Primroses
The Quarterly of the
American Primrose Society

Volume 75 No 1 Winter 2017

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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Editorial Deadlines
Winter issue - October 15
Spring issue - January 15
Summer issue - April 15
Autumn issue - July 15
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Membership in the Society includes a subscription to Primroses, seed exchange privileges, password to the member’s only section of the APS website (including the Pictorial Dictionary) and use of the slide library.

Does for individual or household membership, domestic and Canada are:
$25 per calendar year
$70 for three years
Overseas rates are:
$32 per calendar year
$90 for three years.

Membership renewals are due November 15 and are delinquent January 1. Submit payment to the treasurer.

Advertising rates per issue:
Black and White:
Full page: $100
Half page: $50
1/4 page: $30
1/8 page: $15
Color:
Half page: $150
Full page: $300
Back Cover: $450
Contact the treasurer for details.

The View from Here

MICHAE L PLUMB, APS SECRETARY AND WEBSITE MANAGER

During these dark days of winter, why not cheer yourself up by going to the website and browsing through 240 back issues of the Quarterly, dating from 1943 to 2013, available to you without the need for a password. That’s 70 years’ worth of observations, tips and pictures about Primula, enough to see you through to spring and beyond!

If you have just joined the society, not only do you receive this first paper issue (the one you are reading right now), but as a member you also have simultaneous access to the eleven other most recent issues in electronic form on the website, which is a pretty good deal for the cost of membership! Just contact me for your user name and password by clicking on ‘webmaster’ at the bottom of the Home Page. Be warned - it may take me a day or two to get back to you - much repotting to do! And make sure you have the latest version of Adobe Acrobat Reader, which you can download free from the internet.

The website is also a gateway to the society’s Facebook page, which is available to everyone, both members and non-members.
There is another benefit regarding the Quarterly which you may not be aware of. Every three months we wait eagerly for our copy of the Primroses Quarterly to arrive in the mail. Our editor sends each new issue to the printer in electronic form by email and at the same time sends it to me for uploading to the website. The paper copy has to be printed, addressed and then mailed out, all of which takes time, whereas the electronic copy I receive can be posted on the website in a flash! There are no delays due to bad weather, postal strikes, or whatever! So why not ask me for your codes and take advantage of this benefit?

Recently, I deleted the names of everyone who had not logged into the website since December 2015. I did this to gain a much better idea of the use, or rather under-use, of this benefit to APS members. Only 76 members have logged into the member-only areas this year, 2016. Their names remain. If you find you are blocked and can’t log in, please contact me (‘webmaster’) and I will send you a new user name and password. You can also contact me at michaelleplumb@yahoo.ca.

Renewal Reminder
JULIA HALDORSON, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

As we are past the end of the calendar year, renewals for 2015 are now past due. Renewing is an easy process at the American Primrose Society website, www.americanprimrosesociety.org. You can use PayPal or the membership application form found there. Submit payment to our Treasurer:

Jon Kawaguchi, 3524 Bowman Court, Alameda, California 94502 USA

If you have not already renewed, please renew today.

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Treatise on the Auricula, 1822
THOMAS HOGG, EXCERPTS BY MAEDYTHE MARTIN

A small, unassuming, even unattractive book on my bookshelf is in fact a historical treasure. It has been rebound, but is a work about Florist flowers written by Thomas Hogg in 1822. Things were more mannered and formal in those days. The title page reads:

A CONCISE AND PRACTICAL TREATISE ON THE GROWTH AND CULTURE OF THE CARNATION, PINK, AURICULA, POLYANTHUS, RANUNCULUS, TULIP, HYACINTH, ROSE AND OTHER FLOWERS, INCLUDING A DISSERTATION ON SOILS AND MANURE AND CONTAINING Catalogues of the finest and most esteemed varieties of each flower

By THOMAS HOGG, Florist, PADDINGTON GREEN, MIDDLESEX.

A dedication to the Right Honorable Dowager Lady De Clifford follows. The introduction, all 16 pages of it, is very philosophical, presented in the overblown prose of the day. But it is the section on the auricula that we will turn to today.

