

THE BULB GARDEN

Volume 2 Issue 3

Summer, 2003

Plant Portraits:

Lithophragma parviflora

By Robin L. Hansen

Robin has grown and sold Cyclamen for several years. She is also developing a passion for Brodiaea and some of the other Oregon native bulbs. She lives in North Bend, Oregon just east of the Pacific Ocean on a property sheltered by dunes and conifers (slightly colder and hotter than USDA zone 9). Send an E-mail to hansen.nursery@verizon.net for her plant list. Ed.

Hiking in the Cascades has brought me a more than nodding acquaintance with the delicate woodland starflower, *Lithophragma parviflora*. Parviflora means small-flowered. Every time I see one blooming I think "small-flowered in comparison with what?" These little saxifrage relatives are so distinctive in bloom that I can spot them several yards away.

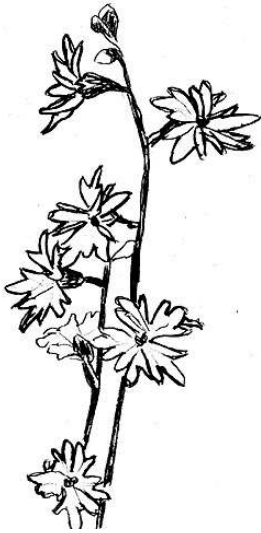
Growing from small slim rhizomes, they are frequently found on rocky slopes or in grassy meadows that remain damp into early summer. The gray-green palmate leaves form a more or less basal clump. The star-shaped white to faintly pink petals are so intriguingly shaped as to be unlike most other flowers

except, perhaps, some of our native *Silenes*.

Given regular moisture and some shade, *Lithophragma* will bloom well into summer. In full sun, they dry and disappear by the beginning of summer. The brown capsules contain numerous seeds as fine as fly frass. Seed this small is very difficult to germinate but the rhizomes are easily divided, although they sprawl a bit when

transplanted. Woodland Starflower multiplies easily; and no, my definition of "multiplies easily" is not "weedy"!

Lithophragma is a tough, adaptable plant free of bugs and diseases. Mine are growing in a 63% shade house, and don't get especially leggy. Wherever they're planted, it is best to give them the company of smaller bulbs and perennials in order not to overwhelm their delicate beauty.



Canna

By Judy Glattstein

Judy Glattstein finds gardening to be a never-ending story, with always more to learn. She has cleverly combined her avocation and vocation ("What, playing hooky? No, this walk in the woods is research!") An instructor at the New York Botanical Garden, Judy also teaches at the Office of Continuing Professional Education of Cook College/ Rutgers University. She lectures to garden clubs and professional horticultural organizations across the United States and abroad. In addition, her articles appear in magazines such as Garden Design. Author of seven books (two on geophytes) she is presently at work on "Bulbs for the Naturalistic Landscape" for Timber Press. Judy's most recent book "Consider the Leaf: Foliage in Garden Design" was published in February 2003. Her western New Jersey garden is in USDA zone 6, just a couple of miles east of the Delaware River. Judy adores sturdy geophytes that thrive in her rocky, clay soil woodland, especially those resistant to deer. Visit her at www.bellewood-gardens.com.

Here in New Jersey, *Cannas* are seasonal additions to the garden. They find temperatures that remain firmly below freezing for a week or longer to be unreasonable. (So do I, but that's another matter.) So every year a fixed part of autumn-into-winter chores is the digging and storing of the *Canna* rhizomes. As I stalk the hidden cannas on my annual treasure hunt, I end up digging and boxing more than I will need next spring. They spend the cold months packed away in large boxes lined with heavy black plastic garbage bags. The boxes are stacked along an inside wall of the attached garage, where temperatures may drop into the high thirties Fahrenheit. In spring they awaken well before the garden is ready to receive them. My car spends about a month outside while plants take possession of the garage bay.

I grow several *Cannas*, more for their foliage than for flowers. 'Stuttgart' is lovely, or would be if I could find the right conditions. Growing 6 feet tall, often more, it has long narrow pale green leaves handsomely marked with gray-green and white. These become crisp and brown if they get too much sun, the soil gets a little dry, or sometimes just from petulance. They are at their best in constant shade next to the front of the house, shaded by a wall yet open to the sky. The original few rhizomes, a pass-along from a friend, have multiplied to fill three large pots. This spring I passed along two generous pots worth, leaving me with just enough to cosset without feeling irritated.

