The purpose of this Society is to bring the people interested in Primula together in an organization to increase the general knowledge of and interest in the collecting, growing, breeding, showing and using in the landscape and garden of the genus Primula in all its forms and to serve as a clearing house for collecting and disseminating information about Primula.

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Front Cover: Candelabras mix with azalea blossoms at Royal Roads - Hatley Park in Victoria, BC
Back Cover: Save the Date for the National Show at Royal Roads - Hatley Park in Victoria, BC

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 website (including the Pictorial Dictionary) and use of the slide library.

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.

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The View from Here

RHONDDA PLUMB

By now all those seeds you ordered from our annual Seed Exchange are probably sitting in their seedling mix waiting to send up promising little shoots. No matter what kind of Primulas you have been growing, there will always be something else you see growing or hear about that you just have to have. Since many of the more exotic and rarer species of Primulas are not found in nurseries, our Seed Exchange is your chance to grow them yourself. Apart from the pride of growing your own plants from seed, you also have the opportunity to share them with other Primula lovers.

In this issue of the Quarterly you will find a ballot and short biographies of the people who are standing for election. You don’t have to mail in the ballot to vote. You can also vote online by sending an email with your choices to the webmaster. Click on the ‘webmaster’ link on the APS homepage. If you want to nominate someone for one of the positions, it isn’t too late. You must get the agreement of your nominee and they will need to supply a short biography. Send this bio to the webmaster for posting on the APS website. This person then becomes a “write-in candidate” on the ballot.

To make our society a success we need people to continue to offer their time and talents by agreeing to serve on the Board, by writing articles, by organizing shows, by running the Seed Exchange, and by donating to the society. We aren’t all experts, but we all share a love of some of the more than 400 species in the genus Primula, even if we aren’t always successful in growing them.

One of the many people who have contributed to the APS is Alan Lawrence. Alan resigned from the board last year, after serving as President for the past eight years. Despite leaving the Board, Alan has agreed to continue managing the printing and mailing of the Quarterly, a not insignificant undertaking. Thanks, Alan.
The Intuitive Gardener

ANNE HOGUE

Day to day life can be a struggle for those of us with disabilities. Each daily task can seem overwhelming. Despite this, there are ways to cope, simplifying life in all areas, like getting organized, downsizing and getting back to nature, to name a few.

Other than my family, the most helpful means I have found to cope over the years is gardening. It can be the simplest thing, like growing a few pots of herbs on a sunny patio, or a primrose by your back door.

At the age of ten I lived next door to an elderly lady who had a lovely garden, which I admired. Her entire back yard was surrounded by lilac and the scent was heavenly. My parents rented our home, and there was no garden. I longed for a small garden of my own.

One morning as I was admiring the neighbor’s lilacs, I noticed a branch within reach and found a pair of shears and cut a twelve inch section off the bush. Since no one told me I couldn’t, I stuck it halfway in the ground and watered it every day until finally it took root and grew. My mother never gardened and laughed at my attempt at this. “Don’t expect it to grow,” she warned me. Luckily I didn’t listen.

Due to dyslexia, I read very little back then, but one book I did read was The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett. I would dream of my own garden that I would have one day.

As I entered by twenties, and as a newlywed, I developed a fondness for Primula. The first one in my garden was a lovely red-violet plant called ‘Wanda’. It was a gift from my mother-in-law, passed to her from a neighbor. Over the years, I added other Primula, such as the bright purple auricula, ‘Gordon Douglas’ and the vivid ‘Argus’, even the double primrose ‘Quaker’s Bonnet’ with its lavender blooms.

I joined the American Primrose Society a bit later, and acquired seed from their exchange and grew the pale yellow Primula vulgaris, the common English primrose, and the fragrant Tibetan Cowslip, P. florindae. I still have a fondness for purple and lavender blooms and I have added P. marginata ‘Mauve Mist’ and ‘Linda Pope’ to my collection. The white ‘Linda Pope’ is equally lovely. Primula denticulata, the Drumstick primrose, was planted in my favorite shades of lavender and white (see below).

