which killed his whole collection. He is trying to buy some old varieties to start the project again.

Claire Cockcroft and Ann and Jay Lunn in the Northwest have developed new hybrids, by selecting self-sown seedlings or by deliberate pollination. The plants in the photos I’ve seen are very appealing.

Well, I’ve begun. ‘Jay-Jay’ has ‘Blue Zebra’ pollen on its first flower. Now, what shall I put on the next one?

For Further Reading;
Jay Lunn has found some articles in back issues of the APS quarterly which are listed below. If you don’t have old quarterlies, contact the Quarterly Librarian - see adjacent ad.

‘Primula Juliae and Hybrid Juliana Forms’ by Lou Roberts Vol. 2, No.3, January, 1945
‘Quest continues, Juliaes intrigue hybridizers, collectors’ by Dorothy Springer Winter 1980, Vol. 38, No. 1
‘Primula Juliae and Her Children’ by Kris Fenderson & Rosetta Jones Summer 1986, Vol. 44, No. 3
‘And Now - Juliana Anomolies’ by Mr. J. W. Martin Summer 1987, Vol. 45, No. 1

Primula Juliae Primula of the Month by Sam Hamilton and Joe Dupre Fall 1989, Vol 47, No. 4
‘The APS Primula x ‘Juliana’ Registry’ by Dorothy Springer Fall 1993, Vol. 51, No. 4
‘Where Have All the Julianas Gone? Madeythe Martin, Summer 1996. Vol. 54, no 3

For many years Cy Happy was the photographer who documented APS shows, people and plants. This past year we received from him many of his countless slides and Jay Lunn has scanned a number of them. We will include pictures by Cy in future issues as we find ones related to the articles in the quarterly.

In this issue we’ve included pictures of Julianas that Cy has taken over the years. Many of the plants are not named, but in many cases that doesn’t matter. We are grateful to Cy for preserving historical pictures of the past.

Above: Juliana hybrids in the garden showing the good display they make because of their spreading root habit.

Right: ‘Kay’ one of the few blue Julias.

Below: a startling orange Juliana, another unusual color. Photos taken by Cy Happy and digitalized by Jay Lunn.
Gold-laced Poly: Still stops them in their tracks

Barnhaven Gold-lace Polyanthus at the nursery and a fine example of a red-ground GLP.
Jeanie Jones traveled to India and submitted some of her photos from the trip to the APS Photo contest:

Other gardens! She was in Arunachal Pradesh for a month, a week getting up to the mountains, driving over awful roads, then 3 weeks trekking and camping in the monsoon!

Top: Field of white *P. hopeana*  
Left: *P. tenuiloba*

This page, clockwise from top left:  
Clear blue flowers of *P. glabra*, *P. tsongpenii* with its tiny leaves and magenta flowers, *P. monroi* (from front), *P. soldanelloides*, yellow *P. strumosa.*
Some of the *Primula* in bloom in the Primula Dell at the Devonian Garden in Edmonton. Kevin Baker records the season in his blog theplantsigrow.wordpress.com.

From top left, clockwise: 
*P. chionantha* white form  
*Primula auricula* ssp Bauhinii;  
*Primula chionantha* ssp sinopurpurea (in bud);  
*P. sieboldii* in the rain.
calling them ‘Wanda’ but they bear no resemblance to the original plant developed from the species *P. juliae* discovered in the Caucuses around the turn of the century. Peter Ward, in his book ‘Primroses and Polyanthus’ (Batsford, London, 1997) tells us the plant originally “was raised at Baker’s Nursery near Wolverhampton, circa 1918, and named after one of the director’s wives.” Most ‘Wandas’ are pin-eyed, and once seen, quite distinctive.

The name ‘Wanda Hybrid’ appeared more than 25 years ago, and plants began turning up in nurseries soon after. I remember having a wonderful scarlet red plant that lived in a half barrel on my patio for about 10 years, until I moved it, and then it faded away. It had large flowers with almost no eye and lovely dark leaves. It appeared to be quite hardy, as long it was in that well-drained position.

People have been showing me plants they found in nurseries and calling them ‘Wanda’ but they bear no resemblance to the original plant developed from the species *P. juliae* discovered in the Caucuses around the turn of the century. Peter Ward, in his book ‘Primroses and Polyanthus’ (Batsford, London, 1997) tells us the plant originally “was raised at Baker’s Nursery near Wolverhampton, circa 1918, and named after one of the director’s wives.” Most ‘Wandas’ are pin-eyed, and once seen, quite distinctive.