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'Pretoria' is a popular *Canna* with wider leaves attractively striped green and yellow. Moderate in size, it grows about 3 to 4 feet tall. I plant this cultivar in the garden, partnered with *Abutilon pictum thompsonii*, a flowering maple with yellow freckled leaves, and near a golden barberry, *Berberis thunbergii aurea*. 'Pretoria', like many other *Cannas*, is quite happy in full sun and with wet feet. It even grows well in a pond. Plant the rhizomes a couple of inches into the pond muck, under a couple of inches of water.

Another *Canna* I acquired as an unnamed pass-along is very much like 'Intrigue', and for all I know, it might well be. It grows reasonably tall, reaching 7 feet and more in a season. Humming birds enjoy the small apricot flowers, which grow out of the narrow, dark bronze-purple leaves. Jammed up next to the house wall, and with a modicum of warmth seeping through from the basement, this *Canna* does survive the winter beneath a thick blanket of leaves.

In spring, the boxed rhizomes get strewn around the garden landscape. Some go down by the road behind a patch of tawny ditch lilies (*Hemerocallis fulva*.) Others create a backdrop for *Monarda didyma* 'Jacob Cline', that mildew-resistant, clear red bee balm. My favorite partnership is at the edge of the deck, where *Canna*, *Gladiolus callianthus* (previously *Acidanthera murieliae*), and *Plectranthus argentatus* all squash in together in a narrow bed. The maroon blotch on the peacock lily blends well with the *Canna* foliage, while the silver leaves of the *Plectranthus* soothe, smooth, and tone down the *Canna*'s darkness. Summer arrives in the garden as the *Cannas* emerge from their winter's rest.

Cannas have survived the faddish horticultural disdain when such trailer park plants were only good for dull gardeners, planted as the exclamation point in a bull's eye of red salvia and yellow marigolds. What goes around comes around! The tropical look of *Canna* is hot and stylish.

Mixing Bulbs into Container Gardens:

Part 3: Autumn Lights By John Ingram

John Ingram is a garden designer in the greater Los Angeles area (zone 10 - dry and warm summers and wet cool winters). He also works annually with clients in Ohio (Zone 5 - hot, humid, sometimes drought conditions in summer to freezing in winter). He loves and collects bulbs of all types. His specialty is combining bulbs with perennials in container accent plantings! E-mail him at jjingram@adelphia.net or check out his web page at www.floralartistry.org. Ed.

Even though we are still in summer, fall is just around the corner. A few additions to our existing containers fill the gaps between summer and fall bloom. Adding the foliage textures of succulents and summer tropicals to our bulb and perennial containers carries color into the first frost and beyond. The usual color palette for autumn is bold and flamboyant. This includes such intense colors as fuchsia, red, orange, yellow, purple, bronze, copper, gold, and more. With this flash of color, we often think of the end of the season and prepare for cooler or colder temperatures. This does not have to be the case. There are many plants that carry interest into the winter and some right on into spring. Bold combinations lift our spirits during winter's weaker light and brighten its dull days.

There are a few exceptional wholesalers for perennials such as Terra Nova Nurseries and Proven Winners. They have brought together a wide selection of plants for non-stop action year round. Each has links on its web page to retailers that carry their products and they are worth the search. They produce top of the line plants, which makes it worth the long-term investment. Every year they fine-tune colors and find new selections to offer. Ask for them by name to get retailers to carry a wider selection. They may already be in your local nurseries.

As far as bulb sources, the generosity of the BX of the society cannot be stressed enough. Many members, both famous professional and novice, have donated bulb and seeds you cannot buy from any other source. You should always request whatever interests you. If you do not have room for them as your interests develop or decide they are not what you want, send them back to the BX for someone else.

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Use bold combinations of grasses to create a livelier garden.

