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*.

**Contents**

The View from Here by Ed Buyarski ............ 3
Shakespeare’s Flowers, book review by Maedythe Martin ............ 5
Mrs. Brodhead’s Primula Revisited by by Jay G. Lunn ... 9
*Primula juliae* in an Old Gardener’s scrapbook by Maedythe Martin ............ 11
Auriculas on a Balcony by Maedythe Martin ....... 12
A Beginner Blooms by Dean WieGert ....... 21
Remembering the Reverend C. Oscar Moreton ... 23
APS National Show 2017 ............ 26
Lynne Lawson and Jodie Mitchell at the National Show ... 27
Minutes ..................... 27
Officers of the Chapters............... 31

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Front Cover: ‘Blue Calypso’, a *Primula marginata* cross from ‘Wharfedale Bluebell’ by Maedythe Martin
Back Cover: ‘Commeal’, a grey-edged show auricula originally bred by Cy Happy, grown by Dean Wiegert

**Primroses**

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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 web site (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
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Contact the treasurer for details.

The View from Here

ED BUYARSKI

Writing this a few days after the Spring Equinox, I have hope! Temperatures are finally getting into the 40’s and some puszyswillows are blooming, along with a few witch hazel I planted last summer. Last year at this time we had no snow; crosus, snowdrops, helebroes and wild blueberries were blooming. We were eating fresh overwintered kale, and my peas and spinach were sprouting. This year we have two feet of snow on the ground, though it is melting finally. We had very cold, dry weather earlier this winter even as Portland, Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver have endured more snow and cold than usual.

Yes, I have seen Rhonnda Porter and Michael Plumbs’ comments on unusual snowfalls on their semitropical island paradise. All I can say is that it teaches gardeners patience and humility. We can speak of the winter of 2017 with reverence, or perhaps grief if some of those tender, out-of-zone plants don’t survive.

In Southeast Alaska, gardeners are hoping that the cold, dry weather with no snow cover in January and February may result in fewer slugs and maybe even some spaces in the garden to plug in some new experiments. How’s that for optimism?

My wife and I left on March 7th at 4° F to visit our grandchildren in Napa, CA. In the week we were gone, three feet of snow fell and luckily our house/plant/dog-sitter was able to keep our place warm and greenhouses shoveled. Strangely enough, we saw a vendor selling perennials including auriculas and gold- and silver-laced polyanthus at an orchid show we attended! I couldn’t resist, so a few California-grown primroses came home to Alaska with me, and a few more orchids of course.

I have not heard our weather wizards predict what sort of spring and summer is ahead, but we have hope!
Call for Nominations to the APS Board

The terms of two of our directors will come to an end at the AGM this May. The directors are Mark Dyen and Cheri Fluck.

Mark and Cheri will be standing for re-election. Their bios will be posted on the website under ‘Elections’ in the Members section. However, the membership is encouraged to submit nominations for one or both of the posts. If you know a member of the American Primrose Society who is able and willing to stand for the position of director, please write his or her name in the appropriate place on the ballot. PLEASE NOTE: The person who nominates and the person nominated must both be members in good standing of the American Primrose Society.

Briefly, directors’ duties consist of the following: promote the love and knowledge of *Primula*; be familiar with the APS constitution; attend four online meetings a year; join one or more of the board committees (seed exchange, editorial, membership, website, Face Book, or any *ad hoc* committee); contribute at least one article to the quarterly or the website during their term (The article can be quite short). The term is three years.

A fuller description of the duties is given on the website. Go to americanprimrosesociety.org. After you log in, click on ‘Society Documents’ under ‘Members’ in the side menu, then click on ‘Duties of officers and directors’ which will appear in a window.

There are two ways to vote. You may either complete the ballot included with this issue of the quarterly and mail it to the address on the form, or email your vote to the webmaster by copying the ballot from the website and pasting it into your email. If you prefer to email your vote, log in, click on ‘Society Documents’ under ‘Members’ in the side menu, then click on ‘Elections’.

Please submit your vote by April 30th. Results will be announced at the AGM in May, and published in the Summer Quarterly.

*Michael Plumb, Secretary*

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Shakespeare’s Flowers by Jessica Kerr

BOOK REVIEW BY MAEDYTHE MARTIN

This slim volume, Shakespeare’s Flowers by Jessica Kerr, Illustrated by Anne Ophelia Dowden (New York, Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1969) has two *Primula* inclusions. The notes are interesting, and the illustrations are charming.

