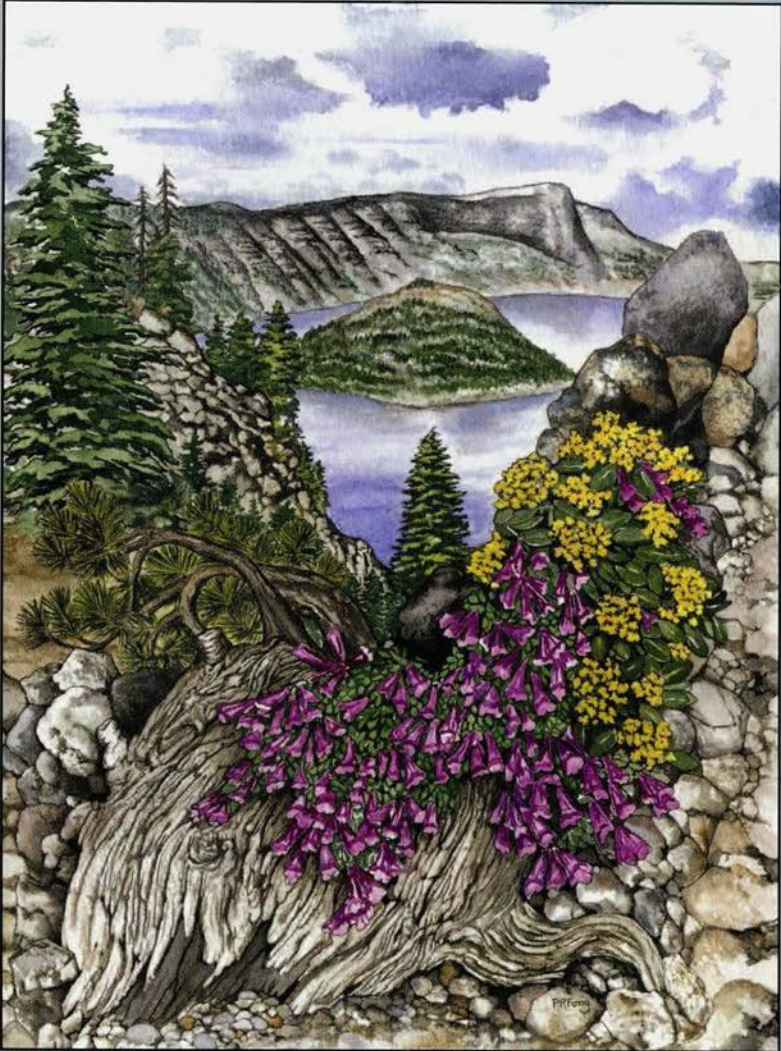


ROCK GARDEN

Quarterly



Volume 67 Number 3

Summer 2009

Front cover: Scene in Crater Lake National Park, Oregon. Painting by Paula Fong.

Back cover: *Castilleja arachnoidea* and *Penstemon davidsonii* at Crater Lake National Park.
Photograph by Tanya Harvey.

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ROCK GARDEN

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BULLETIN OF THE NORTH AMERICAN ROCK GARDEN SOCIETY

Volume 67 Number 3 Summer 2009

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From the Editor

With this issue we move forward with the changes that began in fall 2008, aimed at reducing printing and mailing costs for our publication. The *Bulletin Board*, which since the 1950s has been mailed with the *Bulletin/Quarterly* as a separate newsletter, will now appear as a section of the *Quarterly*. This means that the *BB* will no longer be available for “breaking news”: it used to be submitted to the printer only two weeks before mailing, but now will be composed with the bound issue no later than six weeks ahead. This also means that two or three pages will be devoted to material that for many readers will be of ephemeral interest, probably the original motive for separating this content from a journal that was expected to remain on members’ shelves permanently. Nevertheless, it will save NARGS, with its dwindling income, more than \$2000 per year to eliminate this and other “drop in” items.

It is expected that the newly designed NARGS website (<http://www.nargs.org>) will assume some of the functions previously carried by the *BB*. The new website was put up early in May 2009, although not all its planned pages and functions were available yet at that time. We encourage all members to visit the site, explore it, and contact new NARGS President Grazyna Grauer with feedback; her addresses are on the inside back cover of this issue.

