



# Primroses

The Quarterly of the American Primrose Society

Winter 2019

Vol. 77

No. 1



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# Primroses

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American Primrose Society

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Winter 2019

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: White juliana, a harbinger of spring.

Photo by Maedythe Martin

Back Cover: Diane Whitehead's photo of some of her *Primula Sieboldii* flowers.

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Photographs are credited and used only with the permission of the photographer. Photos submitted to the editor are preferred in 300 dpi digital format but other images can be accepted. Any material used that has previously appeared elsewhere is properly credited and used with the permission of the original publisher and/or creditor.

Membership in the Society includes a subscription to Primroses, Seed Exchange privileges, password to the members' only section of the APS website (including the Pictorial Dictionary).

Dues for individual or household memberships, per calendar year, are as follows:  
US - \$30  
Canada - \$32  
International - \$38  
World-wide digital-only - \$25  
Membership renewals are due November 15 and are delinquent January 1. Submit payment to the Treasurer at the first of the year.

Advertising per issue:  
Black and White:  
Full page \$100  
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Half page \$150  
Full page \$300  
Back Cover \$450  
Contact the Treasurer for details

# The View from Here

RHONDDA PORTER & MICHAEL PLUMB

Welcome to 2019 and a new year of *Primula* growing. The Seed Exchange is well underway and when your seeds arrive, you will get to plant your newest treasures. Thank you to everyone who donated seed. The number of varieties being offered is a testament to the devotion of the people who raise the plants, collect and clean the seed, and send it to our Seed Exchange elves for packaging and mailing. A special thank-you to the members who included a donation with their seed orders to help cover the increase in mailing costs.

As you know, the APS Board has been working to ensure that the society remains on a sound financial basis. We appreciate the loyalty of our members in maintaining their membership despite a long-postponed increase in dues. We are hoping that the \$25 membership fee for digital only copies of our quarterly "Primroses" will encourage more international members to join and save the society the increasing costs of printing and mailing paper quarterlies.

The new website can be seen at [www.americanprimrosesociety.org](http://www.americanprimrosesociety.org). It is still undergoing some final tweaking, so please visit it and play around with the site. Let our webmaster know if you have problems or have suggestions for improvements. For all the people who were frustrated with trying to upload photos into the old Forum, the new Forum lets you upload photos with your posts, so get posting! Show us pictures of the *Primula* you grow, describe your successes and failures, and your best practices. The

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Forum is also a place to ask other members for their advice on growing, dealing with diseases and pests, and getting reluctant *Primula* to bloom. It is your website, so enjoy!

Don't forget you need to log in to use any of the member-only functions of the website. When you join or rejoin using PayPal, your user name will automatically be sent to the email address you have provided. With this user name you can obtain your password by following the instructions in the log-in area near the top right of the home page of the new website. If you find the new password cumbersome, you can then simplify it by first logging in with it, then going into the Members-Only section near the top left of the home page and clicking on 'Reset Password'.

As a final note, some members of the Board have reached the end of their terms. We are looking for nominations for the post of President, Secretary, and two directors. You don't need to be a *Primula* expert to serve on the Board; just be willing to help manage the APS and to attend four on-line meetings a year. The duties of the various officers are described on the website under 'Members Only' > 'Duties of officers and Directors'. You will need to log in to see this information.

We wish you much success in this new growing year!

## HIGHLIGHTS

Seed Exchange is well underway

Membership fees are going up

New Digital Membership for only \$25

New website at [www.americanprimrosesociety.org](http://www.americanprimrosesociety.org)

New Forum allows easier upload of Member's photos

Members may need to reset their passwords on the new site

Candidates needed for President, Secretary and 2 Board  
Member positions



# PRIMULA ELLISIAE

ROBIN HANSON

On occasion I surprise myself by not only germinating some species of primrose but somehow managing to keep it alive and then seeing it bloom. Such is *Primula ellisiae* – I can still only guess why this species seems happy here, but I'm enjoying its bright cheerful pink almost magenta flowers. Occasionally, it even reblooms in late August.