Five years ago I turned 60. My husband, who is retired and the main gardener now, and I, made the move to a new home, an hour south of our previous house. We moved all our favorite plants with us, and now we have a “secret garden” even if it is still in progress. Primula are just part of the garden: there are Damask roses, German and Siberian Iris, native iris, pots of blue and pink hydrangeas, Calla lilies and at the center of the garden is an old Wisteria.

There are pots of ‘Meyer’ lemons, ‘Hood’ strawberries and a secret garden as well.

Unfortunately, over the past three years, we have lost some of our Primula due to increasingly hot and dry springs and summers. The remaining Primula are now moved to the shade of an old lilac bush where they seem to feel at home. They are joined there by a few deer fern and native trillium.

Shortly I will turn 65 years old and wonder where all the time has gone. I still recall that day so clearly, 55 years ago, when I became an “intuitive gardner.”

Longtime member Anne Hogue lives in Corvallis, OR and despite failing eyesight still finds her garden a great joy.
Chapter Reports

Juneau Chapter
Reported by Merrill Jensen, Horticulturist and Manager, Jensen–Olson Arboretum

Primula Seed
14 species of *Primula* seed were sent to the seed exchange in October, but not in as great quantities (or as many number of species) as in previous years…2017 was a very challenging year in Juneau for seed set…not just among *Primula*, but all across the board.

National Show 2018 Update:
Details are taking shape; we had our first planning meeting in November with 10 people in attendance. The next meeting is slated for late January.

A few updates (and then more each month/between our meetings as they develop and/or as I have questions)…

Registration –
Details including fee will be in place and ready for posting in mid-late February. This will include an updated flyer/advertising as well as a site for registering.

Agenda –
Almost final and will be available in early February.

Venue(s) –
To be finalized next week; likely Centennial Hall in downtown Juneau – near the cruise ship dock and with high visibility.

Show –
Ed B. is leading the effort and will coordinate the details.

Sale –
Details are still taking shape and it is likely that the sale for this show will not look like other sales. The Juneau community has one significant plant sale per year (always Mother’s Day weekend) and most vendors are putting their efforts there. We have 1 or 2 who have expressed interest and are still working on any (if) arrangements.

Speaker –
Pam is all set and presenting the topics as we have previously discussed in this group – more on that in a month or two.

BC Primula Group
Reported by Macdythe Martin

The BC Primula Group did not meet in 2017 as some members were traveling, some were sick and others were tending sick family members. But we did manage to distribute seed in the spring and hope to share more seed again this month. Group’s members will be growing these on in the hopes of meeting again sometime to share seedlings.

The Group’s current 5 members have also agreed to support the National Show in Juneau and we are working on that.

New England Chapter
Reported by Judith Sellers

2017 started off well for the New England Chapter as we enjoyed our January meeting and luncheon at the home of Matt Mattus and Joseph Philip in Worcester, Massachusetts. We admired the ambitious kitchen renovation underway and toured the greenhouse filled with *Primula* seedlings, exotic bulbs in flower, camellias, cyclamen, citrus trees and a myriad other plants. We discussed various items of Chapter business and finalized plans for the May National Show.

On May 5, 6, and 7th, the National Show was enriched by the presence of Lynne Lawson and Jodie Mitchell from Barnhaven Primroses, who joined in all the activities, gave a wonderful presentation in the auditorium about growing all sorts of candelabra style *Primulas* and held several signing sessions for their new book, *The Plant Lover’s Guide to Primulas*. The judged *Primula* show attracted hundreds of viewers, most with cameras in hand, during their visits to Tower Hill Botanical Garden, and the plant sale area was never quiet.

Our October meeting was again held at Matt and Joe’s home, with greenhouse tours and lunch lending cheerful notes to our first meeting since the death of our co-president, Rodney Barker, earlier that month. After a brief general business discussion, people shared memories and anecdotes about Rodney, who was truly a remarkable man, and had devoted so much time, skill, and energy to the APS and to the Chapter over the years.