Your editor has now recovered from managing the program at the 2009 Annual General Meeting/Western Winter Study Weekend. She was the one straining her vocal apparatus to herd attendees from room to room on schedule. Our chapter—one of the smaller ones in the Society—knocked ourselves out to put on this meeting, having added the events of an Annual General Meeting when the summer 2009 AGM had to be canceled, and we would like to thank all the members who attended, participated, and gave us kind words. Not to mention those who stood out in the rain, cold, and even hail during the garden tours and field trip!

One feature of an annual meeting is the presentation of national awards, and after watching this NARGS tradition decline in recent years, Awards Committee chairwoman Marguerite Bennett and several activist members made a concerted effort this year that resulted in the presentation of every award available, including the brand new Linc and Timmy Foster Garden Awards. Read about the recipients in this issue and take the opportunity, if you can, to see their gardens, read their writings, and patronize their nurseries.

And, as always, let us know what you’d like to see in the *Quarterly*, and send in your own articles and photos!



Celebrating Our Seventy-Fifth Anniversary

Bobby J. Ward

In 1934, North Americans were listening to Paul Whiteman and Duke Ellington on the radio and were watching Clark Cable and Claudette Colbert on the silver screen. In March of that year, 250 American garden enthusiasts gathered in the Commodore Hotel in New York City to formally launch the American Rock Garden Society. The organization had grown to more than 30 chapters by its 60th anniversary in 1994, the year it changed its name to the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS) to recognize its increasing Canadian membership. Now with 36 chapters, the society celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2009.

My introduction to NARGS came in 1989, when I joined my local Piedmont Chapter, which was organizing its first Eastern Winter Study Weekend. I attended that meeting and made the acquaintance of longtime NARGS members, many of whom became fast friends. Expert speakers there sparked my abiding interest in bulbs and hellebores.

I soon discovered that there is much diversity in gardening styles and plant interests among NARGS members across North America, from Alaska through the Canadian provinces to all corners of the United States. Regional differences in climate, rainfall, and temperature push gardeners to adapt. Verna Pratt in Alaska does not garden the same way that Ev Whittemore does in North Carolina. Todd Boland in Newfoundland may not fully appreciate the gardening challenges that Marion Jarvie faces in Ontario. Larry Thomas's admirable eleventh-floor terrace garden in New York City is far different in space and concept from the rock gardens at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver or the Denver Botanic Gardens.

I learned that dryland steppe plants of Colorado's intermountain basin won't last a minute in the warm nights, high humidity, and summer heat of Delaware or Maryland without amended soil or raised beds. But we seldom give up if we fail the first time, often relying on pass-along information from more experienced rock gardeners. With better understanding of a plant's requirements, such as drainage, soil type, the right amount of shade (and a bit of a green thumb), we usually can have success.

NARGS members freely interchange the terms “alpine plants” and “rock garden plants,” and we don’t always agree on what constitutes a rock garden or how to define it. Thus, we grow plants in small troughs, rock walls, raised beds, on large mounds (berms), in woodland settings, in alpine meadows, or among natural rock formations. For the neophyte or would-be rock gardener, placing native plants in scale among local rock is often the first, tentative beginning of rock gardening fever.

North American rock gardeners can grow an extremely wide range of plants. Jane McGary, an Oregon bulb grower and editor of the *Rock Garden Quarterly*, notes that “Rock garden plants comprise both evergreen and herbaceous perennials and shrubs, and bulbous plants; a few annuals or biennials may be admitted, such as alpine poppies. In addition to flowering plants, rock gardens may include dwarf conifers, small ferns, and small-scale, nonspreading ornamental grasses.”

There are many styles of rock gardening practiced by NARGS members. Pamela Harper, who gardens in coastal Virginia, has pointed out that the great woodland forests of North America have provided a backdrop for “a distinctive American style [of rock gardening] that has evolved naturally in regions of rocky woods rich in wildflowers.” These include spring ephemerals, such as *Trillium*, *Claytonia*, and *Erythronium*. Tom Stuart of New York says, “What North America has contributed more than methods is in the extension of plant materials.” He notes the presence of cacti and mosses in NARGS members’ rock gardens.