It is called “Of the Auricula” and has a plate of a green edged flower from 1822. It begins: “The Primula Auricula is a flower of great beauty, and in general estimation: it is not less remarkable for the great variety
Hogg discusses the proportions of a fine green-edged auricula: in short “every part must be in exact proportions one to another” but then moves on to “point out the particular soil or compost in which it is found to thrive best. In doing this, I am aware of the difficulty of giving any receipt, however excellent it may be, that will be generally approved or generally adopted, for the different composts used by florists in growing this flower are as numerous, I might say, as the florists themselves.” It is amazing that his thoughts are so clearly laid out and approachable over 180 years later. His advice seems to me quite sound. “Almost all pride themselves in this, that they are in possession of some infallible nostrum, and some particular system, which are unknown to any but themselves: yet after all this mystery and boasting, the state and condition of their plants too often belie their pretended skill… Simple and easy methods of cultivation have always appeared to me most successful. I have often witnessed persons taking extraordinary pains and incurring unnecessary expense, to injure, if not destroy their flowers…”

“The late Matthew Kenney, gardener by profession, was perhaps, one of the most successful and eminent growers of Auriculas in his day, and won as many prizes as most men during the course of ten or twelve years he lived at Totteridge, in Middlesex. He certainly had all the benefits of air, situation and soil, which, coupled with his fondness for the flower, and his skilful treatment of it, to say nothing of his being almost constantly in his garden, gave him a decided superiority over many of his competitors, and insured as it were his chances of success. He always kept by him a quantity of sound staple loam, of rather a sandy nature; this he sweetened, by frequent turning. His next principle ingredient was sheep-dung and hay litter, well rotten, by being turned, mixed and fermented in the same manner as the gardener does horse-dung and straw litter. This he never made use of under twelve or eighteen months, when it had the appearance of leaf of fine vegetable mould; sometimes he put to it a small portion of cow-dung, but this very seldom; a little clean, coarse sand was generally added. Those formed his compost for growing them in; but he had another of a richer quality, if I may so term it, with which he used to top-dress his plants and this he would do sometimes twice in the year. When they killed any sheep, he always reserved the blood, and mixed it with the dung of poultry. These two ingredients he added to his loam and of its colours, than for their particular brightness. Its smooth broad leaf, of an oblong shape and glossy, green, with an indented edge, sets off its polyanthus, or many-petaled blossom, to great advantage; each petal or florets of which is supported by a small foot-stalk, rising from the top of the main stalk, the whole forming a magnificent bunch or tress, and exhibiting an appearance of grandeur but little suited to the size of the plant, or indeed expected from it; it flowers early in the spring, and is, indeed, one of its greatest ornaments…”

He continues, “It is called an alpine or mountainous plant, because it is not only a native of the mountains, but because it grows and thrives best in airy and elevated situations. In low places, surrounded with damps and fogs, it is difficult to keep it in any tolerable health…” This is a basic requirement to which modern growers will want to pay attention. Air circulation is vital to the health of auriculas. Hogg goes on to describe the variety of colors and forms, and describes the distinctive meal found on auriculas. “The flowers are covered, more or less, with a species of farina or powder, which has a curious and pleasing effect, and serves in some degree to defend them against the rain and sun. This farina is not confined to the blossom only, but is scattered over the leaves of some plants, though not all.” I learned, to my dismay, that farina is not proof against deer. I had a red self sitting in a pan of water on my porch last spring, and a deer daintily stepped onto the porch and ate the flower stem off. She didn’t eat the leaves, so maybe the farina did help there.
sheep-dung and these constituted his compost for surface-dressing.”

This mix turns out to be much what I use:
- 3 parts minerally soil
- 3 parts sieved coir (coconut fibre)
- 2 parts grit/coarse sand

Add to the mix (about 8 gallons) ½ cup superphosphate and ½ cup dolomite lime. These things make a John Innis sort-of mix.