Grasses are an integral part of the lives of many bulbs in their native habitat and you can use them year round in every design. Grass also ages beautifully from the middle of summer into the next spring. Bright chartreuse *Ipomoea* 'Marguerite' with a hot pink *Verbena* cultivar is a great combination by itself. Add the fall color of a grass using any of the bronze New Zealand *Carex* species or the copper shades of the Little Blue-stem (*Andropogon*) and the colors really snap. The most exposed leaves of the sweet potato develop bronze edges from the cold nights and the color darkens until it goes dormant or is touched by frost.

Mixing the wide selection of variegated foliage is a never-ending adventure.

Fusion design produces some off-the-wall combinations for a daring statement. Start by choosing a few bold containers with character to them. Asian ceramics or containers made of brass or copper work well. The metal containers may be sealed to prevent aging or left unsealed to develop their wonderful patina. With metals, be sure that the plants placed in them can handle added heat from the sun. They dry out quickly from the heat and watering must be regulated.

Begin with one *Brugmansia* 'Herrenhauser Garten' for height. Plant it alone in a 22" copper pot or with four one-gallon *Lantana* 'Miss Huff'. Always include saucers under *Brugmansias* because they never get enough water during summer months. Pop six one-gallon *Alcea rugosa* into an eighteen-inch pot, a *Canna* 'Bengal Tiger' into a twenty-inch pot with three dozen *Tigridia*, and a single *Helianthus angustifolius* 'First Light' in an eighteen-inch container.

Bring in bold accents with *Abutilon* hybrids-almost any color will do. Plant several singly in eight to ten-inch pots. Add interest by planting five bulbs of *Chasmanthe floribunda* (or var. *ducktii*) in a twelve-inch standard pot. Accent it nearby with a *Phormium* 'Golden Sword' or 'Yellow Wave' (planted alone in a fourteen-inch azalea pot). Add one *Yucca* 'Golden Sword' in a ten-inch vessel for accent.

The small workers for this combination are reliable plants such as *Acorus* 'Ogon', *Carex buchananii*, and *Hemerocallis* 'August Flame'. Bring in the seasonal color with *Crocasmia* 'Lucifer', *Euphorbia dulcis* 'Chameleon', *Gaillardia* 'Burgundy', *Gladiolus dalenii*, and *Helenium* 'Flammenspiel'. A six to an eight-inch pot of *Rhodophiala bifida* provides wonderful late-

season color, and *Veronica* 'Aztec Gold' or 'Sunshine' (with *Gladiolus* if you like) finishes everything.

Plant 25 of the *Gladiolus dalenii* bulbs deeply in a ten-inch pot with *Veronica* to begin this combination. Add four one-gallon *Helenium* in a fourteen-inch azalea pot. For a full effect, plant four to six four-inch pots of the short plants (such as *Acorus* and *Gaillardia*) in twelve to fourteen-inch bulb pans. Place the daylily and other medium sized plants into multiple pots of the same size.

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Add purples and pastels to blue and pink combinations for more interest.

Delphinium 'Blue Bird' provides the base color of blue for this grouping. Intensify the blue using *Iris* 'Batik', *Iris pallida* 'Alba-variegata' and *Veronica spicata*. Plant ten four-inch or five one-gallon *Delphiniums* in an eighteen-inch pot. Place the *Iris* 'Batik' alone in a ten-inch pot, three one-gallon *Iris pallida* in a twelve-inch pot and one *Veronica* alone in an eight-inch pot.

Bring in the pink by using bold plants such as *Aster*, *Crinum*, *Larkspur*, *Lilium*, *Lobelia*, and *Verbena*. Dwarf hybrid *Asters* have been introduced from Europe with a large selection of colors. One of the best is 'Thyra Viking'. Bring this combination to life by placing three *Crinum powelii* bulbs into a fourteen-inch pot with five four-inch *Ipomoea* 'Blackie' plants. Plant two six-packs of both the red and pink larkspur into a fourteen-inch pot with *Campanula* 'White Chips'. The larkspur provides vertical growth, which adds movement to a planted group by drawing your eye up to taller plants and pulling it down to the lower plantings.

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Bring on the Lilies for classical beauty and delightful scent!