Our members often develop specialty gardens for their interests in a certain genus (perhaps *Penstemon*) or in bulbs (such as *Crocus*). Many rock gardeners grow plants from seed, planting dozens—even hundreds—of pots each year. Some foreign members join NARGS specifically to acquire seed from the annual seed list, which generally consists of about 4,000 selections.

Panayoti Kelaidis of the Denver Botanic Gardens has said that North American rock gardening is a vibrant community of plant enthusiasts who share not only a complex and fascinating art, but also great bonds of friendship: “It fosters enthusiasm and excellence and honors biodiversity and human diversity: a tall order indeed!”

The North Carolina gardener Elizabeth Lawrence wrote that “the cultivation of rock plants is the highest form of the art of gardening . . . Gardening is an art, and the rock garden is its purest form. All gardeners become rock gardeners if they garden long enough.”

As NARGS heads towards its centenary, I look forward to its continual inspiration and support for its members in this most rewarding of pastimes.

Bobby J. Ward of Raleigh, North Carolina, is a past president of NARGS and its current executive secretary. A retired botanist, he is not only an avid gardener but also an accomplished author. This article originally appeared in the Scottish Rock Garden Club’s journal, *The Rock Garden* (vol. 31, no. 122: 6-7, January 2009).

A Spring Tour of Carl Gehenio's Garden

*Winner of the 2009 Linc and Timmy Foster
Millstream Garden Award, Alpine/Rock Category*

Amanda Haney

As your car drops down the short, steep driveway, glimmers of rockery and woodland jewels appear. The steep wooded hill comes into view as you step out. Right in front of you glows a large clump of bright yellow and white *Iris bucharica* in front of a dark evergreen *Chamaecyparis*. A few steps bring you to a large rock garden that slopes gently toward the driveway (photo, p. 169). Bright splashes of color brighten natural-looking arrangements of gray sandstone. Small conifers are tucked into the site, and a tiny pond glistens in the foreground. In April, miniature red and cream tulips and daffodils begin the show. Shining white flower clusters of *Mukdenia rossii* (photo, p. 172) stand 10 inches above glossy, palmate leaves. (This unusual member of the Saxifrage family is sometimes called *Aceriphyllum*.) Later in the season, purple dianthus, pink and mauve *Phlox stolonifera* and *P. divaricata*, white mounds of *Arenaria montana*, blue *Campanula portenschlagiana*, and *Campanula raineri* explode with color.

Before we continue, meet Carl Gehenio and his wife and gardening partner, Mary. Carl designed his first rock garden as a youngster and joined NARGS in 1963. At the age of 87, he still actively gardens and continues to redo beds as they decline. Located in Tarentum, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, his place is the local Mecca for rock gardeners. His outstanding knowledge of plants and garden design led to his nomination by the Allegheny Chapter of NARGS for the Linc and Timmy Foster Millstream Garden Award in the Alpine/Rock category. His guidance is highly valued, and he contributes to our chapter in a variety of ways, such as his recent contribution to our *Alpine Line* newsletter: "Readying Plants for the Rock Garden Show." Since he propagates nearly everything he grows, Carl supplies choice plants for our yearly sale and wins numerous ribbons in our show.

To continue your tour, walk closer to the stream and steep hillside (photo, p. 170). The shaded site glows with flowering natives. Rare in the wild, bleeding heart (*Dicentra eximia*) charms with its pink flowers. *Anemone nemorosa* in pink and double white forms and purple-checked *Fritillaria meleagris* surround the dangling yellow flowers of bellwort (*Uvularia grandiflora*). A magnificent clump of yellow lady slipper (*Cypripedium calceolus* var. *pubescens*) abuts *Trillium grandiflorum*.

Dotting the site are pink and white heads of *Primula sieboldii*. Maidenhair fern (*Adiantum pedatum*) has multiplied into a large patch. The stream's sound of trickling water mingles with bird song.