The group decided to honor Rodney by dedicating a new trophy, ‘The Rodney Barker Judges’ Choice Award’, to be given at each New England Chapter show. Although Rodney had entered plants every year, many of which took Firsts and Best of Division, he never won a Best of Show. We all know there are often plants, which though they are splendid, are not given the ‘Best’ award for some very minor reason, or which are simply superseded by an even more stunning plant. The judges, as well as the growers, are aware of the fact that there can not be two ‘Bests’, so now there will be an award for that plant. Rodney’s entries would surely have gained that recognition many times.

Our 2018 Primula Show at Tower Hill will be a sightly condensed Chapter
Show. The members have decided to move the event from the usual first weekend in May, which coincides with the date of the National Show in Juneau, to the third weekend of the month. Benching and a garden party will be highlights for Saturday, the 19th; judging, the video presentation, and our luncheon/business meeting will fill out the day. There will not be events on the Sunday, so the much anticipated Round Table discussion about our favorite plants will be included at the Saturday lunch. We look forward to welcoming friends, old and new.

NAPS: Another Resource?

THOUGHTS BY MAEDY THE MARTIN

Do you ever look at the “ads” across from the inside back page? These are the groups for our fellow Primula lovers in England. The National Auricula and Primula Society has three sections: North, Midland and West, and Southern. Each section has a website and they are certainly worth looking at:

National Auricula and Primula Society (Northern Section)
www.auriculas.org.uk/

N.A.P.S. MIDLAND and WEST - National Auricula and Primula Society
www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk/m&w.html

The National Auricula and Primula Society
www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk/

There are many pictures on each one, especially of auriculas, and here you can find pictures of the newest introductions in the Primula world.

I recently received a DVD from the Southern Section and it has visual recaps of the shows the society held in 2016. If you have never experienced a British show it is an eye opener! Imagine a whole hall full of primula and auricula. The scent is intoxicating and the display is amazing. Best of all there is a members’ plant sale outside somewhere, usually, where the many auriculas we all covet can sometimes be found.

It is worth belonging to at least one section for the yearbook, full of articles and pictures and a write-up of the section's shows for the year. More invaluable information for the Primula and auricula grower.

Rodney Barker

OBITUARY BY JUDITH SELLERS

It is with deep sadness that we report the passing of Rodney Barker on October 2, 2017.

While serving as a Director on the APS Board for several terms, Rodney led the New England Chapter through writing its constitution and building membership, and served as co-president for well over a decade until the present. In spite of increasing physical difficulties caused by inclusion-body myositis, a rare muscular degenerative disease, Rodney never missed a meeting or a show, and continued to work for the benefit of the Society until the week before his death.

He brought special Primula seeds and seedlings to our meetings to share, and always offered positive suggestions for how to meet the goals of the Chapter and the APS. Rodney loved exhibiting his plants at our annual shows, and won many awards for First in Class, Division Best, and ‘Runner Up’ for Best in Show. He brought almost perfect Cowichans, huge elatior hybrids, P. forbesii from his little greenhouse, beautifully gilded gold-laced polyanthus, and his favorites, true wild English Primroses from seeds sent by old school chums in England.

Always a dedicated and driving force, Rodney accomplished what he set out to do. He was passionate about the projects he undertook, which were many and varied, and we will miss his skill, commitment, and friendship.

Born in London on September 15th, 1933, and forever an Englishman at heart, Rodney received his master's degree from Cambridge University and moved to America with Betsy, whom he met in London and married in 1958. After further study at Oberlin College and two teaching positions, they settled in Newton Highlands near Boston, Massachusetts in 1968 where they raised their three children.

He specialized in immigration law for people from all nations, and helped to shape national immigration policy. His skill and determination enabled thousands of Tibetans to immigrate to the USA following the 1990 legislation for displaced Tibetans.

Rodney's obituary in the Boston Globe includes quite a few accolades from people in different walks of life. 'His efforts helped shape national
Primula in Sikkim

JEANIE JONES

Originally published in the NAPS Northern Yearbook, 2017 and is reprinted with permission.

In June, 2017, I joined four people to trek in Sikkim, North India, to photograph wild flowers. My main interest for many years has been Primula and during the last 10 years I have also become interested in growing and photographing Meconopsis as they both like similar conditions.

