The View from Here

JULIA HALDORSON, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Membership in the American Primrose Society runs on the calendar year and includes four issues of our journal “Primroses”; the first issue being Winter, on to Spring, Summer and with Fall, the last issue for the year. As we are at the end of the calendar year, renewals for 2018 are due around November 15, 2017.

You can use PayPal to renew on the APS website, or the membership application form found there. Submit payment to our Treasurer:

Jon Kawaguchi
3524 Bowman Court
Alameda, California  94502 USA

Please renew today using these easy steps:
• Check out the Membership List in this issue of “Primroses” to see if your membership expires in 2017.
• If your membership expires in 2017 - go to the website to renew either by using PayPal or the membership application form. (Please note: Canadian members should not use Canadian checks. Our bank charges us $10US for each Canadian check we deposit. International Money Orders can be deposited without a fee.)
• Submit your renewal to our Treasurer on or around November 15, 2017.

Questions about your membership?
Contact Julia Haldorson at julia-haldorson@ak.net.
Distant Cousins

NOTES FROM WIKIPEDIA BY THE EDITOR

Sometimes we forget the other members of the family Primulacea. A quick scan of Wikipedia provided the following information. For rock gardeners there are some interesting footnotes. Many of these are available in the APS Seed Exchange.

Dodecatheon

*Dodecatheon* (commonly known as Shooting Star) is related to the genus *Primula* (primroses and related plants); in fact, *Primula* without *Dodecatheon* is paraphyletic. One way of avoiding this is to move the *Dodecatheon* species into *Primula*. If this is done, the former genus *Dodecatheon* becomes a monophyletic section, *Primula* subg. *Auriculastrum* sect. *Dodecatheon* (L.) A.R.Mast & Reveal. There are 17 species. (James L. Reveal. “Revision of *Dodecatheon* (Primulaceae).” apparently prepared for Flora of North America.)

Androsace

*Androsace*, commonly known as Rock Jasmine, is a genus in the family Primulaceae, second only to *Primula* in number of species. It is a predominantly Arctic–alpine genus with many species in the Himalayas (where the genus originated), the mountains of central Asia, the Caucasus, and the southern and central European mountain systems, particularly the Alps and the Pyrenees.

Plants of this genus are sometimes known as rock jasmines or fairy candelabras and are widely cultivated for their dense cushions covered in white or pink flowers. There are about 110 species.

Dionysia

*Dionysia* is a genus containing 49 species of flowering plants in the family Primulaceae. They are small, cushion-forming alpines native to mountains in central Asia. They are usually evergreen perennials with felted leaves, covered with bright yellow or pink, five-petalled flowers in spring. They are often difficult to cultivate if the correct conditions are not provided.

Additional Notes

Recent molecular studies show that the genera *Douglasia* (found in north-western North America and easternmost Siberia), *Pomatosace* (an Himalayan endemic) and *Vitaliana* (a European endemic) are nested within *Androsace*.\[^3\]\[^6\] Phylogenetic studies have also demonstrated that the ancestor of *Androsace* first appeared about 35 million years ago and was most probably an annual species.\[^7\] Evolution towards the denser morphology of cushions took place two times independently in Asia and in Europe. *Douglasia* and *Vitaliana* were formerly treated as separate genera.

Cyclamen

Cyclamen is a genus of 23 species of perennial flowering plants in the family Primulaceae. Cyclamen species are native to Europe and the Mediterranean Basin east to Iran, with one species in Somalia. They grow from tubers and are valued for their flowers with upswept petals and variably patterned leaves.

It was traditionally classified in the family Primulaceae, was reclassified in the family Myrsinaceae in 2000, and finally, in 2009 with the introduction of the APG III system, was returned to the subfamily Myrsinoideae within the family Primulaceae.

Serious cyclamen growers don’t seem to think of it first of all as being in the family Primulaceae. They just think of them as cyclamen.
Dodecatheon

Androsace

Dionysia
Cyclamen

Left: Cyclamen, balearicum, Mallorca, 003 By Orchi - Self-photographed, CC BY-SA 3.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=3795464


Donating & Ordering Seeds

The 2017-2018 APS Seed Exchange list of available seeds will be on the APS website in late December, with a link to Instructions and a printable Order Form. Members may also request a printed copy of the List, Instructions and Order Form by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Amy Olmsted 421 Birch Road, Hubbardton, VT 05733

And remember: it’s not too late to send in your seed donations!