Along the driveway, a long, rectangular raised bed comes into view (photo, p. 169). Constructed with rough-cut stone blocks, it is home to several small conifers. These evergreens are underplanted with a variety of flowering plants, notably clumps of phlox, including Linc Foster's blush-pink hybrid 'Unique'. Brilliant coral *Corydalis solida* 'George P. Baker' appears in early spring. Red and purple pulsatillas bloom next to pink *Anemonella thalictroides*. Four stone troughs rest on the bed's stone edging. One is filled with a small clump of white-flowering *Draba dedeana* next to a tight 6-inch mat of *Draba bryoides* (photo, p. 172) that is covered with tiny yellow flowers in early spring.

Millennium Rock Garden

Turning toward the white frame house that Carl built in 1956, the narrow layout of the yard becomes apparent. Several small rock garden beds are situated along the path. Next to the house, unnamed hybrid mountain laurels (*Kalmia angustifolia*) form huge masses of mauve, purple and pink during peak bloom in June. Glimpses of Carl's "Millennium Rock Garden" invite a further look through openings between mature rhododendrons and conifers. This long, narrow space (photo, p. 170) between the road and stream presented a challenge in garden design, but Carl has more than met this challenge. As you follow the grassy entrance, his naturalistic garden design is revealed. A long, narrow rockery undulates along the property line for 35 feet (11 m). Hemlocks line the roadway and provide a green backdrop for a multitude of flowering alpinists. Incorporating huge boulders left from road construction, Carl designed and built this garden in 2000. By 2002, when his garden appeared on the local NARGS chapter tour, a viewer would easily be convinced that this rockery was created by nature. However, Carl and his son constructed it by transporting hundreds of tons of sandstone to the site.

Closer inspection of the Millennium Garden reveals a small water feature resembling a pool caught between the rocks. Multicolored sempervivums and sedums grow in the cracks, especially on a group of brown limestone boulders. Numerous phloxes brighten the spaces between the gray rocks. These charming hybrids result from "bee crosses" and reseed throughout the space. *Iberis sempervirens* 'Snowflake', a miniature yellow-flowering ice plant (*Delosperma nubigenum*), and a variety of dianthus and campanulas add to the show. Dotting the site are bulbs: tiny red tulips, yellow and white daffodils, and *Muscari* in both dark and pale blue shades. Conifers such as dwarf Alberta spruce (*Picea glauca* 'Pygmaea') contribute contrasting textures and shapes. Small pockets of native bluets (*Hedyotis caerulea*) add a touch of pale blue.

Crevice Garden

As we meander to the end of the Millennium Garden and down to the grass strip below, the Crevice Garden (photo, p. 169) comes into view. Positioning it below the Millennium Garden, Carl built this rockery in 2004. Crevices were created by sinking narrow rocks close together into the 15-foot (5-m) bed. Its natural appearance is enhanced by sections of bare rock left between plants. Blue and white columbines (*Aquilegia flabellata* 'Nana') have seeded widely. The blue of the columbines is echoed by the brilliant azure of *Gentiana acaulis* and *G. verna*. In the corner, clumps of the reddish-purple Juliana primula 'Wanda' are tucked into a pocket beneath a dwarf conifer. Masses of white flower clusters of *Thlaspi alpina* resemble drabas. In late spring, the pale pink puffs of baby's breath (*Gypsophila repens* 'Rosea') appear. An unusual white-bordered purple violet has seeded throughout the site. In a shadier section toward the house, native partridge berry (*Mitchella repens*) carpets the ground. Three hypertufa troughs rest on the edge of the 18-inch-high (45 cm) wall. One is completely filled with large rosettes of a hybrid silver-encrusted saxifrage.

Below the Crevice Garden and adjacent to the stream, hostas light up a spot beneath mature hemlocks. The dark spathes of the "rice-cake plant" (*Arisaema sikokianum*) contrast beautifully with the miniature golden-leaved hosta. Beyond the hosta bed, in a shady corner by the back door, woodland gems burst with flowers. Large clumps of the orchid *Bletilla striata* in both purple and white increase in size every year. A rare green-flowering double *Trillium grandiflorum* grows next to red *Trillium sessile*. The striped hoods of *Arisaema ringens* are followed by the pink spathes of *A. candidissimum* in July. The unusual *A. thunbergii* has a long black tail attached to the end of its striped spathe.