Finding there are 58 species of Primula which grow in Sikkim prompted me to investigate Pam Eveleigh’s fantastic website Primula World. I hoped to see the Primula I had not already seen on my previous trips to Tibet, Yunnan and Sichuan in China, Arunachal Pradesh in North East India, and in Bhutan.

So on Saturday 17th June we set off from Edinburgh Airport, with some trepidation as there were riots in West Bengal caused by some of the population who want to separate from India. But we were quickly driven through the troubled area and arrived safely in Gantok, the capital of Sikkim.

After another two days travelling northwards by Jeep, we arrived at the starting point of our 23 days trekking and camping. This was not for the faint-hearted as it was monsoon time and it rained and rained. There were numerous landslips, one of which caused our path to be turned into a glacial river after one and a half day’s trekking. Alternative arrangements then had to be made and new permits obtained as there were several army check-points. The leeches added to our discomfort, but we saw many interesting plants, including...
Primula denticulata, P. capitata, P. megalacarpa in a white form, and even P. elongata, but we were disappointed not to see the high alpine forms we had hoped for.

On 1st July we set off with 24 porters up the Zemu River for Green Lake. It took us six days trekking through conifer forest, then arboreal Rhododendron, then shoulder high uninteresting herbaceous plants, before we saw the small Rhododendrons: R. nivale, R. aeruginosum, R. lepidotum and R. anthopogon, in the alpine meadows.

Our reward for reaching the open meadows was marvellous views of Kangchenjunga, the third highest mountain in the world at 8586 m (28,169 feet). We only really were able to see it between 4.00am and 8.00am as at most other times it was shrouded in clouds! The Zemu glacier is the largest glacier in the Eastern Himalaya and about 26 kilometres (16 miles) long.

We had only one day at over 5000 m to explore and look for high alpines. The tiny P. concinna and P. primulina were the most abundant. We also saw Primula sapphirina and P. tenuiloba growing at this height and P. capitata, including a swarm of the pure white form was seen in many places on the way up. We also saw the pale yellow P. sikkimensis, var hopeana, P. macrophylla, P. obliqua, P. calderiana, P. klattii, P. atrodentata and leaves of P. boothii.

For those of you who are interested in Meconopsis we saw numerous yellow M. paniculata, and were very excited to find a pink one! On the way to Green Lake we saw many M. simplicifolia ssp. grandiflora, and then above 5000 m we found the well named very spiky M. horridula.

On our way out a snow bridge we had crossed on our way up had collapsed into a river so we then had to climb down a rope, negotiate homemade ladders and cross boulder fields.

I think that Sikkim may be my last visit to the Himalaya as my knees are not up to strenuous trekking any more, and insurance for over 70’s gets rather expensive! I will treasure the memories I have from my visits to that remarkable part of the world and with my photos I can relive it. Naming photos I took of plants, preparing and giving talks also brings back all the memories. I feel very privileged to have had some wonderful experiences including seeing the sun rise on Mount Everest in Tibet.
Primula macrophylla (top left) is widely variable, seen here sheltering by a large rock in a purple form. Primula primulina (above) with its distinctive tufted eye, cocktail stick for scale. Primula capitata (below) shown in its natural habitat, here finding purchase on a rock in the middle of a raging river.
Anne Hogue has a “fondness for purple and lavender blooms”. Shown here are shades of blue (P. capitata and gnome by Anne Hogue) through purple and mauve (P. denticulata by Maedythe Martin).

Candelabras

Primula beesiana (above) and Primula bulleyana (left) in the Lijiang Botanic Garden area, Yunnan, China.

Photos by George and Liz Knowles, courtesy of Primula World by Pam Eveleigh.
Primula beesiana (facing page and above) in the Lijiang Botanic Garden area, Yunnan, China.

Facing page showing the silver buds and calyx as the flowers begin to open.

Above showing the whole plant, which can easily top two feet in height and width.

