Primroses

The Quarterly of the American Primrose Society

Volume 72 No 1 February 2014

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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Front Cover: Merrill Jensen’s winning entry in the Photo Contest’s category of “Grown from APS Seed”, P. matthioli ‘Alba’ syn. Cortusa matthioli.

Back Cover: an amazing wire-edged blue poly entered by Roger Eichman in the APS National Show in Portland, photo taken by Michael Plumb.

President’s Message

ALAN LAWRENCE

The APS Annual Show in Portland, OR was another enjoyable success, with a fine selection of plants on display despite the vagaries of the spring weather this year. It was held in conjunction with Hortlandia, the major plant exhibition and sale at the Expo Center. Our display, which was well staffed by APS members, attracted very favorable attention from the plant-buying public. The Show organizers and other APS members who supported the Show deserve our congratulations and thanks for all their hard work.

On our return journey from Portland we revisited Logan Canyon in Utah hoping to find Maguire’s primrose, Primula cusickiana ssp. maguirei, in bloom. It is very endangered, growing in only four locations in the Canyon. The location we visited had about five plants in bloom growing in cracks in the limestone cliffs and I was able to get a couple of photos with a zoom lens.

As expected, spring was quite short here in the MidWest. From ice floses on Lake Superior to 80F and hoards of blackflies and mosquitoes in about a week. At least my Primulas survived the severe winter in my Upper Penninsula garden where they had good snow cover - not so in my “southern” garden in Central WI, where the snow cover was patchy and temperatures got to -25F. Most of my Primula vulgaris derivatives did not survive, whereas Primula veris and elatior did.

Two new Facebook groups have emerged this
Heading into the end of the Primula flowering season, please remember to save, clean and securely package your seeds, with your name and the species or cultivar name written on each packet.

In USA send seed to:
Amy Olmsted  421 Birch Road,
Hubbardton, VT  05733

Send seed in Canada and outside North America to:
M. Martin  951 Joan Crescent,
Victoria, BC  V8S3L3

American Primrose Society National Show, Portland, April 11 – 13, 2014

REPORT BY MAEDYTHE MARTIN

It wasn’t raining – in fact we had some of the first truly fine spring weather as we gathered in Portland to put our plants on the APS National Show tables. The show was held at the Portland Expo Center in conjunction with the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon’s spring plant sale, Hortlandia. Over 70 nurserymen and garden ornament vendors had lots of wonderful things for sale.

Despite having only 7 entrants, the show was a great display of all kinds of Primula. In the end we had 97 pots, which was remarkable, considering that I had only hoped for 60.

Roger Eichman did his part to fill up the tables with some large pots of *P. japonica*. And one outstanding exhibit arrived from Emma Ellison of Wild Ginger Farms Nursery. She had placed 5 growing plants of *P. sieboldii* in a 12 inch grey pot which contrasted well with the soft pink flowers of the plants. She explained she was trying to emulate the way growers in Japan pot up the plants for shows over there. To complement her plant, there were a bevy of other *P. sieboldii* brought in by the Lunns, showing all the different forms the flowers can take, from plain round petals to the finely-cut snowflake forms. The colors ranged from a deep magenta through many shades of pink to white. It was a striking display.

One North American species was entered by Jay Lunn – *P. rusbyi*. The soft purple-blue flower with its distinctive yellow eye was a treat to see, as these North American native species seldom arrive at show benches.

There was an impressive number of auriculas, both shows and doubles. Ian MacGowan brought a number of plants and had a runner-up for best plant in show in ‘Taffeta’ – an interesting rose-pink show self raised by Tim Coop in England in the late 1990s. Tim had a gift for hybridizing and many of his plants still show up on the benches to delight spectators. Ian also entered a blue ribbon winning exhibition alpine auricula ‘Avril Hunter.’

Our President, Alan Lawrence, and his wife Ann drove all the way from Michigan to attend the show, bringing with them the APS show.
American Primrose Society  Summer 2014

trophies. We put many of them on display, along with cheerful double primrose plants Ed Buyarski provided and Pamela Finney’s colorful display boards – they provided a sense of the history of the APS. Alan also brought a series of original prints from Doretta Klaber’s book “Primroses and Spring” (a copy of the book was on display as well.) There are very few of these sets of prints still in existence and Alan was fortunate to find one, and then to bring them for us to admire. Doretta’s line-drawings charmingly capture the essence of the many Primula plants she grew.