*Primula ellisiae* is in Section Parryi along with *P. parryi* and *P. rusbyi*. It closely resembles *P. rusbyi*, and Richards in his *Primula* (1<sup>st</sup> edition), Halda (1992) considers *P. ellisiae* a subspecies of *P. rusbyi*, as does Graham Nicholls in his *Alpine Plants of North America*. For my purposes, although the differences are relatively minute, I'll refer to it as a species.

While I was hiking in Colorado up on Cottonwood Pass (southwestern Rocky Mountains), I saw a good population of the related *Primula parryi* growing in rocky, damp areas above 10,000 feet (3,000 meters). All three of these species prefer cooler temperatures with some shelter but are quite hardy. *Primula ellisiae* is not as large and robust as *P. parryi*, but is equally showy. Its bright magenta pink flowers with yellow eyes are on sturdy stems held well above the rosettes of medium ovate serrated green leaves. The one-sided umbels have up to eight flowers of about three-fourths inch each. So far I've seen one umbel per plant, but my plant has clumped up nicely in an unshaded poly house that loses direct sun by mid- to



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late afternoon. So I must divide soon but doing so will require a lot of patience as when I removed it from its pot, I saw a tangled mass of roots. I'm inclined to grow more seed perhaps in hopes of avoiding what promises to be a major chore!

I use a standard commercial potting mix and add some pumice or 1/4-10 gravel to ensure drainage, but keep this primrose moist. It does not like to dry out at all, based on my experience of nearly killing it this past summer. Bone meal is my standard fertilizer but I also give it a pinch of Apex fertilizer which is a slow-release resin type. Unlike Osmocote which releases nutrients based on temperature, Apex nutrients are released by moisture, making it a much more suitable fertilizer (with trace minerals) for cooler coastal areas where I live.

As for germinating the seed, I've had good results by filling a 3- to 4-inch pot up to within a half-inch of the top, pouring on 1/4-10 gravel,

sprinkling the seed over the gravel and gently watering. The seed pots are then kept moist in a shaded poly house for up to two years. Pumice floats too much for my liking and I have switched completely to 1/4-10 as the top layer on all my seed sowing pots. Plus, my plants all seem to do better with 1/4-10 than with pumice, as I add it when making fast-draining mixes for alpinines and other plants that hate wet feet.



Intermountain Herbarium (Utah State University)

# CHAPTER REPORTS

## 2018 New England Chapter Report

Our Chapter has not been terribly busy this year, but we have really enjoyed the events we organized, and have some exciting plans for 2019.

In May, we held the *Primula* Show again at Tower Hill Botanic Gardens, near Worcester, Massachusetts, with lovely weather, many interested visitors, and lots of entries. Our only problem was the location of the plant exhibition, which was a huge space with a translucent roof, which let in lots of sunshine and heat to wilt all the plants. We now know that exhibition benches must be placed in a cooler and preferably shady area, and have planned for that in 2019.

During our Show luncheon, we planned to visit Kris Fenderson's garden in New Hampshire for a July meeting, but had to postpone that until September. The 23<sup>rd</sup> of September turned out to be a glorious day, after a crisp but not quite freezing night, and following our tour of the 'private botanical garden' which has been created over the past 50 years, we enjoyed a picnic under the trees and discussed ways to make the Chapter more vibrant in the future. Several ideas were floated, with one, for a joint order to Barnhaven for plants, being very enthusiastically received. Importing plants is a bit of a challenge, but there were plenty of volunteers for the careful planning that will be needed. We selected a Show date (we will host the National on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> again at Tower Hill) and set a day for the January Winter Escape meeting in Worcester, (Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>.)

Following the business meeting, Matt Mattus treated us to a very special preview of a presentation which is much in demand at horticultural meetings around the north east. We watched 'Primroses of Yunnan' which is part of his more comprehensive 'Flora of Western China' presentation. In June, Matt and nine other intrepid travelers went to the highest areas of southern China and the edge of Tibet following the footsteps of many of our most familiar plant hunters. He captured pictures which made us almost gasp: fields of *P. amethystina*, acres of *P. sikkimensis* (the travelers joked about being 'sick of sikkimensis' - see page 20 for photo), and many tiny and not so tiny

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treasures of the *Primula* world including *P. nanobella*, *P. dryadifolia*. and *P. apoclita* to name just a few We eagerly anticipate his presenting a similar, hopefully very long, lecture at the National Show on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Please join us there.