Further information in Peter Ward’s book tells us that it was

We all know the Juliana primrose ‘Wanda’ which has been grown in gardens for almost a century now. Small, rounded mounds of magenta-purple primrose flowers that make a nice mat in almost any situation. I even see it planted in apartment building gardens among heathers and hellebores.

Jennifer Neimi sent this image of a red polyanthus in her garden to the photos contest. When we asked for more information we learned of her blog, which you can read about on p. 26.

Cowichan blood was introduced into the ‘Wanda Hybrids’ and this picture, by Cy Happy, shows a cross with the dark leaves and flowers the Cowichan genes would bring.

Exciting Perennial varieties from seed

![Primula elat-Hybr. Victorian Laced Primroses](jelitto.png)

![‘Wanda’ at an APS show, photo by Cy Happy](wanda APS show.png)
at the Neiderlenz Horticultural School in Switzerland that the original strain called “Wanda Hybrid” was first developed. “This was started by crossing [P.] juliae hybrids together but since then many others have been involved and other blood, including some Barnhaven ‘Cowichan’, has been introduced.” (Ward, p. 116) This strain did not produce uniform flowers and in 1995, “Nick Belfield-Smith, responsible for plant-breeding at Floranova, confirmed that breeding better vigour and uniformity into the ‘Wandas’ proved difficult.” (Ward, p116). However, the company did introduce a strain called ‘Wanda Supremes’ which gives plants with large flowers of clear yellow, red, blue and white with dark leaves to set off the flowers to perfection.

As far as I can see, Floranova no longer offers this strain to nursery growers. And I didn’t find any information on the Swiss Horticultural School. It seems this very garden-worthy plant is not offered any more, which is too bad. Perhaps some of you still have a plant or two in your garden. One local grower here in Victoria, a retired botanist with a soft spot for Primula, has a plant of the ‘Wanda Supremes’ and has been back-crossing it to the wild yellow primrose, *P. vulgaris*. This results in plants with a range of colors from clear yellow like the wild parent, to shades of peach, butterscotch, tan and toffee, often with a shading. And these seedlings are quite hardy.

So despite my suspicion, the ‘Wanda Hybrids’ most likely did have some ‘Wanda’ in their blood, but I think the cross with the ‘Cowichan’ added many of the attractive features in the modern strain: the eye-less flowers and the dark handsome leaves. But none-the-less, don’t call them ‘Wanda’ for that name is reserved for the ubiquitous useful, mat-forming, magenta garden plant we have known for years.

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**Devonian Garden Visit:**

**Edmonton, Alberta**

**PICTURES AND NOTES BY KEVIN BAKER**

*First post June 19, 2011 Part 1*

Here are a whole lot of pictures from our visit to the University of Alberta’s Devonian Botanic Garden last Sunday. It was raining, heavily at times, and when we weren’t taking shelter under trees we were stopping to take pictures, so didn’t get around to all the gardens….  

*Primula veris*, the cowslip (above), is by far the most prolific *Primula* in the Dell, having self-seeded itself wherever other *Primulas* have died away (of drought or cold) and left their signs behind. The result is that *P. veris* appears under at least a dozen
names, as well as its own.

A show auricula growing in the open garden is an unexpected sight. Most home-gardeners would grow these plants in pots or troughs and keep them out of the rain to protect the farina on the flowers. This ‘Arundell Stripe’ is thriving. We are too late for the flowers, but the foliage and seed pods look great. Editor’s note: here is the same plant photographed two years later - what a display!

The many named P auricula, P marginata, and P allionii hybrids growing – and thriving – in the Primula Dell and in the Alpine Garden certainly disprove the accepted notion that these prized hybrids are less hardy than the species plants.

This phenomenon is maybe only possible in Alberta in the lee of the Rocky Mountains. Pam Eveleigh in Calgary also grows many Primula outside in her garden that we growers in other areas could not do. It seems to be a combination of cold winters with snow cover (sometimes) and low humidity year round. The cool nights in the summer also benefit the plants. The elevation in Calgary is almost 2200 feet, and the light levels and alpine climate with low rainfall probably also contribute to gardeners defying conventions and growing these plants outside in the garden. Editor.

In June 2013, Kevin revisited the Garden, and posted these entries:

Here come my pictures from our visit to the Devonian Botanic Garden this spring. As always, I went straight to the Primula Dell and from there straight to the Alpine Garden. As always, my camera’s battery was exhausted before I was ready to move on to the many other gardens.

This double auricula is called ‘Camelot.’ In Britain and Europe, fancy show auriculas are raised in pots and kept out of the rain, under glass or in shaded auricula theatres. In the New World, we boldly plant them in the open garden and let the weather have its wild way.