At the last show in Portland, in 2012, a young couple arrived to say they would like some Barnhaven Primula as they lived in Florence Bellis’ house and wanted to replant a few Barnhaven polyanthus and give some to the neighbors, some of whom remembered Florence. At this year’s show another couple arrived, again asking for Barnhaven polyanthus – turns out they had bought the house sometime in the last two years and also were aware of its history. The house was the old barn where Florence and Lew lived, but much updated and modernized. The couple met Steve Vinisky at the Hortlandia event, and Steve, who grows Barnhaven plants from seed, is planning to work with the couple to re-introduce some polyanthus to an area where Florence used to grow some of her stock plants.

The Novice award went to Kelly Dodson, renowned plantsman who has a nursery – Far Reaches Farm – in Port Townsend in the Pacific Northwest filled with terrific plants. He and his wife travel the world and collect seed, where possible, to grow interesting and hard to find plants for the discerning gardener. He entered a few plants, one of which was P. forrestii which won the award for best plant in show. This brilliant yellow, stalked Primula comes from open mountain forests in Yunnan, in China. We find, in the Pacific Northwest, that the plant will not tolerate the wet winter weather, so usually move them into an alpine house to over-winter. Kelly seems to have found a solution for growing them, as this healthy floriferous plant demonstrated.

In addition to the many Primula, the show also included some of the Primula cousins: Dodecatheon hendersonii and pulchellum, Androsace sarmentosa ‘Chumbyi’ and Douglasia laevigata var. laevigata – all entered by Emma Elliot of Wild Ginger Nursery. It’s great to see these little gems and remember that the Primula Genus includes a few other interesting and handsome plants.

On Saturday evening we gathered at the meeting room of the motel for food and wine and a good time. Certificates of the awards from the show were presented to the winners who were present. Then, after dinner, Maedythe Martin gave a talk on “The Developments in the Auricula World in the Past Eighteen Years” – since the last time she gave a talk at an APS banquet in Portland. Everyone enjoyed themselves, made some new friends and got to talk about their favorite plant – the Primula.

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**National Awards and Trophies: National Show 2014**

- **John Kerridge Memorial Award for Best Cowichan** – Maedythe Martin for a garnet red
- **Etha Tate Award for Best Acaulis Primrose** – Roger Eichman for cream-colored double acaulis
- **Ellen Page Hayden Award for Best Double Auricula** – Ann and Jay Lunn for a cream double
- **Frank Michaud Award for Best Named Show Auricula** – Ian MacGowan for ‘Taffeta’
- **Mary Zach Award for Best Show Self Auricula** – Ian MacGowan for ‘Taffeta’
- **John Schuman Award for Best Alpine Auricula** – Ian MacGowan for ‘Avril Hunter’
- **Rae Berry Award for Best Species Primula** – Kelly Dodson for P. forrestii

- **John Kerridge Award for Most Species in Bloom** – Jay and Ann Lunn
- **Duane Buell Award for Best North American Species** – Jay and Ann Lunn for P. rusbyi
- **Mrs. C. C. Chambers Award for Best Double Auricula** – Jay and Ann Lunn for striped lavender and yellow double seedling
- **Peter Klein Award for Hybridizing** – Jay and Ann Lunn for striped lavender and yellow double seedling
- **Novice Award** – Kelly Dodson
- **Chairman’s Award** – Maedythe Martin
- **Dorothy Stredicke Dickson Memorial Award for Outstanding Service to the American Primrose Society** – Julia Haldorson
Newest Developments: Summary of the Talk at the APS Banquet, 2014

MAEDYTHE MARTIN

This talk began when I offered to recap some of the latest developments in the world of auriculas for the BC Primula Group last fall. As I began to pull together the pictures of the amazing new introductions in the last decade, I realized not only were there wonderful plants from England, the Mecca of the auricula grower, but also that I had some introductions from my own hybridizing that were worth a look. And coincidentally I found my notes from my talk at the APS banquet from 1996 – the last time I talked at an APS banquet in Portland. The final sentence was, “and we don’t have to wait to get striped auriculas from England; we can hybridize our own.” My updated talk shows what has happened since 1996 – and we do have some great striped plants in the Pacific Northwest now – some 18 years later.