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

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

This seed pod was so excited, it split its outer skin getting ready for the Seed Exchange!

Look for Auricula x from Maedythe Martin in the Seed Exchange.
Martin Davies

AN ONLINE INTERVIEW WITH JANE GUILD

Martin Davies is a regular poster to The Primula Lovers’ Group on Facebook, with numerous beautiful photos of his plants, some of which follow this article. Martin has a number of plants that he has named for family members, and I really wanted to know how that came about. I had the opportunity to chat with him online and asked him about it. What follows is our conversation:

Jane:
The ones you named for family members - did you choose them for particular characteristics?

Martin:
Not really, if I like them and they win at a show I name them after friends and family. Norrie Mason is very perfumed and it reminded me of my auntie Norrie (she loved her perfume), that’s why that one was named Norrie Mason. Karl Johnson was named after my best friend who died suddenly aged 44, he loved flowers, it was the first one I named and probably one of my best so far. Molly-May was named after my daughter, she loved it when it flowered for the first time and it went on to win at Knowle, so I named it after her, although it is a terrible grower! Mary Mason is named after my mother, Ellen-May is named after my wife and Alan Davies is named after my father. Alfie Davies is named after my son, Alfred Williamson is named after my best mate. None of the wire-edged seedlings have been to the shows yet so only have local names so that I can take off sets with out getting them mixed up, hope to get them to the shows this year. I don’t have a greenhouse yet, I have a large frame and once my seed has germinated and grown on for a few months they then go into the border until flowering the following spring and are then selected or usually sent to the compost bin! They mostly flower in the border 1 year after germination.

I am breeding them mostly this year and the ones with farina on and a few doubles.

Jane:
How do you manage the farina? We’re so wet here, it gets messy really easily.

Martin:
In late winter I just dig them up and keep them in a frame to protect them from the rain, after the shows back in the border unless I require them for seed.

Jane:
That’s dedication!

How did you get started with auriculas?

Martin:
An old neighbour had one growing in her border and that’s how I got the bug, I love the breeding bit the most, love seeing seedlings flowering for the first time.

I have been growing them for about 9 yrs.

Jane:
No doubt! My mom [Maedythe Martin] grew them my whole childhood, and still hybridizes stripes, but I don’t seem to have the knack for it. You are doing amazing things for being a relative newcomer to the genus.

Martin:
I will probably get more into the showing side once I have a greenhouse to help bring them on for the shows. Although I still manage to get a few on the bench without a greenhouse, just a large frame and some small plastic greenhouses.

Jane:
How many mature plants do you think you have?
Martin:
My main frame is built so that my plants are at chest height. I have had 3 major lots of spinal surgery so it’s hard bending, I have 12 screws, 2 titanium rods and 2 titanium cages through my spine, I find the plants are very therapeutic and helped my recovery from surgery, I just could not wait to get back mobile and get back to my plants!

Jane:
That’s astounding. I’m so glad the plants have been a benefit for you. I find gardening to be very therapeutic as well.

Martin:
I don’t have as many mature plants as when I started, mainly because I keep mainly my own seedlings, probably have about 50 mature named varieties, I try to raise between 500 and 1000 seedlings in the border. I get the children to help and once all the seedlings are all in the border they just look after themselves, just a bit of watering with the hose pipe in summer, I have made rearing them as simple and easy as possible due to my back but it seems to work very well for me.

Jane:
You really do have the magic touch.

Martin:
In late winter - early spring I lift the plants with a trowel, pot them on and keep them under cover in the frame or the small plastic greenhouses. I have been told I am green fingered! lol

Wire-edged seedling, unnamed.

Martin Davies’ beautiful plants follow:

Alfred Williamson, border.
Seedlings growing in the border.

Unnamed seedling, border.

Norrie Mason, border (pubescens cross x border)

Mary Mason, border.

Robert Johnson, border.

Karl Johnson, border.
Alfie Davies, border.

Molly-May, fancy.

Wire-edged seedling, unnamed.
Save the Date!!!
May 4—6, 2018
The Juneau Chapter of the American Primrose Society and the Juneau Garden Club invite you to Juneau, Alaska for the 2018 National Show of the American Primrose Society (APS)

Noted Primula expert and Show keynote speaker, Pam Eveleigh will share insights and experiences gained over a lifetime of interacting with this fascinating and unique genus.