A few Primula sieboldii grow in the Primula Dell, but none grow, where you might expect them, in the K ur i m o t o J a p a n e s e Garden.

Kevin concludes this tour of the Primula Dell for 2013 with these comments:

I measure the progress of the season relative to previous years by the size of the goslings, the number of flowers vs seed heads in the Pulsatilla meadow, and the blooming stage of the Primula chionanthas. This year, and the calendar more or less agrees, we are a little earlier than 2011 (June 19) and a little later than 2012 (May 26).

Completing our tour of the Dell: the P denticulata, finished flowering, lengthen their stalks prior to seed dispersal; the vivid P allioni hybrids give up their last few blossoms; and an unlabelled galaxy of shooting stars explodes (I don’t know Dodecatheons well enough to ID this one).
“the plantin’ of primroses”

JENNIFER NIEMI

APS member, Jennifer Niemi, has a blog in which her cats recount her finicky primrose planting ways. It is a treat to read, and you can see more at www.nerissaslife.com.

Here is the latest primrose entry, outlining her planting technique:

Wednesday, 5 March 2014

You know... Peep #1 grows primroses like I build teleportation devices.

Whenever I see Ol’ Peepers goin’ through the house, scrounging around, gathering up things you normally wouldn’t gather up together, I know she’s up to somethin’. Up to somethin’ like plantin’ primroses. Not that long ago, I witnessed just such an event.

...Every winter, the peep does the same thing. When it’s cold and snowy outside, she plants primrose seeds for my primrose garden. I really do appreciate her planting the primroses ‘cause, to be honest, I look really good posin’ among them when they bloom. They just sort of suit me or somethin’.

...After she makes the holes in the the coffee tins, Peep #1 fills ‘em up with potting mix. She then soaks all that mix really well before squishin’ it down - just a teeny bit - with her hand. She usually gets her hands all dirty doin’ this and then has to go wash ‘em. Like I said before, the peep messes stuff up really well. She’s even capable of messin’ up herself!

The next step is to sprinkle the seeds on top of the potting mix. I am not allowed to help with this part which I find to be extremely unfair. Peep says the seeds are too small for me to be gettin’ my paws in there. I say, my paws are a whole lot smaller than the peep’s hands and therefore I am much better suited to the task. So far, the peep has not yet acquiesced on this point but give it time. One day, I shall get my way. I just know it.

The next step is to water in the seeds with some more water. I don’t know why it’s called watering in. Think the peep just says that to show off or somethin’.

So the peep’s next step is to cover the coffee tins and seeds with plastic wrap. This is the best part of the whole show. You ever watch a peep with plastic wrap? PRICELESS.

Eventually, the peep manages to get two layers of plastic wrap over each of the coffee tins. Then she wraps the electrical tape around the plastic wrap to secure it because, as everyone knows, plastic wrap never sticks to what it’s supposed to stick. Only sticks to everything else. And somewhere in the wrappin’ of the electrical tape, the plant tags get attached to the outside of the tins.

...I realised I didn’t have to do any time travelin’ for pictures ‘cause I know the peep already has pictures of me with primroses, blooming in years past. So I grabbed a few shots from the computer and put ‘em up here on my blog. Hope you like ‘em.
Minutes of the Board Meeting held on February 9th, 2014

The meeting was held online. It opened at 6:06pm, ET.

Board members present: Rodney Barker (President of the New England Chapter), Paul Dick (President of the Juneau Chapter), Merrill Jensen (Director), Alan Lawrence (APS President), Amy Olmsted (Director and Seed Exchange Coordinator), Michael Plumb (Secretary and Webmaster), Rhondda Porter (APS Vice-President), Ed Buyarski (Director), Julia Haldorson (Director and Membership Secretary), Rodrigue Modaneau (Secretary).

Regrets: Ed Buyarski (Director), Julia Haldorson (Director and Membership Secretary)

A. Approval of the Agenda
1. MOTION (Michael / Jon) to postpone discussion and vote on EBSCO contract until the AGM in April. Carried, one abstention.
2. Agenda approved as amended (Michael / Paul)

B. The Minutes of November 10th, 2013 – accepted (Rhondda / Paul)

C. Treasurer’s Report (Emailed before the meeting)
1. Income less expenses October 1st to December 31st, 2013: $841.06
2. Income less expenses January 1st, 2013 to December 31st, 2013: ($1,927.51)
3. Total liabilities and equity as of December 31st, 2013: $26,199.17
4. Jon stated that two years’ advertising revenue had just come in and now placed the society $179.06 in the black. However, this cannot be entered for year-end 2013 as it arrived in January 2014. It will be entered officially in Jon’s April report.
5. Jon pointed out in his report that we are walking a very fine line and therefore no unscheduled expenses can be borne.
6. MOTION (Rhondda / Michael): to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Carried.