Under the “Cowslip” listing there are two quotes from Shakespeare, the first being the well-known words from “The Tempest”

> Where the bee sucks, there suck I,  
> In a cowslip bell I lie.”

------The Tempest

The author’s first paragraph sums up how we often think of the cowslip in England:

“In England the cowslip used to be the children’s favorite flower. Each year in April they would go out with baskets to pick the blossoms in the fields and hedges and come home laden, to make “cowslip-balls” or “tossies.” Tying the flowers together...
tightly at the top of the stalk in big bunches, they cut away most of the stalk.

This happy pastime is no longer possible in many parts of England because the cowslip is becoming very scarce. For the same reason country people make less cowslip wine — a delicately flavored amber-colored drink, extracted from the nectar of the “freckles” inside the cup of the flower of which the Fairy speaks in A Midsummer Nights Dream. In medieval times the leaves were used to make salads and the juice to soothe a cough.”

The author continues with some other references from Shakespeare’s plays, and finishes her little essay with a final paragraph:

“Cowslips never grow wild in the United States, but they can be seen sometimes in gardens where they are known by the scientific name Primula veris. They are first cousins of the primrose and oxslips”

The other Primula included is the “Primrose.” Here the author includes the famous quote every primrose grower knows well:

W’lies, like a puff’d and reckless libertine’
Himself the primrose path of dalliance treads”

----- Hamlet

She starts her discussion of the primrose by saying:

“There is always gladness at the sight of the first pale yellow primrose after a long winter. In The Two Noble Kinsmen it is called:

Primrose, first-born child of Ver,
Merry spring-time’s harbinger.

(“Ver” is an old name for spring, associated with the French word vert which means green. A “harbinger” is a messenger who runs ahead to proclaim that some person or event is on the way.) But Shakespeare does not often write so cheerfully about primroses. He calls them “faint’ and “pale,” and he sighs because they flower so early in the year that they never live to see the summer sun — “Bright Pheobus in his strength” — riding high in the sky. It is strange that he should have chosen this frail sweet flower to describe the downward path of evil-living, and yet he does so twice — first in Hamlet and again in Macbeth where the old porter at the castle gate says:

I had thought to have let in some… that go the primrose way to the everlasting bon-fire.

Perhaps Shakespeare, like other poets of his time, thought of sweet flowers underfoot as a tempting carpet for the road to “everlasting fire!”

One thing is certain — Shakespeare thought often of banks of primroses as pleasant places for men or fairies to recline.”

And the oxslip is not forgotten, it is included in the section on “Thyme, Oxslip, Woodbine, Musk-rose, Eglantine.”

Here the author includes a quote from A Midsummer Night’s Dream that is quite well-known:

“I know a bank where the wild thyme blows,
Where oxslips and the nodding violet grows,
Quite over-canopied with luscious woodbine,
With sweet musk-rose and with eglantine.”

----- A Midsummer Night’s Dream

The author continues with some other references from Shakespeare’s plays, and finishes her little essay with a final paragraph:

“The oxslip is a bright yellow flower, related to the cowslip and the primrose, but taller and sturdier than either. In The Winter’s Tale Perdita calls it “bold” and it makes a brave show in the cottage gardens. It was very popular in Shakespeare’s boyhood.”

The author, Jessica Kerr, lectured “to garden clubs on the flower imagery in Shakespeare’s plays,” states the notes in the back of the book, and was born in Dublin, educated in England and then lived in
Florida. The illustrator, Anne Ophelia Dowden, was “recognized as one of America’s foremost botanical illustrators.” She grew up in Colorado, studied in Pittsburgh and New York, where she eventually worked. In compiling this book, she noted: “It has required intensive but fascinating research to learn just what these familiar plants looked like in Shakespeare’s day – what varieties were growing in the gardens of his contemporaries, and what wildlings were to be found in the countryside of England.”

We are certainly grateful these two women undertook this project, and let us look back to a time when our favorite Primula were being grown and written about even then.

Looking forward!

The 2018 National Show has now been set to occur in Juneau, Alaska. Pam Eveleigh will be the keynote speaker.

Watch the APS website for coming details!