Visit the Nationally Accredited Primula Collection™ at the Jensen-Olson Arboretum and enjoy a special, in-depth guided tour of the Collection
Visit nearby Mendenhall Glacier
Plan a trip to Glacier Bay or Tracy Arm Fjord
See the APS website in early 2018 for all the details

Maria Sibylla Merian
(2 April 1647 – 13 January 1717)
A German-born naturalist and scientific illustrator

Exciting Perennial varieties from seed
Maria Sibylla Merian (born April 2, 1647, died January 13, 1717) was a German-born naturalist and scientific illustrator, a descendant of the Frankfurt branch of the Swiss Merian family, founders of one of Europe’s largest publishing houses in the 17th century.

Merian received her artistic training from her stepfather, Jacob Marrel, a student of the still life painter Georg Flegel.

Merian published her first book of natural illustrations, titled Neues Blumenbuch, in 1675 at age 28. In 1699, following eight years of painting and studying, and on the encouragement of Cornelis van Aerssen van Sommelsdijck, the then-governor of the Dutch colony of Surinam, the city of Amsterdam awarded Merian a grant to travel to South America with her daughter Dorothea. Her trip, designed as a scientific expedition makes Merian perhaps the first person to “plan a journey rooted solely in science.” After two years there, malaria forced her to return to Europe. She then proceeded to publish her major work, Metamorphosis insectorum Surinamensium (de), in 1705, for which she became famous. Because of her careful observations and documentation of the metamorphosis of the butterfly, she is considered by David Attenborough to be among the most significant contributors to the field of entomology. She was a leading entomologist of her time and she discovered many new facts about insect life through her studies.

Merian was honored on a German currency 500 DM Deutsche Mark banknote in 1991, issued by the Deutsche Bundesbank (above). She was also featured on a 40 Pf.(German pfennig) stamp in 1991 (left). On April 2, 2013, Merian was honored with a Google Doodle (right), in celebration of her 366th birthday.
International

Australia
2017 Laurie McInnes 135 Ashley St. Roseville New South Wales 2069
2020 Geert Thiers Bloemenlei 10 B 2930 Brasschaat

Belgium
2017 John N. Gibson ‘Farinosa’, 3A Primrose Lane Kirkburton Huddersfield Yorkshire HD8 0QY
2017 John Horsfield 25 Valley Rise Watford Hertfordshire WD25 7ET
2017 Ingrid Millington Worfield, Hillview Bridgnorth Shropshire WV15 5NT
177 Mrs. V. A. Pugh ‘Brikama’, Hawthorn Manor Uttwater Staffs ST14 7PH
2018 Giles Reed 22A Charlton Rd Ayning, Banbury Oxfordshire 0X17 3AD
2018 Leslie Roberts Pop’s Plants Pop’s Cottage, Barford Lane Downton, Salisbury Wiltshire SP5 3PZ
2017 Derek William Salt Thirlfido, St Michael’s Lane Wainfleet St Mary, Skegness Lincolnshire PE24 4HB
2017 Neil Tyers 6 Street David’s Crescent Coalville Leicestershire LE67 4SS
GS NA&PS, Southern Region Mr. L.E. Wisley 67 Warham Court Rd. Cashallton Beeches Surrey SM5 3ND
GS NA&PS, Midland & West Section Roger Woods 44 Tansey Crescent Stoney Stanton Leicestershire LE9 4BT
GS The Alpine Garden Society A.G.S. Centre Avon Bank Pershore Worcestershire WR10 3JP
GS NA&PS, Northern Section Mr. D. Skinner Stonehaven, Nanny Lane, Church Fenton Tadcaster North Yorkshire LS24 1RL
2017 Miss Stone The Grebe, North Petherton Launceston Cornwall PL15 8LR

France
2017 Mrs. Lynne Lawson Barnhaven Primroses 11 Rue du Pont Blanc 22310 Plestin Les Graves

Germany
2017 Bernd Franzen Im Baumgarten 9 51105 Cologne
LF Dr. Alarich Kress Edelweiss - Strasse 9 D-82194 Grobenzell
LF Georg Maier Postach 150308 D-70076 Stuttgart
GS Bibliothek Botanischer Garden und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem D - 14191 Berlin