The stripes were re-created in the 20th century by Allan Hawkes in England. He started in the 1980s and after 15 years finally had some great striped plants. These stripes were lost to cultivation around 1730 because the edged auriculas appeared and they became the favorite plant to grow. In Ireland in the 1920s, Miss Winnifred Wynne found a striped auricula in a cottage garden, ‘Mrs. Dargen,’ that is now believed to be the last of these striped auriculas from the 1700s. Allan crossed everything he could find that was more striped than edged and created ‘Raleigh Stripe’ among others (he had been very interested in old bicycles and continues to name plants after them.) I happened to get a plant of ‘MacBeth Stripe’ and used that in my own breeding program.

Derek Parsons picked up the stripe re-creation project in about 1996 and carried on to introduce hundreds of beautiful plants in the next two decades. ‘Night and Day’ is one of his finest plants. But he also has given us plants in a range of colors unimaginable a few decades ago.

The only way we have of knowing what the plants from the 1700s looked like is to see the ones in the pictures of the day. One source is Furber’s Twelve Months of Flowers. This was 12 engraved pictures of bowls and urns of flowers, and I happen to have a copy that has been colored in a bright and appealing way. (The original engraving would have been black and white, and perhaps hand colored.) This was in fact a nursery catalog and was subscribed to by the elite and wealthy plant collectors of the time.

When I compare the picture of Furber’s striped auricula to some of the ones of today, I can say that we have definitely re-created the stripes of three centuries ago! You can find a color photo of an old painting like this in the APS website Forum. Look for “An Old Painting of Striped Auriculas” (No need to log in).

Amazing developments have also happened in the world of the double auricula. These had also dwindled but were brought back into cultivation after the second World War. The premier grower, Derek Salt, has not only developed some super doubles in a wide range of colors but now has introduced striped doubles. Richard Austin, another gifted hybridizer in England, whom I was lucky enough to meet and visit his greenhouse in 2006, has also added some fine plants to the range of doubles.

Some of the newest and most interesting introductions have been the powdered, or mealed, flowers which in the 1700s were called Painted Ladies. I have some introductions of my own: ‘Gnome,’ ‘Double Painted Lady,’ and ‘Powder and Paint.’ Again I believe we have come very close to re-introducing the Painted Ladies when you compare the image in Furber to some of today’s plants.

I also did a Primula marginata cross with ‘Herb Dickson’ and ‘Wharfedale Bluebell’ in about 2003 and got some interesting blue auriculas. One plant, ‘Blue Calypso,’ is very like the painting of the blue auricula done by Ehret in the 1720s. I am delighted by the thought that I am growing plants very like the ones grown centuries ago.

I can only encourage auricula growers to try to hybridize their plants - for the auricula genes contain so many combinations of things that it is a bit of a mystery just what will show up, but no matter what does, it will be interesting.
The New England Primula Show: What’s it all about?

ANN HILL

Two layers of shelves stretching 60 feet down the hallway at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, in Boylston MA, displayed Primula at their very best for the 2014 Primula Show of the New England Chapter of the APS.

After a challenging winter of snow, ice and long periods of extreme cold lingering into a late spring, the number and quality of Primula surprised all who may have secretly, or not so secretly, wondered what plants would bloom in time for the show.

Each division invited close inspection of their differences with standing name cards. The books for sale and educational displays were assets which also helped visitors to learn more. Marvelous vendors assured that anyone who wished could leave with their own Primula to grow.

Whether it is the form of the flowers or the variety in colors, primroses made a cheerful display irresistible to the crowds who came to Tower Hill Botanic Garden. Sharing the weekend with the Seven States Daffodil Show, the two outstanding shows filled the space in the main building and brought close to 1,300 visitors over the two days.

With two conservatories and extensive gardens including a field of more than 25,000 blooming daffodils, this botanic garden offers much to the winter weary. Those who registered from the NE Chapter also received maps to two interesting local gardens ready for visitors.