Mrs. Brodhead’s Primula Revisited

BY JAY G. LUNN

I authored an article entitled “Mrs. Brodhead’s Primula” that appeared in the Spring 1996 issue of Primroses (Vol. 54, No. 2). At that time, I didn't know the complete name of Mrs. Brodhead. The content of the Internet has increased immensely since then and present search engines are much more efficient. I found that Mrs. Brodhead was born Eliza Avery on May 28, 1841 in Bethany, Pennsylvania. She married William Henry Brodhead on June 11, 1867 at Honesdale, PA.

Eliza and her husband lived most of their married life in Hailey, Idaho until their death there. William Henry, not to be confused with their son William Avery Brodhead, was a lawyer and involved in the mining industry. It is not too far-fetched to conclude that Eliza might have visited some of the mines in which her husband had an interest. Railroads had not reached the areas where she collected the specimens she sent to Marcus Jones in 1892, so she probably traveled by horseback or horse drawn carriage.

My attempts to find something about Mrs. Brodhead’s educational background and photographs of her on the Internet were not successful. The only image I found was a photograph of her headstone in the Hailey Cemetery. I did find that the State of Idaho legislature passed a bill on March 12, 1897 to compensate Mrs. E. A. Brodhead for services rendered in selecting and preparing a herbarium of wild flowers and plants of the State of Idaho for the World’s Fair Exposition. It appears that this compensation was paid in arrears for her work because this event surely was “The World’s Columbian Exposition” which is also known as The Chicago World’s Fair in 1893.

I found an Internet site that contained images of plant collections made in the U.S. Pacific Northwest which are held in various western herbaria. It showed 176 collections of Primula cusickiana housed in 13 Idaho herbaria. One was a collection in the herbarium of the Boise District of
the Bureau of Land Management that collector, Jim Klott (BLM Wildlife Biologist) recorded as *P. broadheadae* (sp.). Present-day botanists no longer recognize species such as *P. broadheadae* or *P. wilcoxii* and lump them into *P. cusickiana*. Klott’s collection was determined to be *P. cusickiana* by the late Dr. Patricia Packard, botanist and Professor of Biology at Albertson College of Idaho. His collection was from an area far from anywhere Mrs. Brodhead collected. Another herbarium specimen identified by the collector as *P. brodheadae* was made at 7,200’ in Custer County closer to Bayhorse where Mrs. Brodhead made her collection named *P. brodheadae* var. *minor* by Jones. Eliza recorded her collection of this plant as coming from 8,000’. There are other collections of *P. cusickiana* made around Stanley Basin, which is approximately 30 miles west of Bayhorse, but the elevations of these specimens came from elevations near 6,500’ (give or take 100’). The collections made in the White Cloud Peaks are all from close to an elevation of 9,500’.

Mrs. Brodhead’s collections of *Primula* were in Marcus Jones’ personal herbarium which was sold to Pomona College after his death. Their Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Herbarium is in the process of being scanned and their specimens are not presently available for viewing. From Jones’ description of *P. brodheadae* var. *minor*, it appears that it closely resembles the plants in the White Clouds. Unfortunately, I understand that this specimen has been lost from their herbarium. We probably will never know where she collected this diminutive form of the species.

A photo of the alpine tundra in the White Clouds of Idaho where *Primula cusickiana* grows is on page 14. It’s practically impossible to see the plants in this photograph, but there are probably several hundred encompassed within it.

1 http://www.pnwherbaria.org/m/datasets/vascular-plants/pages/primulaceae/primula-cusickiana.htm

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**Primula juliae in an Old Gardener’s scrapbook**

MAEDYTHE MARTIN

I have fallen heir to an old scrapbook that has many clipped articles from what I suspect is *Gardening Illustrated*, a British gardening magazine. All the articles are about *Primula* and auriculas. On about the 6th page there is a column pasted on the page entitled, *Primula Juliae*, and I quote from it:

“Miss Pape, writing on this plant on page 45, inquires for the country of origin of this pretty and useful plant, and mentions my name (the author is W.E. Ingwersen, noted at the bottom of the article) as an authority for its being a European plant, whilst many other and noted writers in your pages place this plant, and rightly, as an Asiatic.