Right, type specimen from the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Herbarium Catalogue http://data.rbge.org.uk/herb/E00024065

Primula bulleyana (following page)

Photos by George and Liz Knowles, courtesy of Primula World by Pam Eveleigh where you can see even more photos and type specimens.
Considering the Candelabras

Notes by Maedythe Martin

The candelabras is a name used to cover a huge range of *Primula* plants, but we will look at three specifically. The first is *Primula beesiana*. Somehow this name always makes me think of orange and yellow, but in fact this species is mainly in the pink to purple range. A tall, imposing plant when happy, it has whorls of flowers up a stem covered in farina. It is sometimes called Bee’s primrose. It was first introduced by George Forrest from Yunnan province, China, in 1906, and named after Arthur K Bulley, his first sponsor, who was a cotton broker from Liverpool and a keen amateur gardener. He founded the Bees Ltd. nursery and was responsible for the introduction of many hardy plants and alpines to Britain in the early 20th century. It comes from the Southwest regions of Sichuan in Yunan, China and some have considered it to be a sub-species of *Primula bulleyana*. However, Pam Eveleigh on her Primula World website says it is distinct. Both *Primula beesiana* and *Primula bulleyana* were discovered by George Forrest early in the 20th century. His sponsor was Arthur Kelpin Bulley, an English cotton broker, says Lynne Lawson and Jodie Mitchell in the recent *Primula* book *The Plant Lover’s Guide to Primula* (Timber Press, 2016). Bulley founded the Bees Ltd. nursery and was responsible for the introduction of many hardy plants and alpines to Britain in the early 20th century. It comes from the Southwest region of Sichuan in Yunan, China and some have considered it to be a sub-species of *Primula bulleyana*. However, Pam Eveleigh on her Primula World website says it is distinct.

This brings us to the second candelabra: *Primula bulleyana*. Here is the orange and yellow color-range. Handsome tall plants produce crimson buds opening in shades of orange. Lynne and Jodie tell us that this species flowers a bit later than other candelabra and is useful for extending the season. For both of these plants, one can see the actual herbarium specimen, many in the Edinburgh Botanical Garden. Look at the Primula World Photo Gallery to find the links.

These two species will cross naturally in the wild, Pam tells us. The result is called *Primula x bulleesianna* and in this species the colors suddenly burst in a rainbow including apricot, lavender, orange, yellow and red. In a situation where they get enough moisture throughout the summer, they self sow, and every spring is a surprise to see just what colors emerge.
The Unexpected Houseplant
by Tovah Martin

BOOK REVIEW BY MAEDYTHE MARTIN

For a very pleasant and informative read, try this book on unusual houseplants by a prolific plant writer, Tovah Martin. Primulas are featured in only three entries, but Tovah uses them in ways I would not have thought of. It was the cover of the book that caught my eye. There are three Primula denticulata plants in an open bowl – obviously for indoor pleasure. The author has found they do well for her in the house in early spring, and then can go back outdoors. Her cultivation advice is most useful: among other things, never neglect to water, and push the fertilizers, primarily fish fertilizer.

Other Primula Tovah has had success with indoors in early spring are Primula x pubescens and even the green primrose, ‘Francesca’.

I would never have imagined bringing Primula into the house this way, but the wonderful pictures show that Tovah is very successful with getting these Primula to flower at a time when spring flowers are still asleep outdoors, but really are so necessary to the gardener’s soul. Her house is full of unusual containers and country style furniture which appeal to the eye. You will enjoy her thoughts on using plants in unconventional ways. Her style is very easy to read as she encourages you to “play” with plants.

The Unexpected Houseplant (Timberpress, Portland OR, 2012) will be useful primarily for those APS readers whose winters last well into April, but even those of us in the Pacific Northwest could take inspiration from Tovah Martin’s thoughts.

Share Your Morning Coffee

JAY LUNN

An article written by Malcolm Foster entitled “Beating the Beasties” appeared in the National Auricula and Primula Society’s (Northern Section) Yearbook 2017. In it, the author referred to research conducted in 2002 by Robert Hollingsworth and his colleagues at Agricultural Research Service in Hawaii. They were field-testing caffeine as a toxin against a non-native frog. But they discovered that 95% of large slugs were killed by a spray containing 2 per cent caffeine.1 The team then tested lower concentrations of caffeine on cabbage leaves. At a concentration of just 0.01 per cent, caffeine reduced slugs feeding by one quarter. A cup of instant coffee contains about 0.05 per cent caffeine.