As if this weren’t enough, there were four educational events offered during the two days. A slide show of English gardens led by Gioia Browne and Crystal Brinson which included descriptions of an apprentice week with Fergus Garrett at Sissinghurst; an interactive workshop with slides and demonstration on starting seeds led by Ellen Hornig; a presentation by G. K. Fenderson about his gardens at Grout Hill and a round table discussion of Primula and other plants.

The group of 23 registrants gathered for a welcoming dinner, a midday meal and an awards dinner. These social times were enjoyable and cemented the strength of this group’s commitment to work together. Eager to share knowledge, enthusiastic about Primula and happy to include all from novice to experienced grower, the New England Chapter of the APS put together a weekend of great fun.

What’s it all about? Come next year and see.....and continue to “pass it on”. There is always room for one more primrose in the garden and one more member in the APS.

As the flowering season ends, and you are looking over the photos you have taken, please keep in mind that you may send photos in to the Photo Contest at any point in the year.

timekeeper@americanprimrosesociety.com
New England Chapter
Primula Show, May 3, 2014

Most of us expected the display of Primulas at Tower Hill to be very sparse as the result of an extremely late spring, but one after the other, the eleven exhibitors arrived with loads of excellent plants to bench. There may have been little left in their gardens (or under the forcing lights), but the long hall was amply filled with a marvelous selection of early flowering plants, and our experienced judges had plenty of challenges in making their decisions. Here is the list of well deserved ‘Firsts’.

**Division I**
A - Rodney Barker, pink Polyanthuthus
B - Joseph Phillip, yellow Hose-in-Hose Polyanthus, Best of Section, 1st Runner up for Best in Show, and winner of the Elaine Malloy Trophy for Best Garden Grown Plant.
E - Susan Schnare, ‘Sunshine’ P. elatior hybrid
F - Bruce Lockhart, P. veris hybrid
G - Bruce Lockhart, Multi Stemmed Gold Laced Polyanthus
H - Susan Schnare, Silver Laced Polyanthus

**Division II**
A - Matt Mattus, Garnet cowichan acaulis, Best of Section
B - Dorothy Swift, ‘Dawn Ansell’ double white Jack-in-the Green

**Division III**
C - Judith Sellers, mauve ‘Lady Greer’ X juliana

**Division IV**
A - Bruce Lockhart, border purple auricula

**Division V**
A, 2 - Judith Sellers, dark red Self auricula, Best of Section
B, 1 - Judith Sellers, red Gold-Centered Alpine auricula

**Division VI**
A - Deborah Wheeler, P. carniolica
B - Mary Malloy, P. veris
D - Marion Stafford, lavender P. denticulata, Best of Section, Third Runner-up for Best in Show
E - Matt Mattus, P. frondosa
F - Amy Olmsted, P. rosea

**Division VIII**
Deborah Wheeler, P. frondosa foliage

**Division X**
Matt Mattus, Five Primulas in One Container, Best of Section

**New England Winners**

Above: Many of the winners at the New England show, including Judith Sellers’ Best in Show ‘Forest Lemon’ and the runner ups: Joe Philip’s yellow Hose-in-Hose and Marion Stafford’s lavender P. denticulata and her juliana hybrid, ‘Lois Lutz’ above Dorothy Swift’s Best Seedling Polyanthus. Photo taken by Judith Sellers.

Above: Matt Mattus’ Best of Section winner - Five Primulas in one Container - which Matt says are all grown from seed and raised in his garden. Photo by Matt Mattus.

Right: A close-up of Judith Sellers’ winner ‘Forest Lemon’ taken by Matt Mattus.
More of the New England Show

Left: Joe Philip won Best of Section, 1st Runner up for Best in Show, and the Elaine Malloy Trophy for Best Garden Grown Plant for his yellow Hose-in-Hose Polyanthus, which Matt Mattus dug up, potted and entered in his name, without him knowing!

Right: A bronze and copper double auricula from Richard Austin’s breeding program, named ‘Chocolate Teapot’ entered by Judith Sellers. These are grown in the protection of an unheated west facing room adjacent to her house in upstate New York. Photos by Matt Mattus

Above: A full show bench displaying the many varied forms of Primula that one sees at the shows, including Gold-laced Poly, P. sieboldii, some doubles and a ruffled green Poly. A visual delight!