## Juneau Chapter Amalgamation of 3 Quarterly Reports

Reported by Merrill Jensen, outgoing APS representative from JNU Chapter and Horticulturist and Manager, Jensen – Olson Arboretum

### - Catastrophic Winter loss of *Primula* at JOA

The Winter of 2017-2018 in Juneau had fluctuating temperatures from highs in the mid-50s to lows in the single digits in the span of one week (!) followed by lack of reliable snow cover and freeze and thaw cycles. This resulted in the loss of many *Primula* cultivars throughout the Collection. It will take at least two years to rebuild this stock from seed...very discouraging conditions likely related to climate change.

### - National Show 2018 Recap:

The sold-out conference and show were very successful with about 68 attendees including participants from New England, the Upper Midwest, and the Pacific Northwest as well as Canada.

### - *Primula* Seed

Seed harvest began in May 2018. It looked like it would be a bad year for seed with the unusual weather conditions in Juneau...from a very cold Spring to record hot and dry during Summer. As always, we'll send as much as we can from the Arboretum to the seed exchange. All harvested seed was sent to Amy for the Exchange...

### - Update: Dickson Award Plaque

Arboretum duties have taken priority over all other things the last couple months (partially due to the long-term bear activity). I think I have received all awardee names to bring us current and plan to complete this project by mid-December. And, Cheri sent the medal (many thanks, Cheri) for the mounting on the plaque.



- Cultivar Naming Form

I owe an email to Alan regarding the RHS comments and next steps. As above, Arboretum work took priority; I'll connect with Alan in December.

- Update: future meetings

As reported to the APS Board via email, Pat Hartman, one of our Juneau Chapter members, has agreed to take on the chapter presidency. She will coordinate and organize the group and future meetings over the next several weeks and provide the report to the November meeting of this group.

- Merrill's service to the Board of National APS

I will talk to Pat Hartman (new Chapter President) about joining this group starting in Spring or ask her to identify another member who might be willing.

## BC *Primula* Group Report

The BC *Primula* Group had a quiet year, but did send a financial donation to the Juneau Chapter in support of the National Show held in May.

The Group met on November 24 to accept the thank-you card sent from the Juneau Chapter and to share some seeds. Everyone was instructed to check the APS seed exchange list and tell the president their choices. The BC *Primula* Group will send an order on behalf of the Group. A couple of members reported some good results from the seed distributed in January and are growing the seedlings on.

The Group also resolved to achieve one *primula*-related activity in the spring, perhaps in conjunction with the Alpine Garden Club of BC show. The idea of an auricula theatre display was mentioned. The three Vancouver members have taken this in hand and will pursue it.

The meeting was concluded on a rainy Saturday afternoon with members pleased with more seeds to start and satisfaction with the resolve to hold some activity to encourage others to grow more *Primula*.



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# REPORT ON NATIONAL SHOW AND CONFERENCE 2018

MERRILL JENSEN

Together with funding from the following groups: the American Primrose Society, the BC *Primula* Group, Friends of Jensen-Olson Arboretum, the Juneau Garden Club, and Juneau Master Gardeners, the Juneau Chapter hosted the 2018 National Show and Conference in early May. Many thanks to each of those groups for their financial and volunteer contributions which contributed to the wildly successful event.

As noted on the registration website, the conference sold out well before the deadline; approximately 60 attendees participated in conference events as well as approximately 20 volunteers who assisted in the background to keep the weekend gathering running smoothly. Attendees came from throughout Alaska, Washington, Wisconsin, Vermont, and Alberta and British Columbia.