D. Committee Reports
   a) Amy reported that 17 members had donated seed - fewer than last time, especially with auricula seed.
   b) There should be lots of proflora and polyanthus seed available for the ‘Lucky Dip’ stage.
   c) Total expenses so far: $932.02; total income so far: $969.00; balance: $36.98
   d) Thirty-one of 56 orders were made using PayPal.
   e) MOTION (Michael / Merrill): to accept Seed Exchange Report. Carried, with a commendation to the Seed Exchange Committee.
2. Editorial Committee:
   a) The Winter Quarterly is on schedule, now at the printer.
   b) The board expressed appreciation for the work of Maedythe, Jane and Alan in getting a good-quality journal published on time.
3. Website (Michael):
   a) Some website articles on common species and on the care of primulas have been made available to the public as part of our mission to promote the knowledge and cultivation of the genus Primula.
   b) It is now much easier to post photos in the Forum because the limit has been raised to 3MB per photo.
   c) Active website users: 145 (about half of all members).
   d) Average duration of each visit (not ‘bounces’): 4 minutes 21 seconds.
   e) Amy asked why there were so few photos of recent shows. Michael apologized but mentioned that Rhondda has a large unpublished file of show photos for him to post.
   f) Merrill will send Michael photos of the National Collection in Juneau, for posting on the website. Michael still has to contact Judith Sellers for photos of the New England Collection.
   g) Rhondda, as Forum Moderator, encouraged board members to make contributions to the Forum, no matter how small.
   h) MOTION (Rhondda / Paul): to accept the Website Report. Carried.

E. Chapters
1. Alaska and New England Chapters, together with the BC Group, had sent long reports for publication in the coming Winter Quarterly. Michael had sent copies of these to the board before the meeting.
2. Rhondda asked the chapter presidents (Rodney and Paul) to forward a contact name for the website so that interested people may contact them about joining each chapter.
3. MOTION (Michael / Rhondda) to accept the reports. Carried.

F. Business Arising and New Business
1. National Show in Portland:
   Maedythe Martin is the Show Chairperson. Michael reported that she has simplified administration. Only the Banquet requires members to book. Admission and benching are free. A notice giving full information will be posted on the website in the coming week. Arrangements still have to be made for a room with wi-fi facility for the Annual General Meeting. Michael will remind Maedythe about this. AGM time also needs to be fixed.
2. Archives:
   Ongoing. Alan said he was still working on the kind of record he would like to be posted on the website. As mentioned in the previous minutes, Alan will ask members to inform the website manager of items of APS historical interest in their possession. Michael will post a notice to the same effect on the website. Michael will then compose an inventory to be kept on the website.

G. Adjournment (Rodney) at 7:10 pm ET.

Next meeting: At the National Show. Time to be arranged by Show Chair

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Plumb, Secretary
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.

New Members

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Expiry</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Christine Andersen</td>
<td>62469 Beaver Loop Road, North Bend, Oregon 97459 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Teresa Cheeks</td>
<td>PO Box 5, Barnard, Vermont 05031 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Richard Dube</td>
<td>65 Terrien Road, Huntington, Vermont 05462 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Alan Gorkin</td>
<td>668 Lake Avenue, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Nancy Groshong</td>
<td>997 Palmetto Avenue, Chico, California 95926 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Robert Smith</td>
<td>124 Acre Street, Lindley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD3 3EJ UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Rhonda Stefano</td>
<td>9088 TWP Road 560, Holmesville, Ohio 44633 USA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Should there ever be a question about your membership, please contact:
Julia L. Haldorson, APS Membership
P. O. Box 292
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OFFICERS OF THE CHAPTERS

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amprimsoc@hotmail.com

New England Chapter
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mark.dyen@csgrp.com

Rodney Barker, Co-President
49 Woodcliff Road Newton Highlands, MA 02461
rodneybrkr@gmail.com

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 polyanthus 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 - Offsets, 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 Wansham 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 Daisybank Drive, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 4JR

Overseas membership £7.50 (£10.00 US)

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

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 Overseas: US$35

Please contact:
Mr. Bobby Ward
Executive Secretary, NARGS
PO Box 19604
Raleigh, NC 27619-8604

Make checks payable to
North American Rock Garden Society
https://www.nargs.org/info/smembership.

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