Left: P. sieboldii entered by Emma Elliot from Wild Ginger Nursery. To emulate how P. sieboldii is shown in Japan, she put five plants in a heavy grey clay pot. Photos by Michael Plumb

APS National Show 2014
Above: APS Display at the National Show in Portland highlighting Barnhaven’s history with the APS, and displaying some of our trophies. Photo by M. Martin.

Below, Left: Best Named Show Auricula ‘Taffeta’, a Show Self auricla, entered by Ian MacGowan - an introduction from England, raised by Tim Coop.

Below, Right: Best Cowichan in Show - a deep garnet - entered by Maedythe Martin

Photos by Michael Plumb

Left: Roger Eichman’s winning cream-colored double acaulis in the foreground.

Below: Best Plant in Show and Best Species, entered by Kelly Dodson, a brilliant yellow P. forrestii, with Jay Lunn’s Best North American Species in the foreground – P. rusbyi – with its soft purple-blue flower and yellow eye.

Below: The Lunn’s striking P. sieboldii display showing flowers from plain round to the finely cut snowflake forms. The colors ranged from a deep magenta through many shades of pink to white.

Photos by Michael Plumb
See who was at the National Show

Left: Our President, Alan Lawrence, in front of the APS display with prints from the Dorreta Klaber book on Primula pinned in the background.

Below: The Eichmans arrive with an old washtub full of show entries. Jean is staging in the foreground.

Facing page, top: Jay Lunn welcomes us into one of his greenhouses.

Facing page, bottom: The Show Committee visits the Lunns for a tour. Left to right: Jennifer Rogers, Maedythe Martin, Bryce Fradley, and Jean Haussermann.

Photos this page by M. Martin
White Viallii

Christina Smith, third-year student in the Horticulture with Plantsmanship Program at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh sent us this photo of an ‘Alba’ version of *P. viallii*, which is not often seen.

News and Notes this Spring

Organizing an Oregon Primula Study Group

It was announced at the APS banquet that Robin Hanson will contact *Primula* growers in the Portland area to see if she can arrange a meeting. There has been no Chapter in Oregon for some years now, and it would be great if there was a chance for interested growers to meet maybe once a year to compare notes and ideas on growing *Primula*. Many of the people who might come are nurserymen, as is Robin, so the timing may have to be in a less-busy season of the year, but Robin will see what might work for everyone.

If you are in the Portland area and are interested in joining a study group on *Primula* you can contact Robin by email at robin@hansonnursey.com.

Kris’ Garden

A long time member of APS and an avid gardener, Kris Fenderson is not only a keen *Primula* grower but displays his many other garden interests in a jewel of a garden on 300 acres in rural New Hampshire where he lives. The house dates from the 1790s and there is an old barn from 1836 that he has recently restored. These set the backdrop for many interesting plants and well-designed garden beds.

Take a look at some pictures of his garden in the article in *New Hampshire Home* magazine.

http://www.nhhomemagazine.com/March-April-2014/A-grand-spring-awakening-at-the-Grout-Hill-Farm

Hybridizing Note - Jackanapes

Standing with Roger Eichmann, looking at the show bench, he said to me – ‘Now, I would just cross something like this – a little hose-in-hose poly – with this – a jack-in-the-green Juliana – and I would get all kinds of Jackanapes!’ Always interested in hybridizing, I found my ears had perked up with this information. Many of us have ‘Jay-Jay’ – the Juliana with the green ruff around the flowers.

Roger also told me, “Jackanapes is a cross between a hose-in-hose primrose or polyanthus, and a jack-in-the-green. It occurs because of incomplete dominance between recessives. This is sort of like white in a polyanthus, which is a cross between a yellow and a purple: poly, which actually have no white gene. Dominance/recessive
characteristics have little meaning unless referenced to another gene and to the species. And this all breaks down with polyploids such as auriculas.”

Now if you can just find a hose-in-hose, you can create all those fascinating Elizabethan throwbacks that are such fun to see!