For adult auriculas I use the following:
- For each 4 parts John Innes mix (above) I add:
  - 2 parts grit/coarse sand
  - 2 parts sieved oak leaf mold

Add to the mix (about 8 gallons) 1 cup dolomite lime

If I am feeling very virtuous I add some blood meal. In the last batch I made I added ½ part year old well-rotted manure. And sometimes I add some grated charcoal. It partly depends on how much trouble you want to go to. We are fortunate here at the west coast to have a minerally sub-soil that is exposed whenever a new subdivision goes in. It is clean of weed seeds, as it is buried beneath about a foot and a half of forest duff. I can go and gather a pail-full of this subsoil by the side of the new road.

Hobbs goes on to describe other mixes he has known local auricula growers to use, and then to describe repotting. He also mentions top dressing the pots in the early spring with a rich mix of dung, leaf mould and sand. He even mentions the very strange sounding mix that Emmerton used, and of which we have all heard of before, that includes goose dung, night soil and baker’s scum. This also could be used for topdressing pots in the spring. I think the moral of the story is to remember that auriculas are heavy feeders and that we have modern plant foods that could take the place of these peculiar sounding top dressings, and one should use what is to hand. Not many of us have goose dung in their back yard.

The final section describes care of the auricula pots through the season and discusses when is a good time to repot. Some of this information will work for auricula growers in North America, but some will not. In Victoria I find getting the plants through our very dry summers is an issue. We do not usually have a hot summer, but those in other parts of the country might have a problem. On the whole, this is an interesting and readable discourse on all aspects of growing auriculas, and maybe one of you readers who has some research skills, and the inclination, might find this book in one of the scanned libraries on-line and send a reference for all to read.

The New England Chapter will host the 2017 APS National Primula Show at Tower Hill Botanic Garden near Worcester, Massachusetts on May 5, 6 & 7. Lynne Lawson and Jodie Mitchell, Barnhaven owners and co-authors of the recent book, The Plant Lover’s Guide to Primulas, will be our featured guests and presenters. Judged Primula exhibits, the AGM, specialty plant vendors, a garden party, Round Table discussion and other events will guarantee an enjoyable weekend for all.

A schedule of events and registration form will be available on the APS website in February.
Pam Eveleigh and Primula World

An interview with Pam from 2015 with many wonderful photos can be found at Three Dogs in a Garden’s blog at:
http://threedogsinagarden.blogspot.ca/2015/05/an-intrepid-plantswoman-primula-hunter.html

Check out Pam’s February post on her website Primula World “Bringing seeds into focus” where you’ll find amazing photos of Primula seed taken through a microscope. Pam outlines how you can take these photos yourself, but it’s probably easier to just read her article!

And from June, Pam writes “Going around in circles - Primula minutissima, Victor Jacquemont, and Mangled Maps” an interesting tale of research and its often circuitus path.

The list of Most Viewed posts on the right-hand side of the Primula World homepage is always interesting.

Primula ‘Fenlander’

Derek Salt has hybridised Primula elatior ssp. meyeri with Primula ‘David Valentine’ (Primula elatior x Primula juliae). This has resulted in a handsome new hybrid he now calls ‘Fenlander’. There is an article in the NAPS Midland and West Yearbook, 2016 (ARGUS 63), page 17 by Derek about his new introduction.

APS Quarterlies for 75 years online

I hope you remember that the whole run of quarterlies (minus the last 3 years) is available anytime to anyone on the APS website. Recently, Jay Lunn was looking for an article he wrote for Primroses some time ago and here is what he wrote to Michael Plumb, our dedicated secretary who scanned the run of Primroses:

Hi Michael,

Recently I was trying to find an article that I had written for Primroses a while back (quite a while back it turns out.) While downloading some copies of the quarterly, I came across the CONTENTS section for Vol. 37, 1979. Without an Index for the period, this was a very helpful thing to find, for it let me know that wasn’t the year I was looking for.

It would be nice if we could have an entry like this for all of the years where there isn’t an index available. It would at least be a little help for folks to find what they may be looking for. Some publications print an index each year for their publication. If the APS did that, it would make it much easier for someone trying to put together an index covering several years. That job wouldn’t be a task for anyone to look forward to.

I appreciate all the work you have done to scan the old Quarterlies and get them on-line. When I was trying to find my article, I looked through our printed copies and I couldn’t locate it. Having it on-line helped me to find it. I didn’t remember I wrote it back in my youth!