Friday afternoon's tour of the Nationally Accredited Collection™ while rainy, was informative and fun. This was followed by the evening reception at Eagle Valley Lodge which included education about the Tongass rainforest, conversation, great food and wine, a plant sale, and much laughter. Saturday and Sunday's keynote presentations included great photos and detailed information; keynote speaker Pam Eveleigh provided valuable insights into this unique and amazing genus. Plants and seeds were shared with conference attendees after the hands-on demonstration regarding plant propagation. Saturday's banquet was a lovely event held in the ballroom of one of Juneau's iconic downtown restaurants and included a salmon dinner as well as distribution of show awards and door prizes. Despite a late Spring, there were several species and cultivars blooming in the gardens of the Sunday afternoon tour.

A special thanks to Ed Buyarski for organizing, preparing, and conducting the show portion of the weekend.



Finally, a thousand thanks to Kelly Jensen and Amy Olmsted for their tireless volunteer efforts in advance of, during, and after the conference; much of the event's success is owed to the work of Kelly and Amy.

In summary, it was an informative and fun weekend with lots of opportunities for sharing particular passions about primroses. Happy Summer and happy gardening.



## 2019 NATIONAL SHOW

The American Primrose Society's National Show will once again be held at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, and sponsored by the New England Chapter.

**The show dates will be  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**

Anticipate a new venue at Tower Hill, vibrant speakers (perhaps Matt Mattus will present on the Flora of Western China), and the always-appreciated garden tour and dinner with Matt and Joe



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# BARNHAVEN 2019 PRESS RELEASE

We have introduced more than **50 new plants** to this year's catalogue.

Please consult our website for all of the new additions:

<http://www.barnhaven.com/new-additions>

## Double primroses

### Double primrose 'Tregor Truffle'

Luscious rich purple blooms, generously frothed with white. Abundant flowers nicely centred in crisp green foliage. It certainly is an eye-catcher.

**Culture:** Grow in partial shade with rich, damp well-drained soil. Divide regularly.

**Flowering times:** Early-late spring.

### Double primrose 'Tarragem Sparkling Ruby'

This cultivar has double silver-laced ruby-red flowers. It was bred by Dr. Margaret Webster, holder of the Plant Heritage National Collection of *Primula*. She has worked on developing double polyanthus for many years and this one was introduced in 2008.

**Culture:** Grow in partial shade with rich, damp well-drained soil. Divide regularly.

**Flowering times:** Early-late spring.

## Auriculas

### *Primula auricula* 'Moon Fairy':

Show Fancy auricula. This is one of the new 'cloud types'. It has a centre circle of white paste like most Show auricula and the petals have a lime yellow colour that merges into lavender purple towards the edges. Bred by Cliff Timpson and introduced in 2000.

### *Primula auricula* 'Hortense':

A rich purple double auricula. Barnhaven introduction from their strain of purple double auriculas.

### *Primula auricula* 'Veronique':

Light-centered alpine auricula. Light purple shading to light pink.



## Barnhaven's Introductions for 2019



'Tregor Truffle' above, and 'Tarragem Sparkling Ruby' below.



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## THE AURICULA ADDITIONS AT BARNHAVEN

'Veronique' (top),  
'Moon Fairy' (middle),  
and  
'Hortense' (bottom)



# PRIMULA ELLISIAE

"Its bright magenta pink flowers with yellow eyes are on sturdy stems held well above the rosettes of medium ovate serrated green leaves.



The one-sided umbels have up to eight flowers of about three-fourths inch each."



Photos by  
Robin Hansen



This photo shows just a sampling of Paul Held's wonderful collection of Sakurasoh from Japan, which he has gathered over the past five years. Sakurasoh are specially selected and grown forms of *Primula sieboldii*, which the Japanese have been cultivating for the last 300 years.