Researchers do not know why caffeine kills slugs, but they think it may act as a neurotoxin, since sprayed slugs fell to uncoordinated writhing before dying. Caffeine is present in coffee and cocoa beans to protect the plant against insects, but it happens that it has a toxic effect on molluscs. Because caffeine is a natural product that is classified by the FDA as a generally recognized safe compound, it has the potential for being an environmentally acceptable alternative toxicant for the control of slugs and snails.

Malcolm states that he uses instant coffee to control slugs and snails. He finds that two heaping tablespoons per gallon of water is effective control when applied twice a year. He claims that an application applied in November when most herbaceous plants have died back will kill the eggs. In early spring just before the full emergence of leaves, he applies another dose. He says that there can be some staining of the leaves, but if they haven’t started to fully open it has not proved to be a problem. If he sees snail trails during midsummer, an application is made to the soil below leaf level, but he says that this is not usually necessary. He says that decaffeinated coffee will not work. (the highest caffeine content per 7 oz. is found in drip coffee, which is 115-175 milligrams; the lower end is instant decaffeinated coffee with only 2-3 milligrams per 7 oz.)

The caffeine content of coffee depends on many factors, such as: the type of coffee beans used (Tanzania Peaberry coffee bean has a 1.42% caffeine content while the Yemen Mocha Mattari has only 1.01% caffeine. Guatemalan and Kona beans are high in caffeine with 1.20 to 1.32% caffeine and Zimbabwe and Ethiopian Harrar having lower levels around 1.10%.
Biographies for the Ballot

Rhondda Porter (for President, one year)
I have been a gardener most of my life. My mother gave my brother and me small plots in the garden when we were very young. We could grow anything we liked while she devoted her part of the garden to her collection of irises. While I was an apartment dweller I grew orchids and miniature gesneriads under lights. Later as a home owner I indulged in my love of roses with my husband, growing over 100 different varieties and eventually becoming a Rose Society judge. It wasn’t until 1997, at an amazing display of alpines at a local garden show, that I met my first marginatas and allionii. It was love at first sight and I have been growing them ever since. Since I became one of the local Primula judges, I haven’t done much exhibiting. However, every spring I am delighted anew by these incredible little plants, which despite living in a very non-alpine climate and more than occasional neglect on my part still cover themselves with blooms. It would be wonderful if the APS could become more international and encourage even more people to become interested in growing and collecting Primula of all types, not just the tiny cute ones!

Jon Kawaguchi (for Treasurer, two years)
I have been Treasurer for many years. I have a Plant Science - Environmental Horticulture degree and teaching credential from the University of California, Davis. Postgraduate studies in Accounting at California State University, Hayward. I enjoy the Elizabethan primroses, polyanthus primroses, and the species. My goal is to ensure the society stays in good financial standing.

Michael Plumb (for Secretary, one year)
Michael served one term as VP from 2002 to 2004, and has been the Secretary of the Society for the last fourteen years. In addition to recording minutes and dealing with correspondence, he has helped to revise the APS Constitution and has written up a set of procedures and duties to help new officers and directors. In addition to his secretarial work, he totally redesigned the APS website with the technical help of Jane Guild in 2010, and has been Webmaster since that time. He lives on Pender Island, BC, Canada, just north of the American San Juan Islands, where the warm, wet winters and hot, dry summers are slowly wiping out his Auricula collection, but are a boon to the Cowichans (originally discovered on nearby Vancouver Island) and species such as P. elatior and P. vulgaris.
Elizabeth Lawson (for Vice-President, two years)
Elizabeth received her BA in English Literature from Bryn Mawr College, an MA in Botany from the University of Texas at Austin, a PhD in Plant Biology from Cornell University, and an MFA in Nonfiction from Southern New Hampshire University. She has worked at Kew Royal Botanic Gardens and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and completed a decade of work each for the Botanical Society of America and the Ecological Society of America, and completed her career with another decade of work in the Writing Department at Ithaca College, where she taught Professional Writing, Academic Writing, Writing in the Workplace, Personal Essay, Science Writing, Technical Writing, and Writing as a Naturalist. She now writes as a naturalist at www.elizabethwinpennylawson.com, and has spent the last three years working on a book about primroses for Reaktion Press’ Botanical Series. She first met primroses while working in the Decorative Department at Kew, where she potted up several hundred Primula obconica and came down with a horrible case of hives that could have ended her career as a plant lover, but did not.