Barnhaven

Lynne and David Lawson, owners of the Barnhaven Nursery are featured in an article in *The English Garden*, March 2014. “Brimming with Winners” by David Wheeler, briefly recounts the origin and 80 year history of Barnhaven and mentions the wide range of primula available through seeds and plants from the nursery. From its origin in Oregon to its present home in north-west France, Barnhaven has supplied primrose and polyanthus seeds and plants to grateful gardeners around the world since it began in the 1940s.

Double primroses are Lynne’s particular passion and she has created a number of new names to add to the already enticing list in the catalogue:

- Sundae – peaches and cream, pink with a white edge
- Pink Grapefruit – orangey apricot
- Brittany Blue – the blue of sun-washed doors in Brittany
- Guernsey Cream – new introduction, creamy flowers over bronze foliage
- Miss Doris – fuschia pink with white edges
- Raspberry Ripple – dark pink with white edges
- Melenoc’h – sunshine yellow, “more yellow than yellow” in Breton

APS members are fortunate to be able to purchase small amounts of Barnhaven Seeds from the seed exchange each year, and while seed from named doubles is not likely available, seed for double primroses will be, and who knows what lovely things you might get?

David Lawson has introduced some auriculas in the past few years:

- Francoise – dark double purple
- Bessie – dark plum double
- Marie Pierre – dusky pink double
- Lilac Mist – recent introduction, hazy lavender and green pistachio
- Theodora – green-edged fancy with rust ground
- Green Lane – green edged fancy with a red ground

Luckily, daughter Jodie has joined the staff at the Nursery and pursues her own interests, as well as providing some security for the next generation at the family-run Nursery.


Slides, slides and more slides!

The APS received a donation of all Cy Happy’s slides last year, and some slides from the Berry Botanical Garden have also been added to the big box of binders with hundreds of slides. Some are of historical interest and there is some discussion of what to do with these. Some of Cy’s images of Julianas appeared in the spring issue, and more will be used in the quarterly, but capturing all of these digitally is a huge task!

The APS has no archives or archivist, and yet there are items of historical interest lodged here and there with various members. Does anyone have any thoughts about what we might do with this material? Any suggestions welcome!

The New Facebook Primula Group

The future has arrived in the Primula world! On May 4, Amy Olmsted created a Facebook page called “The Primula Lovers Group” and immediately it began to attract followers. It states: “This is the place to post photos, happenings, news and all things *Primula!* All are welcome and we hope to see lots of activity here as this is the time of year when the Primroses are at their best! For more information about all things *Primula* take a look at the American Primrose Society website. There’s so much there to see and learn! http://americanprimrosesociety.org/”

It appears the idea to do this arose at the round table discussion at the New England show when ways to attract new *Primula* growers and new members to APS were being mulled over. Judith said she had enjoyed the Facebook pages of some local gardening groups and perhaps there could be a *Primula* one. And so it started! There were over 100 friends in the first week, and now there are over 160.

If you are not a Facebook member, you can always get a friend or relative who is a member to log on and you can look over their shoulder at “The Primula Lovers Group”. There are lots of photos posted already by Kris Fenderson, Matt Mattus, Amy Olmsted, and Pam Eveleigh, among many others. Any questions are welcome – if you need someone’s thoughts on a primrose-related question – get it out there and see what happens. This is the way of the future for like-minded *Primula* growers to keep in touch and show off their latest treasures!

See page 25-26 for the Website Update, and information on the new APS Facebook Page.
Our Vice-President, Rhondda Porter, made this neat crossword puzzle, which she distributed at the National Show banquet. We wanted to give all our members a chance to see it!

\[ \text{EclipseCrossword.com} \]

Across
1. the founder of Barnhaven
5. one of the tallest Primula
7. primula growers' enemy #1
8. another name for a garden auricula
10. alpine primula with red hairs on sticky leaves
12. the most widely-grown candelabra primula
13. the white or yellow meal found on some Primula
15. a dainty Japanese primula
16. the drumstick primula

Down
2. a show auricula with only one colour on the petals
3. a tiny primula from Scotland
4. the only South American primula
6. a grey killer mould
9. a plant which has recently joined the Primula family
11. small, cave and cliff-dwelling primula of the Alps
14. the part of the stamen containing pollen

Species A to Z, Hybrids, Auriculas, Plants by Region, Culture (over 12 items, including Hybridizing, Fertilizing, and Pests), Showing and Judging, Nomenclature, Science, History, Plant Hunting, Biographies, Society Business, Book Reviews, Literary Articles, Gardens.