Photo by Paul Held





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# SIEBOLDII BY PAUL HELD



Izumi Kawa





Hana Komachi YE s



Shishigashira



Details of individual flowers, including some forms with their names. Photos by Paul Held



"...acres of *P. sikkimensis* (the travelers joked about being 'sick of sikkimensis'...)"  
See page 7 for the New England Chapter's report

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# SHADES OF GREY

RHONDDA PORTER

For those of us living in climatic zones where the temperatures seldom go below freezing and most of the precipitation comes from rain rather than snow, the grey mold caused by *Botrytis cinerea*, can rapidly spread through a complete collection of *Primula* over the winter. This fungus thrives under conditions of high humidity and warmer temperatures such as we experience here in the Pacific Northwest. However, because botrytis can over-winter as spores in colder areas, *Primula* growers in cooler areas need to start checking their collections as soon as the temperatures warm up in the spring.

*Botrytis cinerea* (the species which affects *Primula*) “causes disease in more than 1000 plant species, including important crops”<sup>1</sup>. The control of botrytis is a major concern for agriculture as it can cause “seedling blight, leaf spots and blight, distortion of young leaves, crown rot, and blossom blight”<sup>2</sup>. For *Primula* growers botrytis can mean the difference between healthy, happy, blooming plants and those which are barely clinging to life (like the one pictured here). There are few effective chemical controls and none of the really good ones are available to the home gardener, although I have found that dusting rescued plants with powdered sulphur helps them recover and seems to limit the spread of the spores.



Photo by Rhondda Porter

The recommended method of control is good plant hygiene, increased ventilation, and generally improved growing conditions. Good hygiene includes regularly checking your

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plants for any of the tell-tale signs of mold, carefully removing dead or diseased foliage, and destroying the foliage from any infected plants. This is especially important since “spores are produced in mass under humid conditions and are readily released and moved by air currents. Additionally, overwintering structures (sclerotia) are formed and can persist in soil and plant debris. Sclerotia are found on the surface of heavily diseased plant material.”<sup>3</sup> Increasing ventilation by the use of

fans can help the spores to spread, so we are left with getting rid of all dead and diseased foliage even if there are no signs of grey mold and improved growing conditions. The latter includes keeping the foliage dry, controlling soil moisture to reduce plant stress, removing the top layer of soil which might harbor spores, and if necessary getting rid of plants which seem to be the locus for the fungus.

Sources:

1. Royal Horticultural Society website <https://www.rhs.org.uk>
2. Michigan State University Diagnostic Services website <https://pestid.msu.edu/plant-diseases/botrytis-blight/>
3. “Many Shades of Grey in Botrytis-Host Interactions”. *Trends in Plant Science Review* Vol.28, Issue 7, page 613-622 July 01, 2018.



# GA3 & SEED GERMINATION

BY ROBERT PAVLIS

*Several APS members have asked us about using Gibberellic Acid to aid in seed germination, so we found a good information source for our members.*

Gibberellic acid is a natural plant hormone that can be used to speed up the germination of seeds. It is mostly used on seed that is difficult to germinate or ones that take a long time to germinate. This post will examine how it works, and your options for using it.



“ The treated seed started to germinate within 2 weeks and continued with a few seeds germinating every week. Untreated seed did not germinate in the first 6 weeks, so I treated these seeds with GA3 and they started to germinate within a week of treatment. ”

Robert has done a thorough job of how to use gibberellic acid. While not specifically referring to *Primula*, his methods are very transferable. He does explain his use of this hormone on other plants and along the way mentions other useful resources, such as [Dr. Deno's book, "Seed Germination, Theory and Practice"](#). His information is interspersed with lovely photos, so it is a treat to read his information.

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Some important notes follow:



GA3 can be purchased as a dry powder, which will keep for a very long time in the freezer. To use it on seeds, the powder needs to be dissolved in water so that seeds can absorb the chemical.

In short, you fold up a small piece of paper towel, place the seeds in it, along with a pinch of GA3, and add a few drops of water. Let sit for 24 hours in a plastic baggie. Then treat as normal for germination.

The amount of GA3 is controlled by using a double pointed toothpick which will result in about a 1000 ppm solution.



Robert has also written an outline of two *Primula* species, *P. veris* and *Primula elatior* ssp *pallasii*. They can be found on his website [www.gardenfundamentals.com](http://www.gardenfundamentals.com) under “List of Topics.” Very useful information is found on these two plants including their natural habitat and general cultivation parameters. All that, and lovely photos by Robert himself.