Ed Buyarski (for Director, three years)
Ed has been gardening since his youth in Upper Michigan. His Biology degree from Lake Superior State College - now University - has been used throughout his gardening career and now business, Ed’s Edible Landscaping. Not until living in Petersburg, Alaska did he start growing ornamental plants and flowers. A plant sale in Juneau by an APS member lead him to begin growing primroses and the rest is history. He now grows and sells hundreds of various species and varieties each year started from seed and division. He is also on the advisory board for the Jensen Olson Arboretum in Juneau which holds the National Primrose Collection. Several terms as APS President and more years as a Board Member have continued his interest in the Society. Maintaining the Society is worthwhile to advance educational activities for gardeners so we may teach people about the wonderful flowers of primroses.

Amy Olmsted (for Director, three years)
Amy has been involved in the horticultural field for over 30 years. She is currently staff horticulturist at Rockydale Gardens, a nursery in the foothills of Vermont’s Green Mountains. Prior to this, Amy spent 20 years at Ward’s Nursery, a large garden center in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts, where she was nursery manager. Amy is a Massachusetts Certified Horticulturist, and past president of the New England Chapter of the American Primrose Society, currently and for the past few years she is the APS seed-exchange manager, a job she finds interesting and rewarding. She is also an active member of the Vermont Hardy Plant Club and the North American Rock Garden Society. Amy collects as many species of hardy Primula as her shady gardens will hold. She found in the N. E. chapter a welcoming group of like-minded people who were eager to share their love of the genus Primula. It is that enthusiasm to share this beautiful family of plants with all other gardeners, from novice to expert, which moves her to want to become more involved with the inner workings of The American Primrose Society.

Meet Our Newest Advertiser
Botanophilia LLC was started in 2010 by Nick Ternes and Diane Ten Pas as a niche mail-order nursery specializing in hardy shade plants. Nick is the resident plant geek of the operation and is responsible for propagating and growing all of the plants in the catalog. He is also responsible for the website content and layout and all other day to day tasks. He’s worked in the horticulture industry since 1996 and has a passion (some might say obsession) for new and unusual varieties of plants, but doesn’t ignore the tried and true either. Diane does everything else and is responsible for all of the administration tasks and keeping Nick focused. She is passionate about healthy living, edible plants, organic gardening, wildlife, and the environment.
American Primrose Society
Minutes of the Board Meeting held on
October 29, 2017

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

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

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

A. Approval of the Agenda (Rhondda / Michael)

B. Approval of Minutes of August 6, 2017 (Michael)

C. Business Arising from the minutes of January 29, 2017, and Old Business

1. National Show in Juneau, 2018 - Update
   a. ACTION: Merrill will send Michael information and registration details for the website when they are ready.
   b. ACTION: Rhondda will also post this information on the APS Facebook page.
   c. ACTION: Amy will also post this information on the Facebook ‘Primrose’ page.
   d. ACTION: The board will suggest topics for the show’s keynote speaker, Pam Evedleigh (either for workshop or lecture). Several suggestions were given at the meeting.
   e. The New England Chapter has altered its own show date so that its members will be able to go to the National Show in Juneau.
   f. MOTION (Mark / Amy): to add show funding to New Business. Carried.

2. Signage for the national primula Collection and Word Garden at the Jensen-Olson Arboretum in Juneau: The sign has now been installed and Merrill has sent photos the board. (Ed Buyarski joined the meeting at this point)

3. Application by the APS to become the International Cultivar Naming Authority for Primula: Rhondda has not yet been able to arrange a chat to include all parties interested in preparing the application form. ACTION: Amy will send Rhondda Matt Mattus’ address.