I think Miss Pape bases her assertion on my catalogue (Ingwersen was one of the best and most well know nurseries in England for many years) where I have grouped *Primula juliae* and one or two other exceptions with the *Primulas* of Europe, giving, however, the Caucasus as its native district. ... We all know that Russia is partly in Europe and partly in Asia and although the division between those two Continents is far more arbitrarily drawn than between the rest of the great Continent, it seems fairly clear that the Caucasus mountains come into the Asiatic portion of the Russian Empire, if empire can be styled in the present day.

Pax and Knuth in their Monograph state that *Primula juliae* was first described by Kuntz in 1901, so that the unfortunate princess who collected it in 1909 was not the original discoverer. I grew *P. Juliae* in my Croydon Nursery in 1912 ... and already during the dark years of the war appeared the fine hybrids known as *P. x Juliana* of which we have such a host nowadays... *Primula juliae* in nature grows on wet, mossy rocks, and in many gardens would be less leafy and more free flowering if grown in damp, stoney places instead of in rich soil. The hybrids, possessing the blood of your native Primrose and Oxlip, flower freely enough in any good rich garden soil, but the now often overlooked type-plant shows to better advantage on a more meager diet.” W.E. Ingwersen, Sussex

Many accounts credit Julia Mlokossjewicz with finding *P. juliae*, but this account differs. Interesting!
Auriculas on a Balcony

MAEDYTHE MARTIN

One of my gardening friends, now getting on a bit in years, moved some time ago from her house to a third floor apartment in a condominium building. Her house had lots of garden, including a border edged with Primula vulgaris, a sight to see every spring. Not to be discouraged from ever gardening again, Elizabeth set up a mini-garden on her balcony.

One year I gave her some of my auricula seed to try – only one package with a few seeds, as her balcony had two troughs, several pots, all full, and a chair in which to sit and admire the plants as they grew. From these few auricula seeds she raised a very pretty frilly double peach-colored garden auricula, which she shared with me. And this year when I visited her in the fall (she helps package the seeds for the APS seed exchange with me) I found a row of flounced single old-fashioned auriculas lined up in a row in a box on the balcony.

So you can garden on a balcony with some satisfaction. These auriculas are in a six-inch deep box, but would do in a six inch pot, as well. Probably a bigger pot might be better, so that it wouldn’t dry out as quickly. And plastic pots, rather than clay pots, might also help conserve moisture. I expect Elizabeth uses regular potting mix, though she probably got a bit of grit somewhere to put in with the plants in her troughs.

I know she enjoys her bit of garden up in the air, and takes pleasure from the few plants she has there.
Above is the habitat of *Primula cusickiana*, formerly known as *P. brodheadae* var. *minor*, and right, shown with an American dime to indicate its diminutive size.

Photos by Jay Lunn

Pam Eveleigh’s Primula World website and blog are always full of interesting information. Here’s an entry from 2015 on another American native primrose, *P. ellisiae*. Be sure to check back regularly for new entries.

The Mexican Primula

There are 21 Primula species listed for North America, and we usually think that means “in the USA and Canada”. However there is one Primula which is found in Mexico. That species is Primula rusbyi. It is also found in the US states of Arizona and New Mexico. It is speculated that because it occurs in the Sierra Madre de Chihapas Mountains of Mexico, that it could also occur in the extension of those mountains into Guatemala. Occurrences from the Intermountain Region Herbarium Network show herbarium samples from the mountains of the Mexican states of Durango, Zacatecas, Coahuila and Chihuahua.

The species *P. ellisiae* was described from individual plants from the Sandia Mountains, New Mexico based on longer calyx lobes in relation to the tube and a larger sized seed capsule. These characteristics vary within populations and according to the *Flora of North America* “preliminary genetic analyses (S. Kelso and R. Beardsley, unpub.) reveal no substantive genetic distinction between these individuals and those from elsewhere in the range”. The name “Primula ellisiae” persists in cultivation but should be corrected to *Primula rusbyi*.
Shakespeare’s Flowers by Jessica Kerr

A slim volume written by Jessica Kerr who lectured “to garden clubs on the flower imagery in Shakespeare’s plays”. She was born in Dublin, educated in England and then lived in Florida. The illustrator, Anne Ophelia Dowden, was “recognized as one of America’s foremost botanical illustrators.”

“The oxslip is a bright yellow flower, related to the cowslip and the primrose, but taller and sturdier than either. In The Winter’s Tale Perdita calls it “bold” and it makes a brave show in the cottage gardens. It was very popular in Shakespeare’s boyhood.”