Jay

If any APS reader would like to help compile a contents list or even work on an index for Primroses, please contact Michael Plumb (email inside front cover). Ed.
We were saddened to learn that long time APS member Barbara Blyth passed away on June 18, 2016 in La Ronge, Canada at the age of 87. She was born in Durham, England on January 2, 1929, and as a young woman moved to Saskatchewan where she founded and maintained the first public library for the First Nations people. Always filled with energy and concern for others, politically aligned with her neighbors’ tribe, Barbara continued growing the English plants she and even some of the Himalayan species in her zone 2 garden until last year when she had to evacuate her home because of wildfires. Barbara shared her knowledge of plants, sense of humor and belief that ‘life is fun’ with all who knew her.

“We at the West Coast all met Barbara when she came out to the National Show held here in Victoria in 2008. She was certainly a character and added a great deal to the show experience for everyone. Judith has kept in touch with her over the years. Below is a note Barbara sent after the show to the organizers.

“My first visit to an American Primrose Society show was much more than I could have expected. In fact, I didn’t know what to expect, as I only knew Pam Eveleigh in the primula world.

The quality of the entries was impressive and making friendships with other APS members was a great antidote to thinking about my snow-bound garden, still covered with a fresh layer in late April...

The icing on the cake for me was the gift of Michael Plumb’s winning Primula vulgaris at the end of the show. It is home in northern Saskatchewan now, and planted in the ground, as the snow has finally melted, the mini-jonquils are showing buds and the eagles are back.

It was a great weekend, and I congratulate the organizers on all their hard work.”

~ Barbara Blyth
La Ronge, Saskatchewan.
APS Quarterly, Summer 2008
A Promise of Spring

Even in the depths of winter, we can see the signs of things to come...

New leaves on an allionii cross and on Primula marginata.

Photos: top - Kevin Baker, bottom - Maedythe Martin

Winter blooming auriculas remind us of spring flowers to come.

Winter white double auricula seedling with touches of green, blooming in November.

Photos: top two - Kevin Baker, bottom - Maedythe Martin

Kevin Baker’s show auricula seedlings blooming late in the season
Kevin Baker’s Seedlings from 2016

Many interesting flower forms come from Kevin’s deliberate and not-so-deliberate crosses.

All photos: Kevin Baker

Below we see a cross Kevin has been working on that started with *P. x pubescens* and some *P. marginata*, that is turning out to be very pretty with clear colors.
Hobbs’ Treatise on the Auricula, 1822

A few more of Kevin Baker’s plants:

Blue self auricula seedling

Handsome burnt orange double auricula

Single plate of a green-edged auricula shows the form of the time period.
Hardiness Zones

We often see hardiness zones printed on plant labels, but often these are confusing. Either we don't know our own zone, or plants behave entirely differently in our gardens. Here, we present a primer on hardiness zones for your information.

A hardiness zone is a geographically defined area in which a specific category of plant life is capable of growing. For example, a plant that is described as “hardy to zone 10” means that the plant can withstand a minimum temperature of −1 °C (30 °F). A more resilient plant that is “hardy to zone 9” can tolerate a minimum temperature of −7 °C (19 °F). First developed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the use of the zones has been adopted by other countries.

The hardiness zones are informative: the extremes of winter cold are a major determinant of whether a plant species can be cultivated outdoors at a particular location; however, the USDA hardiness zones have a number of drawbacks if used without supplementary information. The zones do not incorporate summer heat levels into the zone determination; thus sites which may have the same winter temperatures, but markedly different summer temperatures, will be accorded the same hardiness zone.

Another issue is that the hardiness zones do not take into account the reliability of the snow cover. Snow acts as an insulator against extreme cold, protecting the root system of hibernating plants. If the snow cover is reliable, the actual temperature to which the roots are exposed will not be as low as the hardiness zone number would indicate.

Other factors that affect plant survival, though not considered in hardiness zones, are soil moisture, humidity, the number of days of frost, and the risk of a rare catastrophic cold snap. Some risk evaluation – the probability of getting a particularly severe low temperature – often would be more useful than just the average conditions.