4. Primrose Cruise to Juneau in May 2018:
   a. At the 2017 pre-AGM meeting at Boylston an APS member had proposed asking a cruise line to support a series of lectures on Primula as part of its onboard entertainment activities. Most of the board had assumed that such a cruise was intended to tie in with the National Show in Juneau in 2018.
   b. Merrill reported that the cruise allows only ten hours in Juneau.
   c. Michael had contacted his local cruise agent. He was told that the Princess Cruise Line asks for at least sixteen people to register for a cruise in order to give one speaker free passage.
   d. Some board members suggested this matter be discussed by those members going on the Alaska cruise rather than at this meeting.
   e. Alan said that the board had misunderstood the proposal: the cruise was never intended to tie in with the show, and was nothing about an onboard group meeting. The proposal was “to approach the cruise line to consider Primrose lecture as an onboard activity sponsored by the line, like bridge classes, salsa dancing, financial planning, etc.,... Cruise lines provide online activities, why not primroses?” (At this point Alan turned the meeting over to Rhondda and left the chat.)

5. Destruction of the National Primula Collection in Berkshire Gardens, New England:
   Mark reported that the New England Chapter will explore the possibility of setting up a revived collection at with Tower Hill Botanical Garden, Boylston, but the logistics of care will need to be worked out. Matt Mattus will help in negotiations. These may take a year or more.

6. Proposal to invite Nature to make a documentary on “The Primula of North America”
   Michael said he had contacted a number of experts who might be willing to participate. This was necessary before approaching Nature. Rhondda added that we also need topics and locations.

7. Billing for Advertising: Rhondda reported that the treasurer said he had received payment from Barnhaven, but then the missing payment showed up again in the current financial report. It is unclear to which year this missing payment applies, or whether it is an oversight.
   ACTION: Rhondda will contact Jon again.

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

1. Income less expenses July 31 to September 30, 2017: $1941.42
2. Income less expenses January 1st to September 30, 2017: $2332.76
3. Total liabilities and equity as of September 30th 2017: $29,454.44
4. A donation of $3000 had been received, which the donor has asked to be used initially for website upgrade.
5. Rhondda told the board she had tried to find more advertisers for a number of years without success.
   4. MOTION (Michael / Ed) to accept the report. Carried.

E. Committee Reports

1. Membership: No report
2. Editorial Committee: No report
3. Website:
   a. Michael reported that our technical advisor had recommended an upgrade for better security, improved appearance and easier use. He had given a quote of $1600, since we are a non-profit organization. Once started, the work should be completed in about two weeks.
   b. MOTION (Ed / Michael): To approve $1600 for the website upgrade. Carried.

F. New Business

1. Rodney Barker’s obituary: ACTION: Mark will send the obituary to Maedythe for the Quarterly and to Michael for the website.
2. Funding assistance for the 2018 National Show:
   After Michael had proposed $500, Cheri asked for this to be changed to $525 to account for some inflation. Michael agreed.
   ACTION (Mark / Merrill): to provide $525 to the Juneau Chapter to help them prepare for the 2018 National Show. Carried.

G. Next meeting: TBA. Rhondda will consult by email.

H. Adjournment: (Cheri)

Respectfully submitted, Michael Plumb, Secretary
Join the National Auricula & Primula Society

Midland & West Section

www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk

£10.00 Overseas Membership.

to: The Honorary Treasurer, Tracey Pickett, ‘Majutora’, Longney, Gloucestershire, GL2 3ST, United Kingdom.

OFFICERS OF THE CHAPTERS

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
membership@americanprimrosesociety.org

New Members
October 15, 2017 - January 19, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of Expiry</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Darwin Carr</td>
<td>2987 Rte 236, Old Barns, Nova Scotia  B6L 1K1 Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Kathleen Grube</td>
<td>21211 Northeast 154th Street, Woodinville, Washington 98077 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Marcel Jouseau</td>
<td>43 North Chatsworth Street, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104-7023 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Kathy Macartney</td>
<td>3095 Kalmo Road, Vl Caron, Ontario  P3N 1R4 Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Anthony Pab</td>
<td>15414 Southeast 17th Street, Bellevue, Washington 98007 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Kate Steinmeyer</td>
<td>11361 Jay Street Northwest, Minneapolis Coon Rapids, Minnesota 55433 USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Faye Stehm</td>
<td>12601 Ridgewood Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99516 USA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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British Columbia Primrose Group
Maedythe Martin, President
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(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
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