Further indexes will be added (for example, ‘Trophies’). The indexes take a lot of time to prepare, so please be patient for indexes to cover Volume 12 (1953) to the present (Volume 72)! But we intend to post all the past journals as soon as possible, whether or not indexes have been prepared for them, so you will have the pleasure of doing your own research!

And did you know that you can already view the seventeen most recent issues of the Primroses quarterly on the website? One big advantage for those of you, like me, who have trouble reading small print is that the PDF files allow you to enlarge the page – Wonderful!
And the photos appear in luminous color on your monitor’s screen.

In addition, growers of Primula species will be interested in the *Pictorial Dictionary*, available for members from the Home Page menu (Please log in first). This work was a compilation of articles written for the quarterly up to Volume 12. Some of the species’ names have changed over time, but the information is still valid. The Dictionary has its own alphabetical search function. I wish to thank Jane Guild, Maedythe Martin and the BC Primula Group for this asset.

Our apologies to those of you who have been trying to post photos on the Forum recently. There is no problem in posting text, but the program does not permit photos at present. We are investigating. In the meantime, you can post your photos on our new APS Facebook Page! See the insert - right.

The APS is now on Facebook!
Visit the APS website (www.americanprimrosesociety.org) and then click on the link to Facebook. You can post your favorite primula photos and exchange information with other primula lovers everywhere. Because we want to make the average gardener aware of the wide variety of primula species available, the APS Facebook page is open to everyone, not just APS members. Search for “American Primrose Society” from your Facebook page and like us today!

We have a new category on the Home Page: ‘Primula of the Month’. Currently it is *Primula japonica*, in glorious bloom in my own garden. I didn’t realize the seed I had planted was of the white form, and what a knockout the mature plant is! But I should be most grateful if you would send me photos of what is currently in bloom in your own gardens. Please send to michaelcplumb@yahoo.ca, or send to ‘webmaster’ from the website. We should be able to cover nearly all the months, as *Primula allionii* is often in flower in early January, and *P. vialii*, *P. capitata* and *P. florindae* are very late blooming, sometimes well into October.

If you would like access to the members’ areas mentioned above (past quarterlies and the *Pictorial Dictionary*), please contact me, Michael Plumb, at one of the addresses given above. This benefit comes as part of your membership, so why not take advantage of it?

Julia Haldorson
Dorothy Dickson Award Recipient, 2014

The APS award for outstanding service to the Society was given to Julia Haldorson this year. Julia has been a long time member of APS and served as Treasurer for more than two decades. She then transitioned to Membership Chair 9 years ago and has kept track of members ever since. This is invaluable to the society, for Julia pulls together the mailing list for each issue of the quarterly!

Attending meetings and programs of the Juneau Chapter of the American Primrose Society led to a keen interest in raising primroses in Juneau, where Julia lived and gardened for over 30 years. She now makes her home on Whidbey Island in Washington State where she is developing a new garden. Alaska is still near and dear; most summers are spent there, hiking and visiting friends.

Julia is always a willing worker and has attended many of the APS National Shows. The adjacent photo shows her at the National Show held in Victoria in 2008.
American Primrose Society
MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday, April 12th, 2014 at 2.00 pm Pacific, 1.00 pm Alaskan, 5.00 pm Eastern
(Held in person at the National Show, Portland, Oregon, and via the APS website 'chat')

Board members present: Rodney Barker (Co-Chair, New England Chapter), Ed Buyarski (Director), Julia Haldorson (Director), Merrill Jensen (Director), Alan Lawrence (President), Maedythe Martin (Editorial Committee and Chair of the BC Group), Amy Olmsted (Director), Michael Plumb (Secretary), Rhondda Porter (Vice-President)

Other APS members present: Mark Dyen, Carmel Tysver, Kathy Martinbee

Regrets: Cheri Fluck (Director), Jon Kawaguchi (Treasurer)

A. A quorum of the board (50% of the board plus one board member) was determined.

B. Other APS members present were advised that they could also vote.

C. Approval of the agenda: MOTION (Ed / Maedythe): to move item H1 (EBSCO) to the first item of business after the adoption of the previous minutes (item D).
   Carried.