Tufa Garden

A walk below the house and along the stream brings you to a round tufa bed that is shaded from the midday sun. Tucked into a corner below the porch, this 6-foot (2-m) circular tufa bed is planted with a variety of hybrid silver-encrusted saxifrages. An invasion of liverwort has caused it to decline, so Carl is planning to redo this bed. Gypsum combats buildups of sodium and magnesium, and Carl has found that it reduces the growth of liverworts. From a fall addition of gypsum, an improvement is already apparent, and the center section of tufa is again covered with rose and white flowers in early April. To further combat this unsightly nuisance, he also plans to improve the drainage with crushed gravel and then reset the tufa.

Woodland Plantings

A short walk across a bridge and along a steep hill brings you to a plethora of woodland plants that are native to the site. *Trillium grandiflorum*, the white

pantaloons of Dutchman's breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*), lavender *Hepatica nobilis*, and false Solomon's seal (*Maianthemum racemosum*) grow together with mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*) and bloodroot (*Sanguinaria canadensis*). The mottled leaves of dogtooth violets (*Erythronium americanum*) cover the hillside, but only a few of their yellow flowers can be found in early spring. Carl will advise you to "look next to tree roots for the flowers, because the roots stop the plant from putting all its energy into making bulbs." He has added some nonnative plant material, too. A mass of double white *Anemone nemorosa* appears at the top of the hill. Beyond the anemones, the wet area beckons with a riot of color. Beginning in late April, mounds of native yellow marsh marigolds (*Caltha palustris*) gleam next to clusters of introduced *Primula veris* and *P. elatior* (cowslip and oxlip). In May they are followed by *Primula japonica* (photo, p. 169) filling the large space with white, red, pink, and purple.

Red Dog Garden

As you return to your car, a unique rock garden comes into view (photo, p. 171). It is built into the steep hillside below the road. Over 30 years ago, Carl constructed a retaining wall using large chunks of "red dog," a waste product from nearby coal mines. This acidic material provides the perfect site for heaths and heathers that bloom in succession for most of the year. In March or April, *Erica carnea* lights up the area with its shocking pink flowers. Later in the summer, you will see one of his favorites, *Calluna vulgaris* 'My Dream', a double white variety of Scottish heather. Multicolored sempervivums, rose and silver heucheras, and a variety of thymes cling to the rocks. Campanulas and other perennials have seeded into the crevices.

Alpine House

A visit to Carl's small alpine house is a must. Attached to his garage, each year it contains new delights. Last fall, Carl potted a collection of his own winter-hardy *Lewisia cotyledon* strain. This spring, masses of their soft pink and orange blooms fill one corner. Other plants could include groomed pots of *Gentiana verna*, aquilegias, sempervivums, or drabas that he is readying for our May rock garden show. Trays of seedlings sit on other benches. A glimpse through the window reveals a large vegetable garden and propagation area with a multitude of the plants found throughout Carl's garden.

At the end of your visit, Carl will happily answer questions about plant varieties and cultivation while Mary serves lemonade. For several decades, Carl's and Mary's garden has been an invaluable resource to the NARGS Allegheny Chapter.

Amanda Haney made several trips to document and photograph this award-winning garden. For more about the Linc and Timmy Foster Awards, see p. 208.

Androsaces Anonymous

David Sellars

An addiction to a genus is not uncommon among rock gardeners, and an obsession with *Androsace* is one of the more serious conditions that can be developed. After a series of rock garden failures, you think you have finally kicked the habit, and then you see a perfect specimen of *Androsace alpina* (photo, p. 175) or *Androsace helvetica* in the wild, and the addiction comes creeping back like thyme over a rock wall. Lincoln Foster in his book *Rock Gardening* described androsaces as the joy and despair of his heart. Reginald Farrer expressed a similar sentiment in *The English Rock Garden* and said that "Perhaps of all mountain-races this name is engraved most deeply on the rock gardener's heart, like Calais on Queen Mary's, standing as well for his highest hope and pride as for his bitterest disappointments."