Below are some websites with further information:

- Change in hardiness zones in the US
  https://www.arborday.org/media/map_change.cfm

Harvey Wrightman (1949-2016)

It is with sadness that we report the death of Harvey Wrightman, famed plantsman, and founder of Wrightman Alpines Nursery. The plant world has lost a great man.

Wrightman Alpine Nursery was established in 1985 in Kerwood, Ontario, where super tufa crevice gardens were constructed by Josef Halda and Harvey Wrightman. In 2014 Harvey, his wife Irene and their daughter Esther and her family all moved with the nursery to St. Andrews, in New Brunswick, Canada.

A moving tribute to her father, written by Esther is written on the Wrightman Alpine Nursery website. It can be found at https://www.wrightmanalpines.com/blogs/esther/2016/dec/harvey-wrightman-1949-2016

It details not only Harvey’s own life and how he came to be a plantsman, but Esther’s childhood and life growing up alongside him, accompanied by some great photos.

Harvey will be missed, but we are very lucky that Wrightman Alpines will carry on.
CULTURAL NOTES FROM
PETER KLEIN
RECORDED BY HAZEL KELLER

These notes were found on some old, yellowing pages discovered when sorting some papers from the Tacoma Primrose Society. These notes were taken from time to time at their meetings when Peter Klein was their hybridizing chairman. These are some interesting things to think about, however some of his suggestions will be out of date, or contain chemicals no longer available or no longer considered safe. Use them at your own discretion.

SEEDS: Use a seed disinfectant such as Arasan or Semesan with your seeds. Disease is easier to prevent than control.

Fill your flats with soil so there is no dead air in corners. To prevent wilt in seedlings – sprinkle transplants with a solution of potassium permanganate 1 oz. to 5 gals. of water. Be sure to water your flats in the morning with tepid not cold water – so the plants will be thoroughly dry before sundown. Do not water them in full sun. After fertilizing seedlings sprinkle with clear water to wash fertilizer from leaves. Transplant seedlings when second pair of true leaves appear.

- Rotate plantings yearly. If that is impossible change at least part of the soil around plants to obtain the same results.
- Use a good drench of fermate or captan on soil where plants have been killed with frost – 1 oz. to 3 gals. of water.
- After first frost mulch plants with dry straw. As season advances add more straw.
- Remove all dead leaves and waste material from the floor and benches of the greenhouse and place on the compost pile. To speed decomposition use 7 parts sulfate of ammonia, 6 parts lime and 2 parts super phosphate - Mix well and soak the material. Fertesan is a fine ready-mixed material.
- Use 1 part 37% formaldehyde to 50 parts of water to wash pots and greenhouse benches. Also spray it under the benches. Use parathion for mealy bugs on greenhouse primroses.

A GOOD POTTING (Merton’s Mix)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredient</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 parts loam</td>
<td>1 1/2 oz. horn meal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 parts peat moss</td>
<td>3/4 oz. ground limestone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 parts sand</td>
<td>3/4 oz. murate of potash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 1/2 oz. superphosphate</td>
<td>Mix well</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In baiting for slugs remove both ends of a tin can and hide the bait inside the can. Be sure to keep bait available as the slugs never give up.
- Bank the soil around the outside of your hot beds to conserve heat.

FAIRY RING: Use permanganate of potash - 1 oz to 1 gal. of water. Soak area every 14 days until the condition is controlled. The same solution is helpful in control of fungus on benches and floor of the greenhouse.

- Use copper oxide - 1 oz. to 3 gals. water for dampoff and stem canker.
- Dust with sulfur for mildew, and avoid drafts in the house.
- Spray with bordeaux mixture for leaf spot.
- For aphids or plant lice spray with nicotine sulphate or dust with pyrethrum or rotenone.
- Dust with rotenone for fledd beetle.
- Root maggots - water well with nicotine sulphate solution - 1 tsp. to 1 gal. water, or use aldrin.