The author talks about the primrose (above) and the cowslip (below): “In England the cowslip used to be the children’s favorite flower. Each year in April they would go out with baskets to pick the blossoms in the fields and hedges and come home laden, to make “cowslip-balls” or “tossies.”
A Beginner Blooms - an article by Dean Wiegart

Pots of auricula resting for the winter on the barn windowsill, above
And in their summer home, below

Above, three tidy pots of Dean’s auriculas

Right and below, the unusual oakleaf form of primrose which he grew from seed
I’m relatively new to growing Primula and to the American Primrose Society. Having recently gone through some back issues of the quarterly, Primroses, and after passing on some information about the quarterly to a contact in the UK, I had reason to correspond with Maedythe Martin. I introduced myself and expressed my enjoyment of the publication. She invited me to share my introduction to other readers.

I live in southeast Wisconsin near Lake Michigan. As a child in the late 1970s, I took care of my parents’ flowerbeds and an aunt gave me some cowslips to plant. They came in yellow and red and I loved the little clumps that came up so early in the spring. After school, I gardened whenever I had space in a yard. But I didn’t really grow any Primula again until recently. I was vacationing in the UK in March 2011 and visited Sissinghurst. It was too early for much to be blooming but there were clumps of P. ‘Blue Sapphire’ in full bloom. I thought it was the most beautiful thing I had ever seen. A few days later, I was in Somerset visiting an ancient hill fort in South Cadbury. At the top of the hill, wild P. vulgaris was everywhere. I suddenly realized I needed to grow primroses and wondered why I hadn’t all these years. I started growing P. vulgaris at home and ordered some plants of ‘Blue Sapphire’ from Sequim Rare Plants. In the next couple of years I started buying plants of double primroses that I could find. I also started learning to grow auriculas. In 2013 I joined the online Yahoo Primula Group, which I found when searching for advice on growing auriculas. It was there that I “met” Alan Lawrence who invited me to join APS. Alan then visited and presented a talk and slideshow on Primula for my garden club.

I have a small collection of named double primrose varieties, a
small collection of named auricula varieties, and then the plants I’ve been raising from the APS seed exchange. Alan Lawrence has gifted me with numerous species that I have managed to keep alive. Because I don’t really have ideal conditions in my home gardens for *Primula*, most of my plants were in pots until the last two summers when I just couldn’t take care of any more pots. So I started preparing areas under shrubs and in shaded areas where I could plant out seedlings and divisions of my older potted plants. The weather in south-eastern Wisconsin can be cruel and not everything survives. We have hot humid summers without reliable rain. Winter temperatures have gotten to minus 15° F in recent years without reliable snow cover.

I overwinter my potted *Primula* in windows in my barn where I can control conditions. My main interests are *P. veris*, *P. vulgaris*, auriculas, and polyanthus. I’m also interested in the anomalous varieties. After seeing pictures of the Oak Leaf strain plants on the Facebook group and in the quarterly, I bought seeds of Jackanapes and Oakleaf from Owls Acre. Most of the plants I grew from that seed died in the winter of 2015/2016. The two that I overwintered in pots in my barn (one Jackanapes and one Oakleaf) are still alive. Efforts to locate more seed of the Oakleaf strain led me to contacts in the UK and advice from Dr. Margaret Webster on breeding my own from my surviving plant. Those are future plans.

I have found the members of APS to be very generous in sharing information, and advice. The range of interests, experience and knowledge is as big as the genus. Some members in the US and Canada have also shared seeds and plants. I feel very lucky to have found the American Primrose Society and hope to be able to contribute to the organization as I gain in experience and confidence. I would love to hear more about other members and would encourage them to share their stories.

Remembering the Reverend C. Oscar Moreton

NOTES BY MAEDYT HE MARTIN

I found an older, thin volume published in 1970 by the NAPS Northern which included an interesting picture shown below. Three of the giants of the auricula world are pictured side by side, examining an auricula held by J.W. Mingley. Beside him is Dr. Newton, who collated the volume, and on the other side is the Reverend C. Oscar Moreton.

Whenever I see a reference to the Reverend Morton I think of his
wonderful folio publication:


This is still available, some fifty plus years later, and is such a handsome folio it is nice to have for that reason alone, but it also contains a wealth of historical facts and dates.