Lilies also add vertical growth. Consider using a mixture of types and varieties. Some contrasting choices



that are compatible are *Lilium* 'Stargazer', *L.* 'Tom Pouce', *L. speciosum* and *L.* 'Casablanca'. Plant the lilies in three or four layers to increase the length of bloom time. Place eight *L.* 'Stargazer' in a ten-inch pot with five four-inch *Verbena* 'Burgundy'. This contrast of tall and short plants adds visual movement. Ten *L.* 'Tom

Pouce' bulbs in a twelve-inch pot are visually balanced with five four-inch *Campanula* "Blue Chips". Similarly, six four-inch *Salvia* 'May Night' plants balance twenty *Lilium speciosum* bulbs in an eighteen-inch pot. Plant ten to fifteen 'Casablanca' bulbs in a tall narrow pot with a ten to fourteen-inch opening.

Finish the combination with the intensely contrasting pink of *Lobelia* 'Ruby Slippers' and *Verbena* 'Burgundy' or 'Mabel's Maroon'. Create this group by planting several *Lobelias* and *Verbenas* into separate eight-inch containers.

Adding a little white softens the palate and takes the garden to a new dimension in the evening. Try three one-gallon *Asclepias* 'Ice Ballet' with *Verbena* Mabel's Maroon in a fourteen-inch azalea pot. Place five or six bulbs of *Nerine sarniensis* in a ten-inch shallow pot. Use white and pink tone hybrids of the *Nerine*. Finally, display a specimen of *Nipponanthemum nipponicum* (Nippon daisy) in a twelve-inch pot.

Use aquatics in your container garden.

To add interest for the semi-aquatic nature of *Iris ensata* (Japanese iris) plant them in an eight-inch plastic pot and submerge the it under water in an Oriental container without drainage holes (called Hibachi style.) Place sand or small stones on the top of the pot before submerging to keep a neat look to the container and also to prevent the soil from being washed away. Keep the water level 1-2 inches over the plastic pot. Change the water occasionally to prevent it becoming rancid. Then add goldfish for even more interest.

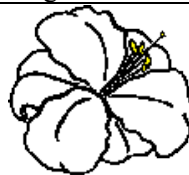
The electric blue of the *Delphinium* are at their best when contrasted with soft and subtle peach shades. Some plants that show the peach shades are *Alcea* 'Peaches 'n' Cream', *Diascia barberae* 'Blackthorn Apricot', *Eremurus* 'Shelford Pink', any zonal salmon or peach colored *Pelargonium*, *Pelargonium* 'Tweedle-Dee' or *Verbascum* 'Helen Johnson'.

Plant five or six one-gallon *Alceas* in a twenty-inch pot and one *Diascia* in eighteen-inch standard pot. Be careful planting three roots of *Eremurus* in a twelve-inch pot, as they are very fragile. Place the *Pelargoniums* singly into ten-inch pots and ten four-inch *Verbascum* into a fourteen-inch shallow pan.

Bring purples into this grouping in the form of *Campanula glomerata*. Also complimentary are *Datura* 'Double Purple', *Delphinium* 'Galahad', *Ipomoea* 'Blackie', and *Perovskia* 'Filigran'.

Carry out the planting with multiple pots each with an eight-inch *Campanula*. Plant the *Datura* alone in a fourteen-inch pot. Plant the *Delphinium* the same as *Delphinium* 'Blue Bird' in a previous combination. Next, place the *Perovskia* into a fourteen-inch pot. Deep green Asian pots are a good choice or a mix of blue and green Asian pots with a few smaller and simpler terra cottas as accents.

Finally, add some height by combining *Clematis* 'Jackmanii' in a 22" pot with five one-gallon *Alcea* 'Summer Memory Mix'. Grow them on a trellis placed in a large pot in the back of the grouping. The *Alcea* represent pastel shades and add height and interest.



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Whites make other colors sing!

Whites bring the garden together. Stage a *Crinum powelii* 'Alba' alone in a twelve-inch container. Plant twenty-five bulbs of *Galtonia candicans* in a fourteen-inch pot with three one-

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gallon *Pennisetum* clumps. Display *Lantana* 'White Lightning' with Delphinium, and twenty-five bulbs of *Lilium candidum* with *Diascia*.