The rest of his website is just as interesting, covering wide-ranging topics that might be of use to members, such as: cleaning and collecting seed, the best grow-lights, and “10 Garden Jobs You Can Stop Doing.” It’s well worth a visit.

Image credit: By U.S. Department of Agriculture - Seedling, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=37911623>





# Pins + Thrums noteworthy bits

## **The changing auricula landscape in Britain.**

Pop's Plants Nursery, for many years a source of auriculas even for some growers in North America, has closed. Lesley and Gil retired after many years of hard work. But Pop's Plants 2 has appeared. In business since late 2017, they are a family run auricula nursery working hard to increase their range. You can learn more about them at

<https://www.popsplants2.co.uk>

## **Border Auriculas**

Geoff Nicole spent years collecting as many border auricula plants as he could find over more than 40 years. His collection went to Robin and Pat Fisher some years ago, and their website still has information on growing the plants, the history of the border auricula and a potting mix.

<https://reginascottage.wordpress.com>

The Fishers' plants have moved on again because of illness, to Nigel and Samantha Hopes. Their website is [www.hopesgardenplants.co.uk](http://www.hopesgardenplants.co.uk)

## **New Plants at Barnhaven**

Field House Nursery, a source of a wide variety of auriculas for many years in Nottingham, also closed its doors in 2018. Some of the collection has gone to Barnhaven. Check their website for new additions.

## **Anomalous *Primulas***

*The Plantsman* has an article on anomalous *Primula* in the June 2018 issue. "Unearthing Parkinson's *Primula*" by Margaret Webster brings a modern touch to the Elizabethan *Primula* pictured in a Parkinson plate from 1629. Maybe you can find a copy of the magazine in your local library.



FROM THE VAULT OF *Primroses*

## Vintage Bits

*Selected by* JANE GUILD

I chose this article from the Winter 1965 issue of *Primroses* because using lights during the dark days of winters is still a much-discussed topic.

# Growing Polyanthus Under Fluorescent Lights – Who Can Wait for Spring?

By MRS. JOHN G. MAC DOUGAL, Scotia, N. Y.

As soon as the hectic holidays are past, gardeners' minds turn to spring – and the months until then are filled with impatience. In northern New York a greenhouse used to be the only answer to winter gardening, and an expensive answer at that. Use of fluorescent lights has opened a whole new world of gardening through its adaptability and low cost. Getting a head start with *Primula* under lights is to fill the winter months with great pleasure. When spring comes with all its attendant duties, there just doesn't seem to be time for daily admiration of each new sprout, each new leaf. Growing under lights lets you care for each individual plant and watch its development closely.

Once you decide to experiment and give fluorescent lights a try, the practical aspects must be given consideration. First of all is location. A

system. (Yes, my husband rigged it for me.) This suspension allowed the fluorescent fixture to be raised out of the way for watering and to adjust the distance from the plants as they grew.

The first week in February was chosen for planting time as this would have the *Primula* ready for bedding out the first part of May. I prepared five 8" x 12" flats with damp soil, consisting of  $\frac{1}{2}$  garden loam,  $\frac{1}{2}$  sand,  $\frac{1}{2}$  peat, and a handful of bonemeal. After firming this mixture to within one inch from the top I added  $\frac{1}{4}$ " of damp horticultural milled sphagnum moss. This top layer was for two reasons. Since the soil is sterile and off for

To read the full article, go to the APS website, at:

[www.americanprimrosesociety.org](http://www.americanprimrosesociety.org) Click on 'Quarterly' in the top menu bar on the home page > Quarterly Archives > "VOLUMES 21-30 (1963-1972)" > "Vol 23.1 (Winter 1965)" > go to page 24.

Or simply type [bit.ly/APSQVol23No1](http://bit.ly/APSQVol23No1) into your browser's address bar and hit Enter (a Google search will not work).