There is more information on the Reverend in Joan Fraser’s article in *Primroses*, vol. 69, No. 2, Spring 2011. You can read this in the APS Quarterly archives on the website, thanks to Michael Plumb who in a heroic effort scanned all the quarterlies.

‘Neat and Tidy’ shown right, is a dark-ground show auricula, and ‘Love Bird’, shown above, is a grey-edged show. Both auriculas are still around today and can be found occasionally in specialty nurseries.
American Primrose Society  
Speakers and Featured Guests

Lynne Lawson and Jodie Mitchell, Barnhaven Primroses

A unique opportunity for Primula lovers in the United States to meet the owners of Barnhaven Nursery in France. Listen to one of their lectures and join them in a roundtable discussion of our favorite plants!

Barnhaven Primroses originated with Florence Bellis in Oregon in the 1940s, one of the original catalogs seen right. It then moved to the Sinclairs in the Lake Districts in England in the 1980s, their catalog seen below. Angela Bradford took over when the Sinclairs retired in 1990 and finally, the Lawsons have carried on from Angela.

They have recently published a comprehensive monograph on Primula, which will be available at the show.

American Primrose Society  
Minutes of the Board Meeting held on January 29, 2017

The meeting was held online. Quorum and start at 6.05 pm, EDST.

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

Regrets: Jon Kawaguchi (Treasurer – Full written report supplied by email); Cheri Fluck (Director)

A. Approval of the Agenda (Michael/Mark) with the addition of National Show 2018 under New Business.

B. Approval of Minutes of October 30, 2016 (Michael/Rhondda)

C. Business Arising from the minutes of October 30, 2016, and Old Business

1. Signage for the national primula Collection and Word Garden at the Jensen-Olson Arboretum in Juneau:
   a. Merrill had sent the board the full quote (including labor and transportation and $460 for the actual sign) on November 3, 2016: Total is $812.00.
   b. The APS has already voted to donate $500. Merrill will contact Jon, APS Treasurer.
   c. No grant from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust for the Word Garden and sign, but funding for the Garden now secured from an ‘internet source’.
   d. Text and photos will be ready by end February.
   e. Garden should be completed by mid-June.

2. Application by the APS to become the International Cultivar Naming Authority for Primula:
   a. Little progress so far.
   b. ACTION: Michael will work on the application form to be used by applicants wishing to have their plant named, then send his prototype to the board by email before the next board meeting in May.

D. Treasurer’s Report (Emailed before the meeting)

1. Income less expenses October 1 to December 31, 2016: $449.95
2. Income less expenses January 1st to December 31, 2016: ($1,095.63) =Net loss for 2016
3. Total liabilities and equity as of December 31, 2016: $27,230.37
4. MOTION (Ed/Mark) to accept. Carried.
5. Referring to the overall deficit for 2016, Rhondda noted that a large number of members (currently 40 out of 195) have lifetime membership, and consequently no longer pay for the Primulas journal each quarter. This presents quite a heavy financial burden on our society; the regular membership dues do not cover the cost of producing the quarterly. Discussion followed on how best to ensure that the
life members are in fact receiving the journal, since many of them may have moved over the years, or may even be deceased.

**MOTION** (Mark/Ed): That we send a mailing to all life members on the rolls with a self-addressed stamped envelope asking the recipients to confirm their address and that they still want to receive the quarterly. After mailing, that we wait 45 days and remove those people who do not respond. **Carried.**

**ACTION:** Julia will send the letters. Rhondda will help with a draft. Julia and Rhondda will both cover the cost of this mail-out as a donation to the APS.

There was a comment that life members, by being consulted this way, would feel more a part of our society and that they hadn’t been forgotten. Saving money by determining non-recipients might also recoup the mailing cost of this survey.

**E. Committee Reports**

1. **Membership** (Julia, by email):
   a. Total membership as of January 28 is 195 (40 life, 155 regular)
   b. Michael, by observing payments on the website, noted that many members are still renewing dues when they pay for seed; the seed exchange is a great encouragement to members to renew. Put bluntly; “No membership, no seed”.
   c. Rodney suggested contacting nurseries to ask them to promote society membership.
   d. **MOTION** (Mark/Rhondda): to approve Membership Report. **Carried.**

2. **Editorial Committee** (Maedlythe by email, and Alan):
   a. The winter issue has been delayed because of a technical problem. Now resolved.
   b. **ACTION:** Alan will mail the quarterly next weekend.
   c. Michael, as webmaster, pointed out that the winter Q had been posted on the website for members soon as editing had finished. He has written about this benefit in an article in the winter Q. Delays in printing or mailing do not affect posting the Q on the website.