The leaves of *Eremurus* and *Galtonia* are not very ornamental and are best hidden behind a fuller plant such as a ten-inch *Cimicifuga* 'Hillside Black Beauty', a *Pennisetum* 'Eaton's Canyon', or a *Phormium* 'Dazzler' or 'Jester'. Place five-gallon size plants in twelve-inch pots (roots may be cut to fit into the pot, if necessary.) The *Cimicifuga* is a key player when placed here to unite the white flowers above with the burgundy foliage of plants such as *Canna* 'Intrigue' (a single plant in a 22-inch pot), *Irisene* 'Purple Lady' (several pots each with an eight-inch plant), and the *Pennisetum*. Provide an additional accent with eight four-inch pots of *Hesperantha* (*Schizostylis*) *coccineum* or the corresponding number of bulbs placed in a ten-inch pot. *Worsleya raynerii* (the famous Blue Amaryllis) coordinates beautifully with these shades when it blooms.

Add Accents to a small patio garden.

For a small patio, place eight to ten four-inch pots of *Cyrtanthus brachyscyphus* into a fourteen-inch shallow bowl. Also try three *Diascia* 'Ice Cracker' in a ten-inch azalea pot, multiple eight-inch pots of *Nassella* (*Stipa*) *tenuissima* or clumps of *Tulbaghia simmleri* planted in ten-inch. Solidify this combination with the red leaves of *Pandanus utilis* (alone in a fourteen-inch pot) and the bold color of seasonal but sensational *Watsonia* 'Dazzler'. Use a fourteen-inch pot with a three to five-gallon *Watsonia*.

What to try in a dry, exposed area.

Dry, exposed areas can look bold as well. In another Fusion design, combine aquatic and desert species together. *Fremontodendron* 'California Glory' (20" standard pot with decomposed granite added to the soil mix) is a greatly underused plant in gardens. It is completely drought tolerant to the extent that if you water it from late spring to early winter you can rot the roots. The beautiful two-inch plus yellow flowers can be supplemented with other colors in the sunset spectrum. Grasses add a very dramatic and exotic element when using plants such as *Carex testacea* (six one gallon in a 14" shallow pan) and *Elegia capensis* (14" standard pot, singly). The *Elegia* looks tropical and soft while adding a bit of whimsy when a gentle breeze plays with the stems. *Aeonium* 'Zwartkop' (8" standard, singly), *Bulbine* 'Hallmark' (multiple 6" azalea pots), and *Sedum* 'Campfire' (10" pan with five or six 4" plants) add a slight desert feeling without being unapproachable.



Add a trellis or simply let *Passiflora* 'Susan Brigham' (18" azalea pot, singly) drape over and around where it pleases. Solidity can be introduced with *Leucadendron* 'Safari Sunset' (20" azalea, singly), *Libertia peregrinans* (12" pan with four 1 gallon plants, cut roots if necessary), *Phygelius* 'Salmon's Leap' (12" standards, singly), and *Sphaeralcea coccinea* (three 1 gallon plants in one 10" standard). This planting can turn to mush if too much water is applied so, keep a light hand. Terra cotta is a natural choice to supplement the intense sunset colors. A clean modern look can be achieved through repetition of containers. Square edge pots or chimney tiles add a interest. Their impact should not be underestimated. Plant material also can also add interest if you simply line the *Aeonium* up in like containers on a ledge or the edge of a set of steps.

There are many combinations other than the above. Sometimes even the best-laid plans change once you get started. You can change container size, plant combinations or even plant selection depending on availability. If you see something special while at your supplier, buy it and change a few other plants to coordinate with it. Make your gardens full and lush for more interest. Sparse gardens are hot as attractive unless you are looking for a contemporary garden. I love the way a large mix of plants meld and mingle. If you desire a more "uncluttered" look, choose the most prominent combinations from those listed here and use only a few statement pieces. One example from the last suggestion would be the *Fremontodendron* with *Aeonium*, and either the *Libertia* or *Carex*. This is a very strong combination yet clean and straightforward.

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Always spotlight a few key combinations from every design. Make sure these are in the most prominent position. Move the containers around once they are planted. Position them to get the most impact while drawing the eye through the entire design. The beauty of using containers is that you can always experiment until you have the result you want to achieve.