There are a few androsaces from the Himalayas that are relatively easy to grow in any well-drained soil, but they tend to be not the classic alpine cushion types. *Androsace lanuginosa* is undoubtedly the most tractable species, blooming in late summer and fall with trailing stems, silvery foliage, and profuse lavender flowers. It likes to be cut back in the early winter and will reliably appear again next spring. The fact that it is not evergreen may be a clue to its success in our gardens. *Androsace studiosorum* (photo, p. 173) and the related species *Androsace sarmen-tosa* are also quite easy to grow. *A. lanuginosa* is gleefully stoloniferous, forming offset rosettes that spring out on long stems that root several inches away. It is thus very easy to propagate. However, the rosettes can form a loose pile that gets soggy, brown, and messy in Pacific Coast winters, and some winter protection can improve its overall appearance. The flowers are reliable, profuse, and usually pink, and a mat of this plant can be quite attractive. *Androsace sempervivoides* is somewhat similar but flowers intermittently in our garden near Vancouver, British Columbia.

I have had considerable difficulty in the past with androsaces from the *A. carnea* group, but they have recently started to survive quite well in our garden. They like a very well drained soil, but because they are plants from acidic meadows, they need fairly rich humus. Our successful plants are grown in stony sand with additions of "Sea Soil," a mixture of composted fish and forest-humus

finer. *Androsace laggeri* (photo, p. 174) from the eastern Pyrenees is an absolute joy, with minute pink flowers set off by dark green needle foliage. It looks particularly fine growing with the white flowers of *Androsace carnea* subsp. *brigitantica*. We also grow *Androsace halleri* (photo, p. 174), which is similar to *Androsace laggeri* but not quite as elegant. We do give these plants winter protection, though they may survive without so much fuss.

I was inspired to build a sand bed a couple of years ago after reading about the success of Rick Lupp's sand beds in Tacoma. I wrote about the technique and the results in "To See a World in a Grain of Sand" (*Rock Garden Quarterly*, Fall 2008, pp. 274–276). The sand bed has had its share of failures, some because I belatedly realized that androsaces in the Carnea group need humus in the soil. *Androsace chamaejasme* (photo, p. 174) is also not growing well in the sand bed, probably because of lack of humus compared with the meadow habitat it enjoys in the wild. We also lost *Androsace dasyphylla* in the sand bed, and having seen the glory of *Androsace alpina* in the Alps, we were very disappointed when all three of our plants lasted less than a year.

We have been delighted to discover that the androsaces we usually call "douglasias" grow very well in the sand bed, forming tight dark green mats (p. 182). Douglasias, which grow only in North America, are in the *Douglasia* section of the genus *Androsace*, though many North American floras present them as the genus *Douglasia*. The British insist on calling them *Androsace laevigata* and *Androsace montana*. If they grew in the wild in Scotland, then they might still be a genus.

One of the best species for the sand bed is *Androsace villosa* (photo, p. 173), which is very floriferous, but here it does not form the tight cushions that we have seen on high ridges in the Pyrenees. *Androsace vandellii* is coming from seed this spring and is a definite candidate for the sand bed, as we have seen it only in the mountains growing on rocks. The tightest cushions in the sand bed are *Androsace pyrenaica* and *Androsace muscoidea*. The latter is particularly diminutive, with white flowers flat against the gray-green creeping mat.

Once you develop a taste for androsaces, they are very hard to resist. One of the best places to see them is in the Pyrenees, where a number of beautiful species and subspecies are endemic, some having a very narrow range. Locations and photos of Pyrenean androsaces are available at www.mountainflora.ca. There is nothing quite like seeing *Androsace vandellii* clinging like a limpet to an overhanging rock to inspire and reinforce the rock gardener's heartfelt obsession with this genus.

David and Wendy Sellars garden in Surrey, near Vancouver, BC, and also enjoy hiking and photographing wild plants in North America and abroad. David is a frequent contributor to the *Quarterly* and to the newsletter of the Alpine Garden Club of British Columbia, where this article first appeared. He has created the website mentioned above to feature special alpine floral hikes. His photographs have won many awards in the NARGS annual photo contest and feature in talks he gives to garden groups.