# AMERICAN PRIMROSE SOCIETY

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 18TH, 2018

**The meeting was held online. Quorum and start at 6.00 pm, EST.**

**Board members present:** Ed Buyarski (Director), Pat Hartman (President, Juneau Chapter), Jane Guild (Editor), Julia Haldorson (Director, Membership Secretary), Merrill Jensen (Director), Jon Kawaguchi (Treasurer), Elizabeth Lawson (VP), Amy Olmsted (Director), Michael Plumb (Secretary and Webmaster), Rhondda Porter (APS President)

**Regrets:** Mark Dyen (Director, and President of the New England Chapter), Cheri Fluck (Director)

Before business, the board welcomed Pat Hartman, the new president of the Juneau Chapter.

**A. Approval of the Agenda** (Elizabeth /Michael), with the addition of date of next meeting.

**B. Approval of Minutes of August 12th, 2018** (Ed/Elizabeth) as presented.

**C. Treasurer's Quarterly Report** (emailed before the meeting)

In response to Rhondda's question, Jon said that any general donations, received from members or chapters, could be moved into the reserves whenever the board decides. The reserves can be used for contingency expenses.

Income less expenses July 1st to September 30th, 2018: (\$451.32) (loss)

Income less expenses January 1st to September 30th, 2018: (\$471.26) (loss)

Total liabilities and equity as of September 30th, 2018: \$30,328.05

**MOTION** (Michael / Elizabeth) to accept the treasurer's report. **Carried.**

**D. Business arising from the minutes, and old business**

**Reciprocal arrangements to receive the quarterly:** A number of organizations (seven?) receive a free copy of the quarterly but have no reciprocal agreement with the APS (A reciprocal arrangement usually entails sending us their own journal in exchange for ours, as NARGS does.). The board agreed with the following actions:

**ACTION:** Julia will remove these organizations from the mailing list. She will send Rhondda their titles and addresses.

**ACTION:** Rhondda will write to these organizations to tell them they will no longer be receiving the journal. She will suggest they take out a (digital) membership if they would still like to receive the quarterly. Rhondda will send the letter to the board first for their approval.

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2. **Dorothy Dickson Award Plaque:** Merrill now has all the names of the people who have been given this award over the years. The plaque will constitute a full record. He has commissioned an engraver.

**ACTIONS** (Merrill):

Send the final list to the board for checking.

Send the list to the webmaster for posting in the website records.

Have the plaque engraved after Thanksgiving and send the bill to Jon for payment as requested by Jon.

Jon reminded the board that the plaque needs to be updated (engraved) annually.

**E. Committee Reports**

**Membership:**

As of November 17th we have 121 members. This actually represents less than half of the society's membership, since we are in the renewal period, and Julia expects many more than this number to renew subscriptions.

Members' dues have increased. It remains to be seen how this will impact renewals.

Members who wish to renew online can use either the old or the new website.

Some members normally renew automatically via PayPal, but their renewals are currently at the old rates. Michael has sent requests to these members to cancel this system and renew for a single membership year at the new rate.

The Seed Exchange encourages members to renew and new people to join.

It is hoped the new website will help to retain members and recruit new ones.

2. **Website:**

The new website is now public. The board heartily congratulated Jane Guild on a great job.

Michael asked the board to continue to explore the site and send their comments to Jane.

Rhondda asked board members to write articles to help with content. Amy and Elizabeth volunteered.

**ACTION:** Julia and Amy will ask their *P. sieboldii* contact to write an article.

**ACTION:** Jane will give board members the facility to write articles direct to the website.

**F. New Business:**

**1. Seed Exchange:**

Amy reported that the seed from donations and purchases is ready for packaging. She encouraged board members to do their part by donating more seed in future.

The society normally covers the cost of mailing seed worldwide, yet postage to some overseas addresses is extremely high. The board agreed that action needed to be taken. Jane reported that the e-commerce suite on the new website can calculate overseas postage according to the size and weight of the package.

**ACTION:** Amy and Jane will work out a system of payment for seed by overseas members.

**2. Nominating Committee for Board members:**

Four Board members will have completed their current terms of office by the next AGM in May: Rhondda (president), Michael (secretary), Merrill and Julia (directors). Rhondda, Michael, and Merrill have indicated that they do not intend to stand again. As per the constitution, retiring Board members form a nominating committee to find people willing to stand for office.