Iceland
LF Fridrik Skulason Stigahlid 65 Reykjavik IS 105

Ireland
GS Library, National Botanic Gardens Librarian Glasnevin Dublin 9

Japan
2019 Watarabe Isao 234-1 Simotobu Kawausha, Tochigi Ken 322-0079
LF Takao Maki 7-11-6 Kugenuma-Kaigan Fujisawa-251

New Zealand
2018 Mrs. Heather Sell 49 Mil Road Waimate Stth Canterbury
2018 Diana A. Whimp 47A Whau Valley Rd. Whangarei 0112 Northland

Norway
2017 Gunnar Bekken Hesthagen 1 7290 Storen
2017 Aase Garstad Tortenlivein 22 8218 Fauske
LF Magnus Valvik Torborg Nedreaas gt. 20 N-5006 Bergen

Scotland
2018 Mrs. Jeanie Jones Kilnpotlees Kettleholm Dumfrieshire DG11 1DD
2017 Spedding Micklem 1, Dryden Place Edinburgh EH9 1RP

Spain
2017 Michael Anderson Zahara 24-18 48460 Orduena Vizcaya

Switzerland
LF Peter Kode Oberhofstetterweg 5 St Gallen 9012

The Netherlands
2017 Gerben Bauke v.d. Veen Nieuwe Tijningen 78 5301 DA Zaltbommel
2019 J. W. M. van Saele Uweg 1063 2133 MH Hoofddorp

Wales
2019 Les Allen Windy Ridge Llandrindad Wells Powys LD11 5NY

LF=Life Member GS=Garden Club T=Twin

Please remember to renew your subscription to the APS by the deadline, November 15, 2017 and consider a gift membership for a friend. Thank You.

American Primrose Society Minutes of the Board Meeting held on August 6, 2017

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

Board members present: Quorum and start at 6.05 pm, EDST.
Mark Dyen (Director), Merrill Jensen (Director and President, Juneau Chapter), Alan Lawrence (APS President), Michael Plumb (Secretary and Webmaster), Rhondda Porter (APS Vice-President)

Regrets: Jon Kawaguchi (Treasurer), Julia Haldorson (Membership Secretary).

A. Approval of the Agenda (Mark / Michael) with the addition of proposal for subscription increase under New Business.

B. Approval of Minutes of January 29, 2017 (Mark / Michael)

C. Business Arising from the minutes of January 29, 2017, and Old Business
1. Signage for the national primula Collection and Word Garden at the Jensen-Olson Arboretum in Juneau:
   a. The sign is completed and should arrive in Juneau later in the week.
   b. Merrill will install it and send a photo of it to the board.

2. Application by the APS to become the International Cultivar Naming Authority for Primula:
   a. Merrill has joined in the preparation of the Application Form started by Alan and Michael.
   Dean Wiegert has expressed interest in contributing.
   b ACTION: Rhondda will arrange a chat to include all parties interested in preparing the form: Alan, Michael, Merrill and Dean, and she will contact Matt Matus of NARGS to see if he is interested.

D. Treasurer’s Report (Emailed before the meeting)
1. Report presented for the May meeting:
   a. Income less expenses January 1st to March 31st 2017: $1,306.26
   b. Total liabilities and equity as of March 31st 2017: $28,426.94
2. Treasurer’s Report for August meeting:
   a. Income less expenses January 1st to June 30th 2017: $391.34
   b. Total liabilities and equity as of June 30th 2017: $27,513.02
3. ACTION: Rhondda will contact Maedythe (Q. editor) and/or Jon (treasurer) to find out why Barnhaven has not been billed for advertising. She will also contact Primula sellers who advertise in the NARGS Quarterly to invite them to advertise in our Quarterly.
4. MOTION (Mark / Michael) to accept. Carried.

E. Committee Reports
1. Membership (Julia, by email):
   a. On March 25, 2017 sixteen letters with return envelopes were mailed to a select group of US lifetime members who had not been heard from for a while
American Primrose Society  Autumn 2017

(There are 28 US life members in total). Some aims of this mailing were to determine who was deceased, who had moved house, and who still wanted to receive the paper quarterly. They were also asked for their comments on the running of the society. Of the 16 letters sent, 12 were returned. All except one member were interested in receiving a paper quarterly. One member was deceased. Eight requested a user name and password for the website. Comments were: “Great website.”, “Thanks for the update.”, “I look forward to reading the quarterly on line.”, “Thanks for checking on us ’lifers’”, “I enjoy the quarterly a lot and want to see it continue.”. Two members do not want Q mailed; they prefer to read it on line.

b. As of April 30 we had 247 members compared with 268 six months earlier, so in spite of the positive effect of the seed exchange, this is still a drop.

c. MOTION (Mark/Rhondda): to approve Membership Report. Carried.