Thoughts on soil:
- Use soil to hold the plant upright.
Viability of *Primula* Seed

JAY LUNN

I consider *Primula* seed to have relatively limited viability. Ann and I received some *P. flaccida* seed from a gardener that had acquired it 15 years before it was passed along to us. It had been stored in a refrigerator with a desiccant before we received it. I usually sow primrose seed quite sparingly, but I wasn’t too concerned about planting this 15-year old seed fairly heavily. Unfortunately, it came up like grass (see the photo).

I didn’t heed Pam Eveleigh’s advice in Primula World to “Save some in the fridge in case your first batch doesn’t germinate or suffers a disaster before plants can become established in your garden” see for information at: (http://www.primulaworld.com/PWweb/growingfromseednew.html). We attempted to transplant the seedlings, but all of them promptly died. Either the seedlings didn’t like to be disturbed or it was just too warm when we tried to transplant them.

It would be nice to hear from other members about their experiences in growing *Primula* from relatively old seed, with or without the use of Gibberellic Acid (GA-3), see Primula World on this subject. Maybe I should dig out some of the old primrose seed we are storing in our refrigerator collecting dust and see what results I can get!

Please be sure to let us know the results of your own germination of APS seeds from the Seed Exchange! Photos are always welcome!
Chapter Reports

NE Chapter Report

The year began with a whimper for our Chapter, as our Winter Bash and general business meeting had to be postponed one weekend in January because of a forecast snow storm that did not materialize, and cancelled the next because of an ice storm that did. We resorted to telephone calls and emails to finish planning an excellent three day Primula show at Tower Hill Botanic Garden in May, complete with guest attendee, judge, and speaker, Ian Christie.

We welcomed a few new members this year, but lost a couple, so our total numbers remain relatively stable. Always looking for new ways to attract members to the Chapter and to the APS, Amy Olmsted has continued to be the administrator for the Primula Lover's Group pages on FaceBook and to manage the APS seed exchange. Other members help to encourage enthusiasm for Primulas by opening their gardens or giving presentations to local groups, coordinating events or plant sales, writing articles and newsletters, or posting photographs on the internet. We think more people have now learned that it is possible, and very satisfying, to grow many species of Primula in New England. We hope that some of the children who took free P. elatior hybrid plants home from the 2016 show have found them easy and fun to grow and will bring them back to proudly exhibit next year.

Since May is towards the end of the flowering season for Primulas, and our members are geographically too widespread to attend brief meetings, we did not have another formal meeting until October, when we enjoyed an out of season ‘Winter Bash’ gathering in the kitchen, dining room, autumn greenhouse and garden of Matt Mattus and Joseph Philip in Worcester, MA. We decided to invite our friends from Barnhaven Primroses in France to be our guest presenters at the 2017 National Show and agreed on other details for next spring’s show. Both authors Lynne Lawson and Jodie Mitchell will be attending the show, so we will be pleased to add book signing sessions for The Plant Lover’s Guide to Primroses to the show events.

This winter is starting with a fair cover of snow for much of the North East before the deep cold sets in, which might lead to successful overwintering for seedlings and lavish flowering in the spring.

BC Group Report

The Group sponsored the National Show in Portland in April. We also joined the Scottish Rock Garden Society and put in a group order for Primula seeds. A very good selection arrived in January and was distributed to members. We are growing these on now to see what will survive and grow well here.

The Group stays in touch by email, and is considering some Primula-related projects it may support in the future.

Juneau Chapter – American Primrose Society Quarterly Report to AGM – October 2016

• A Primula Minute began again this Fall with the return of Juneau Garden Club’s monthly meetings…

the Juneau Garden Club does not have membership meetings in the Summer, so APS Juneau Chapter folks have not met; resumed meetings in September; approximately 3 APS members in attendance at each meeting

• Report of grant proposal submission for The Word Garden (including the signage sponsored by APS)

awaiting notification from Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust; should get word in the next 2 weeks

shipping quote for Nationally-Accredited Collection Sign (sponsored by APS) will come this week and I’ll send it out to the group

• National Show 2018 – hosted in Juneau?

Thank you for asking us to host the National Show in 2017. While that is not possible, I am beginning discussions with both local APS and our Juneau Garden Club to consider hosting responsibilities/duties for 2018. I will keep this group updated via email about the various discussions and interest.
American Primrose Society
Minutes of the Board Meeting held on October 30, 2016

The meeting was held online. Quorum and start at 6.10 pm, EDST.