Botanical Travels with Rock Garden Pioneers

Compiled by the Editor

Continuing our retrospective series celebrating the 75th anniversary of the North American Rock Garden Society, this selection of excerpts and summaries traces an important genre of articles that have appeared in the *ARGS Bulletin/Rock Garden Quarterly* since its inception: accounts of visits to natural areas where interesting and important plant communities can be seen. These “travelogues,” as some call them, stimulate divided opinion among readers. Those who enjoy amateur or professional botanical explorations themselves empathize with the authors and use the articles as guides for their own travels. Members who focus on gardening and cannot or do not want to walk in wild areas may skip them, but they too can gain valuable knowledge about the preferred habitats of plants they may wish to cultivate. Despite occasional resistance, the genre has persisted through the years, and in it we have published articles to which readers still refer decades later.

A number of the best articles dealing with North America were reprinted in *Rock Garden Plants of North America*, a book published in 1996 by Timber Press in collaboration with NARGS. Copies are still available from the NARGS Book Service. If you want to hunt plants in the United States (the period covered predated the present inclusion of most of the Canadian chapters), you should have that book.

You can obtain the full text of any article mentioned or excerpted in this issue from the NARGS Book Service, which will either sell you the entire back issue at a nominal price, or, if no extra back issues are held, will photocopy the article for you.

Here are some of the most interesting such articles from the first decades of the *ARGS Bulletin*. If readers find these interesting, we can publish a continuation for North America and perhaps a selection of articles about plant travels abroad.

The Far West

The **Coast Ranges of California** have received little attention from our writers, despite their gentle beauty and easy access. Ray Williams in “Some Coast Range Plants” (17:113–117) ventured into the Santa Cruz Mountains and a peak, Loma

Prieta, to see geophytes and penstemons in particular. "There seem to be no end of plants with garden value that adorn the Coast Ranges of central California."

One of the geological curiosities of Oregon is **Steens Mountain**, isolated in the arid southeastern corner of the state. Christine Ebrahimi, a field botanist, wrote it up in "Steens Mountain: A Love Affair" (59:75-79). "Steens's five vegetation zones support nearly 1,200 taxa; 6 of these are endemic to Steens Mountain or Steens and the nearby mountains, and almost 80 are listed as rare." A camping and hiking trip there is an unforgettable experience for many Northwesterners and visitors; the Emerald Chapter, centered on Eugene, Oregon, regularly sponsors a group excursion.

Oregon's **Central Cascades** are often overlooked by rock gardeners, who gravitate to accessible Mt. Hood in the north or the fascinating Siskiyou to the south. "Along the Skyline Trail" (20:76-77) by Mrs. Raleigh Harold (we never find out her own name) suggests exploring the Mt. Jefferson area from Breitenbush Hot Springs, then a public resort but now a private retreat center. A drive along the Santiam Highway (Oregon 22) reaches this and some other excellent botanical areas, especially at the Santiam Summit. Neill D. Hall's "Jewels of Central Oregon" (21:15-18) describes some of the lower peaks in the Central Cascades, including Bohemia Mountain, the Fairview area, and details of the plants around the rim of Crater Lake (now a National Park).

Reading these early issues today can make us cringe, as the authors freely describe digging large numbers of plants in the wild to move to their gardens. Frances Kinne Roberson's "A Collecting Trip in the **Wenatchee Mountains**" (1:30-31) is in this line, but her appreciative account suggests that we might like to revisit Salmon La Sac, a National Forest campground in Washington's central mountains, and hike up nearby Red Mountain in midsummer.

Another Seattleite drawn over the mountains to the Wenatchees was Sallie Allen, who described the "Lost World Plateau" (23:52-53), an unofficial name. "From the Icicle Creek Road, one must hike by Forest Service trail 7 miles to Snow Lakes. Here the trail ends. One must make his own way about 3 miles to the Enchantment Lakes, an absolute wonderland of perhaps thirty tiny lakes, nestled like uncut jewels in deep basins of granite. Dashing waterfalls and capricious streams connect them. Small rocky islands support dwarf trees, twisted and gnarled by the elements. . . . fantastic pinnacles and crags and other geological curiosities . . . the flora apparently is in no way different from that of the surrounding Wenatchee Mountains, but this is relatively unimportant."

In "Table Mountain, 1950" (9:4-7) Roberson describes one of the many peaks of that name in the U.S., this one adjacent to Cougar Gulch near Blewett Pass in the Cascade Mountains of Washington. The slopes are home to such interesting species as *Paeonia brownii* and *Allium cusickii*. After the road became impassable, they hiked up it, eventually reaching the crest of the table with its dwarf shrubs and meadow flowers.