2. Editorial Committee (Alan):
   a. We have a new printing company, same pricing.
   b. Full report TABLED for next meeting.

3. Seed Exchange:
   a. Jon had included the final seed exchange accounting in his report (See item D above). The exchange made a net profit of $656.49.
   b. ACTION: Rhondda will post a reminder on Facebook for members to save seed.
   c. The board wished to thank Amy Olmsted for her work organizing the seed exchange.

4. Website (See page 27 in the Summer Quarterly, under Secretary’s Report):
   Internet browsers such as Firefox and Chrome no longer support the Java plug-in which we were using for board meetings in the chat room. The new types of chat application are based on HTML and are well supported, but we don’t have one yet. [Secretary’s note: This has now been remedied]. In any case, our website is beginning to look old-fashioned and needs a total overhaul. Apart from the limited fonts and rather complex layout, contributions to the Forum have dried up because it is almost impossible to post photos with members’ submissions. The Gallery also needs improvement. Michael has therefore asked the technician to upgrade the website to the latest version to deal with these problems.

G. Next meeting: Sunday, October 29th, at 6.00 pm eastern.

H. Adjournment: (Michael)

Respectfully submitted, Michael Plumb, Secretary

We are sad to announce that long-time APS member Rodney Barker has passed quietly and peacefully at home on October 3, 2017. The Winter Issue of the Quartely will feature reminiscences from the New England Chapter.
Join the National Auricula & Primula Society
Midland & West Section
www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk

£10.00 Overseas Membership.

Write: D. Skinner, Treasurer. Nanny Lane, Church Fenton, Tadcaster, N. Yorks. LS24 9RL.

Overseas membership £7.50 ($10.00 US)

Join the National Auricula & Primula Society

OFFICERS OF THE CHAPTERS

British Columbia Primrose Group
Maedythe Martin, President
951 Joan Crescent Victoria, BC V8S 3L3
(250) 370-2951
martin951@shaw.ca

Juneau Chapter
Merrill Jensen, President
23035 Glacier Highway
Juneau AK 99801
glacierdawg@gmail.com

New England Chapter
Mark Dyen, President
132 Church Street Newton, MA 02158
mark.dyen@csgrp.com

Should there ever be a question about your membership, please contact:
Julia L. Haldorson, APS Membership
P.O. Box 292
Greenbank, Washington 98253 USA
julia-haldorson@ak.net

NATIONAL AURICULA AND PRIMULA SOCIETY
SOUTHERN SECTION
www.southernauriculaprimala.org

The National Auricula & Primula Society - Southern Section was founded in 1876 by and for enthusiasts who raised and exhibited Auriculas, Gold-Laced Polyanthus and other primulas. The Annual subscription is £7.00 (UK) for single or family membership. Overseas £8.00. Members receive an Illustrated Year Book and a Newsletter - Offsets, containing interesting articles on growing and raising Primulas together with their history and cultivation.

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

NATIONAL AURICULA AND PRIMULA SOCIETY
NORTHERN SECTION

Please consider joining the National Auricula and Primula Society - Northern Section. Overseas memberships are some of the best ways to learn more about your favorite plants. Benefits include publications and more. Write: D. Skinner, Treasurer. Nanny Lane, Church Fenton, Tadcaster, N. Yorks. LS24 9RL. Overseas membership £7.50 ($10.00 US) Please make checks payable to NAPs. www.auriculas.org.uk

New Members
June 26 - October 15, 2017

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Expiry</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Bruce Cook</td>
<td>PO Box 21, Cummaquid, Massachusetts 02637-0021 USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Karen Griscom</td>
<td>3 Granite Street, Westerly, Rhode Island 02891 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Catherine Powell</td>
<td>435 East 9th Avenue, Junction City, Oregon 97448 USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Pascal Vigot</td>
<td>1171 Rang de la Seigneurie, Ste-Emelie-de-l’Energie, Quebec J0K 2K0 Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Cynthia Walker</td>
<td>7320 Montagne Circle, Anchorage, Alaska 99507 USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>William Winslow</td>
<td>3212 - 39th Avenue Southwest, Seattle, Washington 98116 USA</td>
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