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PBS News and Events

Welcome to New Members

Welcome to new charter members of 'The Pacific Bulb Society (PBS). As of June 30, 2003, PBS had 81 members. The new members are:

Theresa Massey gatogordo@webtv.com
Tony Dickerson tonyd@rhs.org.uk
Caroline Craft TheLadyGardens@aol.com
Doug Westfall Eagle85@flash.net
Paul Tyerman ptyerman@ozemail.com.au

Officers

President	Cathy Craig	batlette@cox.net
Vice Pres.	M. English	meenglis@cts.com
Secretary	Lee Poulsen	
Treasurer	Jennifer Hildebrand	
List-Serve Administrator	Mary Sue Ittner	msittner@mcn.org
Membership		
BX director	Dell Sherk	dells@voicenet.com
Newsletter Ed.	M. English	meenglis@cts.com

Help Wanted

The Pacific Bulb Society needs a few good people! We have volunteer positions available right now. A membership director is sorely needed, and also a replacement for Lee who is busy with work and a new baby! An experienced Webmaster would be a plus, as would an advertising person. If

you are interested in any of these positions, please apply to Cathy Craig.

List Administrator Report Mary Sue Ittner

Co-administrator: Arnold Trachtenberg
Ibiblio picture page administrator: Mark McDonough
We have 191 email addresses subscribed to our list. People continue to add images and information to our PBS wiki although the pace has slowed considerably. Discussions continue to be interesting and informative.

Pacific BX/SX Report Del Sherk

BX action has increased recently! Donations, in particular, large ones of seeds and corms from Mary Sue and of crinum from Joyce Miller and Jim Zimmerman, have been a spring tonic. There is promise of more from Paul Tyerman, Alberto, and Charles Hardman, among others. I plan to make another appeal to the list for donations, and I ask that all of you talk up the BX and encourage people to donate and participate. Robert Parker is going to donate MANY glassine envelopes from his stamp-collecting phase. I am pleased to report that I have begun receiving donations from overseas members without any problems from the USDA. If I end up getting arrested, I know that you will all bail me out! ;<{).

As of 7/23, the PBS BX anniversary sale is done. We have grossed about \$100 and most of the oldest seed is gone. I will cull through the remaining accessions and throw out a few things to keep our product fresh. There will continue to be a supply of seeds to offer to offline members and new members, and I will continue to save excess seed for future sales to all members and, finally, to the whole discussion list. The generous contributions of you BOD members have made a big difference in the success of the BX. Thank you, and please keep supporting us.

Please consider donating your extra plant material when you divide or harvest. Donors get a credit for postage on their future BX orders every time they contribute. Send clean, clearly labeled seeds or bulbs to: Dell Sherk, PO Box 224, Holicong, PA 18928, USA.

Treasurer's Report Jennifer Hildebrand

I am moving at the end of July. The new PBS address is: Pacific Bulb Society c/o Jennifer Hildebrand
2000 SW 16 St. Lincoln, NE 68522

PLEASE do not send payments to me before August 3, 2003.

Vice-President Report Marguerite English

During the second quarter, I set up a year's worth of advertising in the NARGS journal; set up a one-time advertisement in "Garden Design" magazine's bulb issue; participated in discussions with Mary Sue about the by-laws; and started the by-laws draft document mostly from our board minutes and discussions.

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Editor's Report

Marguerite English

Associate Editor: Hamish Sloan

We have completed editing and formatting the summer issue and I will be delivering it to the printer soon.

During the second quarter, we published the anniversary edition of 'The Bulb Garden' and member directory; received sufficient articles for the summer edition; sought out new advertisements for 'The Bulb Garden' and found two new ones.

Financial Statement

Starting balance:4/1/03	\$4012.64
Income	
Memberships - US	80.00
Memberships – International	50.00
BX	501.66
Advertising – Bulb Garden	60.00
Book orders	140.00
Total Income	831.66
Expenses	
Repro and mail: Bulb Garden	678.48
Advertising: NARGS	115.00
Bank fees	13.00
Attorney Fees	100.00
BX costs	98.18
Total Expenses	1004.66
Current Balance	\$3839.64

2003 Specialty Bulb List

Collector's surplus,
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many rare in cultivation,
many from wild seed,
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Pacific Bulb Society Board Meeting

The meeting called to order at 9:00 AM PDT on April 27, 2003.