Michael has also been managing the non-technical administration of the website since 2010, and would like to find a replacement [*Secretary's note: The technology of the new site now makes much of the administrative work redundant, which should make his replacement's work easier.*]

**3. National Show 2019:**

The board gratefully accepted the New England Chapter's offer to host the National Show in conjunction with their chapter show at Tower Hill on May 3rd and 4th 2019.

They have not requested a donation from the APS, though the money (\$525) is in reserve if they should need it.

**4. Donation of a one-year membership to NARGS for a fund-raising raffle**

**MOTION** (Patricia / Amy): That the APS donate a one-year membership (includes paper quarterly) to the North American Rock Garden Society for their 2019 fund-raising raffle. **Carried.**

**G. Next meeting:** February 10th, at the usual time of 6.00 pm Eastern.

**H. Adjournment:** (Michael)

*Respectfully submitted, Michael Plumb, Secretary*



## North American Rock Garden Society

Yes, I am interested in a seed exchange, discount book service, slide library, field trips, fact-filled Quarterly, garden visits, and plant sales.

Sign me up!

Membership:  
USA, Canada: US\$30  
Overseas: US\$35

Please contact:  
**Mr. Bobby Ward**  
Executive Secretary, NARGS  
PO Box 18604

Raleigh, NC 27619-8604

Make checks payable to  
North American Rock Garden Society

<https://www.nargs.org/info/membership>.

## Join the National Auricula & Primula Society

*Midland & West Section*

[www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk](http://www.auriculaandprimula.org.uk)



£10.00 Overseas Membership.

to: The Honorary Treasurer, Tracey Pockett,  
'Majutora', Longney, Gloucestershire,  
GL2 3ST, United Kingdom.

## NATIONAL AURICULA AND PRIMULA SOCIETY

SOUTHERN SECTION

[www.southernauriculaprimula.org](http://www.southernauriculaprimula.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 (UK) for single or family membership, Overseas £10.00

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 Warnham Court Road, Carshalton Beches,  
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 £15 (\$19.33 US)

Please make checks payable to NAPS.  
[www.auriculas.org.uk](http://www.auriculas.org.uk)

## New Members

September 27 . 2018 - January 19. 2019

Year of Expiry	Name	Address
2019	Claire Davis	61 Horton Road, Cold Spring, New York 10516 USA
2019	Albert Deurbrouck	6915 Hilldale Drive, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania 15236 USA
2019	Gretchen Fritz	20 Punch Bowl Road, Morristown, New Jersey 07960 USA
2019	John Gilrein	4003 Bussey Road, Syracuse, New York 13215-9770 USA
2019	Diane Jeffery	1747 Valleyview Road, Val Caron, Ontario P3N 1K7 Canada
2019	Ernie Lerma	714 - 21st Avenue, #A, Seattle, Washington 98122-4766 USA
2019	Janet Poulsen	19400 Excelsior Blvd, Excelsior, Minnesota 55331-8718 USA
2019	John Proctor	37 Lancaster Drive, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B3A 4X7 Canada
2019	Anne Robison	476 Daniels Run Road, Scenery Hill, Pennsylvania 15360 USA
2019	Deborah Saadetian	399 Southcote Road, Ancaster, Ontario L9G 2W4 Canada
2019	Joseph Christopher Sehnert	415 Sixth Street, #300, Juneau, Alaska 99801 USA
2019	Mr. Masahiro Shiino	12 Takenomaru, Nakaku, Yokohama, 231-0847 Japan
2019	Cheryl Slind	7315 Russell Avenue South, Richfield, Minnesota 55423 USA
2019	Lois Smith	4245 County Road 6, Yarker, Ontario KOK 3N0 Canada
2019	Anna Tyszkowska	9800 - 212th Avenue, Bristol, Wisconsin

### OFFICERS OF THE CHAPTERS

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**New England Chapter**  
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