3. **Seed Exchange** (Amy):
   a. So far 68 orders with 19 of them from seed donors.
   b. Expenses...$1232.07
   c. Income......$1242.00
   d. Donations......$8.00
   e. **ACTION:** Amy will do a Facebook post encouraging more orders from members and potential members.
   f. We have probably added 10 new members since the start of the exchange.
   g. Still lots of great seeds left although the auricula and sieboldii are selling out fast.
   h. **MOTION** (Mark/Ed): to accept the Seed Exchange Report. **Carried.**

4. **Website** (Michael, by email):
   a. Number of members who renewed dues or joined using PayPal via our website from November 1st, 2016 to now: 51
   b. Number of members who paid for seed using PayPal via our website: 46
   c. Comment: The seed exchange is a major reminder to members to renew membership. Very often Michael simultaneously receives the receipt for dues and the receipt for seed payment.
   d. 2017 National Show information will be posted on the website very soon. In the meantime, the dates and location have been posted on the home page.
   e. Many requests for website codes from members renewing and new members. Some still think codes are needed for the seed exchange, in spite of a clear notice on the home page.
   f. Slide Library: **ACTION:** Michael will change the name of the person holding the slide library to Alan’s. Alan said no one had used the slide library for years. Michael will discuss the future of the slide library with Alan by email.
   g. Amy suggested the APS web address be included with ads for the APS in other societies’ journals. **ACTION:** Not decided at this meeting [Rhondda started to contact societies later].

**F. New Business**

1. **National Show 2017:**
   a. Judith Sellers, who is involved in organizing the Show, had sent a request concerning the organizing of the AGM at the Show: It is very difficult to gather members together for the meeting when so many other events are happening; WiFi is unreliable; the board’s continent-wide time zones may conflict with the timing of events at the show, etc. [Such problems are common at all National Shows]. Judy proposed holding one or more pre-meetings at convenient times with members who would otherwise be unable to participate at all. These preliminary meetings would be administered by one or two board members, and would gather members’ input and ideas. These would be reported at the following AGM.
   b. **MOTION** (Mark/Ed): To permit the changes proposed by Judith Sellers concerning the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the American Primrose Society. **Carried.**
   c. The speakers will be Jodie Mitchell and Lynn Lawson of Barnhaven.

2. **National Show 2018 in Juneau:**
   a. Merrill reported that the Juneau Chapter has the support of the Juneau Garden Club and the Friends of the Arboretum.
   b. **ACTION:** Merrill will ask Pam Eveleigh to be keynote speaker.

3. **Elections to the Board:**
   a. The terms of Mark and Cheri come to an end at the coming AGM in May.
   b. Mark agreed to stand again.
   c. **ACTION:** Alan will contact Cheri.

**G. Next meeting:** The AGM at the National Show in Boylston, MA. Time and day TBA at the discretion of the show organizer.

**H. Adjournment** (Mark)

Respectfully submitted, Michael Plumb, Secretary
Join the National Auricula & Primula Society
Midland & West Section
www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk

£10.00 Overseas Membership.

New Members
January 16 - March 13, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Expiry</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Greg Boguski</td>
<td>7 Moose Place, Brandon, Manitoba R7B 3W3 Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Gordon Burgess</td>
<td>10000 Southwest 82nd Street, Miami, Florida 33172 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Timothy Chipchar</td>
<td>2979 Venables Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V5K 2R8 Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Susan Gaul</td>
<td>8 Crescent Court, Midland, Michigan 48640 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Karl Lohrmann</td>
<td>1807 Cleveland Avenue, Whiting, Indiana 46394 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Judy Maslen</td>
<td>118 Richardson Road, Centerville, Massachusetts 02632-2453 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Gail Read</td>
<td>226 Foote Street, Barrington, Rhode Island 02806 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Angelica Sapodillo</td>
<td>PO Box 212, Newark, California 94560 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Phillip Wilkinson</td>
<td>111 Laurel Hill Drive, Stephens City, Virginia 22655 USA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Rodney Barker, Co-President
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rodneybrkr@gmail.com

The Presidents of the Chapters are also included on the Board