D. Adoption of the Minutes of February 9th, 2014: Ed / Michael

EBSCO contract (Originally item H1) - This item was postponed from the February meeting:
MOTION: (Michael / Rhondda): “That the American Primrose Society enter into a contract with EBSCO for the publishing of the APS quarterly Primroses.”
Motion defeated. All present were opposed (Rodney arrived on line after the vote.). The Treasurer (Jon Kawaguchi) had also expressed his opposition to the motion in a previous email. It was decided that the financial benefits were unclear; the APS would lend copyright in perpetuity which might affect attempts to merge with other plant societies; increased exposure could be gained by internet search engine optimization (improving our search ranking by altering the website home page, increasing the number of website links, etc.); the board has not yet decided what to do with back issues (to make all or some freely available to the public, or to keep all for members only).

E. Treasurer’s Report (sent previously by email): adopted (Rhondda / Ed)
Total assets as of March 31, 2014: $28,899.71
Net Income First Quarter 2014: $169.76
Donations: $1,040. Much appreciated, and much needed.

F. Committee Reports
   1. Seed Exchange:
      So far net revenue, as mentioned in the Treasurer’s Report, is $283.66. Report was submitted too late for review by the members attending the show. Tabled for next board meeting.

2. Quarterly Editorial Committee Report adopted (Rodney / Amy):
   The two most recent issues have had cracked spines. The cause is suspected to be the extremely dry air caused by unusually cold weather where the Quarterly is published. Alan said he had rebound 100 issues to send to Tromso Botanic Garden, Norway, since they had contributed a large article to the winter issue and had been promised this number. Also, any APS member who would like a replacement for a bad copy of the Winter Q should contact Alan.

3. Website Committee Report adopted (Rhontha / Michael)
   For website access purposes, Michael advised that he cannot determine who the joining / renewing member is if membership dues are paid through PayPal by a different person, unless the purchaser makes a special note in the space provided (‘Tell us if this is a gift’).
   Summary of Website Report: 150 members are active users; the average visit lasts 2 minutes; the Seed Exchange received 40 orders and payments through the website; sadly, the Forum is under-used; 30 North American members joined / renewed membership using PayPal, but only seven from overseas; Michael is scanning all back issues of the Quarterly (1943 to the present) to prepare a complete online library (one quarter finished).

4. National Show: Tabled for the next board meeting (Show still in progress!)

5. Membership Committee Report: The written report was submitted too late for review by members attending the show. Tabled for next board meeting, but summary follows: Membership as of April 10, 2014: 251 members (207 regular, 44 life); approximately 80 renewals still to come. Julia will send email reminders soon (Julia has been unwell).

G. Chapter Reports [Brief report on recent meetings and financial summary]
   1. Alaska: No report. Alaska has donated $500 to help with the current National Show.
   2. New England: They will be holding their Chapter Show on May 3rd and 4th. The show chair will send details to Michael for the website.

H. Business Arising from the Minutes, and Old Business
   1. EBSCO contract: See above, after Item D.
   2. Dorothy Dickson Award for Service to the APS: The board had previously voted by email to award this to Julia Haldorson for her work as both Treasurer and Membership Secretary over many years. Cheri Fluck will be asked to prepare a certificate to send her.
   3. Election of Vice-President, Treasurer and two Directors – Secretary’s report:
      The election tally is incomplete owing to a delay at the printer’s, but so far 12 ballots have been received, all in favor of the slated candidates. [Michael will record the final count in the next minutes of the next board meeting.]

I. Provisional dates of the next three board meetings: Alan will contact Michael with these.

J. Adjournment: Moved by Rhondda.
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 18604
Raleigh, NC 27619-8604

https://www.nargs.org/info/smembership.

Join the National Auricula & Primula Society

Midland & West Section

www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk

£10.00 Overseas Membership.

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>

OFFICERS OF THE CHAPTERS

Should there ever be a question about your membership, please contact:

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