Board members present: Rodney Barker (President, New England Chapter), Ed Buyarski (Director), Mark Dyen (Director), Cheri Fluck (Director), Julia Haldorson (Director and Membership Secretary), Merrill Jensen (Director and President, Juneau Chapter), Alan Lawrence (APS President), Michael Plumb (Secretary and Webmaster), Rhondda Porter (APS Vice-President)

A. Approval of the Agenda (Mark/Cheri)

B. Minutes of July 31, 2016 (Michael/Mark)

C. Business Arising from the minutes of January 24, 2016, and Old Business
   1. Signage for the national Primula Collection and Word Garden at the Jensen-Olson Arboretum in Juneau:
      a. Merrill reported that the shipping cost will be received tomorrow. He will email the board with this information.
      b. Quote for the APS sign is $460
      c. Merrill will be notified by Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust in next two weeks whether grant for the Word Garden and sign has been approved.

   2. Application by the APS to become the International Cultivar Naming Authority for Primula:
      a. Rhonda suggested we ask Barnhaven for advice, as they have a long association with the APS. They could use Alan’s form for their new cultivar ‘Frou Frou’.
      b. Alan said the basic form still needs work.
      c. Michael reminded the board of Alan’s suggestion that we incorporate some of John Richard’s system for describing species in our cultivar form.
      d. ACTION: Michael will resend Alan’s basic form to the board.

   3. Archival materials donated by Cy Happy
      a. APS member Roger Eichman is now in contact with Cy’s family concerning the collection and sorting of APS memorabilia.
      b. Michael and Rhonda already have some of Cy’s literature.
      c. The items still need sorting.

D. Treasurer’s Report (Emailed before the meeting)
   1. Income less expenses July 1st to September 30th 2016: ($1,208.35)
   2. Income less expenses January 1st to September 30th 2016: ($1,545.28)
   3. Total liabilities and equity as of September 30th 2016: $26,805.45
   4. MOTION (Mark/Ed) to accept. Carried.

E. Committee Reports
   1. Membership (Julia, by email):
      a. Total membership as of October 29 is 268 (40 life, 228 regular)

   2. Editorial Committee (Maedythe, by email):
      a. The fall issue is in the mail and up on the website for members.

   3. Website (Michael, by email):
      a. Michael has deleted 119 people from the list of members who have access to recent quarterlies. These people had never used this benefit in over three years.
      b. The list still contains 207 people who have logged in at least once since joining.
      c. Since January 2016 only 66 members have logged in.
      d. ACTION:
         • Write an article for the Q promoting the benefits of the website for members and encouraging more members to apply for log-in codes.
         • Remove people from the website list who have not been members for a year or more.
         • Choose some interesting articles from back issues of the Quarterly to post publicly.

F. New Business
   1. National Show 2017:
      a. Juneau will not be ready to host the show in 2017, but Merrill is looking into hosting the show in 2018.
      b. Mark reported that the New England Chapter is willing to host the show in 2017: May 5th, 6th and 7th, at Tower Hill Botanical Garden, Boylston MA.
      c. MOTION (Mark / Ed): To accept New England’s offer to host the 2017 National Show. Carried.
      d. Cheri reminded the board that the Dorothy Dickson Award should be announced at the show.
      e. Mark will have promotional materials sent to the Quarterly and the website, and to Rhonda for the APS Facebook page.

   2. Seed Exchange 2016-2017:
      a. $1,300 for the Seed Exchange has already been approved in the general budget (dated June 20, 2016).
      b. The board agreed that non-member donors should not be allowed to purchase seed in the first stage of the annual Seed Exchange, as this stage is a special benefit for members only. Donors who are not members of the APS may be given priority at the discretion of the coordinator only during the Lucky Dip stage, when the seed is available to the public.

G. Next meeting: Provisionally, Sunday, January 29th 2017 at 6.00 pm EDST. Alan will confirm.

H. Adjournment: (Mark) at 7.40 pm EDST.

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

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

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The Presidents of the Chapters are also included on the Board