Officers attending were: President Cathy Craig, Vice President & Newsletter Editor Marguerite English, Treasurer Jennifer Hildebrand, BX Director Dell Sherk, Internet (Listserv & Wiki) Director Mary Sue Ittner, and Secretary Lee Poulsen

There was a short discussion on the fact that some unknown person or people have added irrelevant images to the PBS Wiki. Anyone can add images, but only Mary Sue and Mark can remove images. These unknown person(s) cannot be traced. The board unanimously praised Mary Sue's efforts with the Wiki.

PBS By-laws

Several different versions of by-laws will be sent to all officers for their review. Mary Sue will send land trust by-laws and the ABA by-laws. Jennifer will send the IRS sample by-laws. Everyone can offer input. Mary Sue, Marguerite, and Lee are the by-laws committee and will be in charge of producing a final version for board vote by 15 June 2003.

Budget

Budget committee consists of: Cathy, Jennifer, and Marguerite. Committee is to propose a final budget for the 2004 calendar year to the officers' list by 15 June 2003.

PBS Information Backup Disaster Recovery System

The group discussed the need to backup organizational information. Once a month:

- Jennifer sends Treasurer data to Cathy.
- Jennifer sends Membership list to Lee.
- Mary Sue sends Forum Membership list to Arnold.
- Marguerite saves backup of newsletter files. Her daughter knows to send them to board in case of emergency.
- Dell sends BX records to Jennifer.
- Wiki Images and Archives—still under discussion

Membership Chair

Lee and Jennifer will share the Membership position, pending Vicki's availability, or until the officers locate a new Membership Chair.

Association or Corporation?

PBS will be registered as an association.

Other Discussion

Rex Lowe, Atty. at Law, has agreed to take a small retainer fee of US\$100 to answer PBS legal questions until he feels our retainer has been used up; then he will let us know.

By-laws shall include duties of each officer, to be written up and submitted by each officer.

Treasurer to decide how often [once a quarter? Or upon request by another officer?] and after exceeding some level of time and/or amount when to notify to BX participants that they are past due in their payments.

The board praised Jennifer's efforts getting the PBS finances organized, and Dell for running the BX smoothly and professionally. .

Summer Bulb Storage

by Sheri Anne

Richerson

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Her favorite pastimes are riding her motorcycle, visiting arboretums, traveling, reading, writing, horseback riding, designing and improving websites, and especially-- working in her huge garden in Marian, Indiana (zone 5). She specializes in herb gardening and tropical, sub-tropical and exotic plants. To receive her plant list E-mail SheriAnnRicherson@exoticgardening.com

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Many of us grow bulbs that will not survive the winter planted outside, so now is a good time to look at the proper way to care for these bulbs. Bulbs such as *Dahlias*, *Gladioli*, *Begonias*, *Canna*, *Caladium*, elephant ears and many others can be treated as annuals and tossed in the compost pile when they die back, or they may be lifted and stored.

If you intend to lift and store your bulbs, follow these simple steps.

1. Most bulbs with the exception of tuberous *Begonias* should be left in the ground until frost blackens their foliage.
2. Dig the bulbs at this point being careful not to damage them. Cut off the excess foliage and brush off the loose soil.
3. Put the bulbs in a warm, dry place that allows for plenty of air circulation. Once they are completely dry, brush off the remaining soil, taking care not to bruise or damage the bulb.
4. Finish cutting off any remaining foliage and pack the bulbs in an appropriate medium such as perlite, vermiculite, cocoa hulls, clean sawdust or peat moss.
5. Store in a container, separating bulbs with a medium of your choice. Be sure to keep them dry until spring.
6. Optimal storage temperatures vary according to the bulbs but an approximate range is 50° F.
Hang bulbs (such as Dahlia) with water in their stems upside down to dry. Separate *Gladioli* corms when you dig them. Sometimes it is better to get rid of the older ones and keep the new ones. This is a decision you will need to make based on the looks and age of the bulb. Be extra careful not to bring in summer blooming bulbs such as lilies and alliums. Many summer bulbs are perennials, which will over winter in the garden just fine.