Brian Mulligan of Seattle titled his article "Collecting in the Cascades" (9:91-96), but it's a relief to read that he meant collecting for the Seed Exchange, which was so small at that time that the list was published in the *Bulletin*. He describes an area in Washington's Wenatchee National Forest near the Stafford Creek campground, with ascents of Miller Peak (where he found *Cypripedium fasciculatum* near the trail around 5000 feet elevation). The next day his party took the Boulder de Roux trail toward Esmeralda and Hawkins peaks, passing a fine variety of plant communities.

Robert Putnam's "Favorite Nook in the Wenatchees" (17:88) was "a small meadow at the base of a huge talus slope near the headwaters of Beverly Creek . . . Nearby is a serpentine scree. It has taken five hours to get here." Altha Miller celebrated "Crystal Mountain" (17:91), "in the Wenatchee Mountains above the little village of Liberty. To get there we followed an old mining road," seeing *Cypripedium* species and "*Lewisia tweedyi* at the base of the rocky outcrops."

Another excursion from Seattle led to Albert M. Sutton's "A Day on Mt. Angeles" (11:68-74), a peak in Washington's **Olympic Mountains** that rises near the town of Port Angeles. Of the fragrance of thousands of *Linnaea borealis* in bloom, he wrote, "Who is bold enough, having experienced this lovely sensation, to attempt its description?" Sutton was, and here as elsewhere he had thousands of words for every sensation. If you can tolerate the prose, his articles will lead you to some very good places in Washington. "High Divide in the Olympic Mountains" (17:69-81) tells of a backpack and horse packing trek of ten days from the Sol Duc River on the western side of the Olympic Peninsula, camping near Bearsong Mountain and the Divide and climbing to the heights to botanize.

"Southeast from Seattle in the Early Spring" (20:1-9, 40-43) took the soggy Seattle-dwellers into the sunnier uplands of **central Washington** around Yakima and a hike on Satus Creek, then to Goldendale Mountain, "a flat ridge between Goldendale's valley and the Columbia River and not very high," a good site for early bloom. The next day they "sought the basalt cliffs near Bingen in Klickitat County" but were too early to see the showy endemic *Penstemon barrettiae*. They tracked down *Viola sheltonii* on an unidentified streamside, clearly what is now the botanical preserve at **Catherine Creek**. All along Highway 14 they found the spring ephemerals of this summer-dry region.

Arthur R. Kruckeberg described "**Mount Adams**, that Bashful Cascadian Alp" (21:10-13). He mentions sites still often visited, such as Bird Creek Meadow and the moraine of the Mazama Glacier. Mt. Adams is partly in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest and partly in the Yakama Indian Reservation; roads through the reservation are not always open to outsiders.

In spring of 1949, wrote Eloise L. Nelson, "We Follow a Road of Yesteryear" (7:76-79) in the **Illinois River valley** of southwestern Oregon. The Nelsons noticed on a map an old stage route from Crescent City, California, to O'Brien,

Oregon. They stopped at the bogs and seeps that are the home of *Darlingtonia californica*, *Cypripedium californicum*, and many other lovely plants. Today several of these wetlands are protected, such as the Darlingtonia Wayside, and many NARGS members visit them. Once at O'Brien, a storekeeper pointed out the beginning of the old road, then disused, and sent them to view wildflowers at Rough and Ready State Park. They returned and started up the stage road, then driveable. Today's map of the area tells us that 199, the "Redwood Highway," connects O'Brien and Crescent City, but finding the old stage road might require searching "on the ground."

The reputation of Carl Purdy has suffered badly as understanding of plant conservation has grown. Today Purdy is remembered mainly for plundering the wild bulbs of California and selling them by the hundreds of thousands to gardens where they usually perished in short order. In 1944, however, he was welcomed to the *Bulletin* with "Wild Rock Gardens of California" (2:21-22), where he wrote up two notable sites in the "California Sierras. One lies at 11,000 feet altitude on Mt. Dana in the **Yosemite** region . . . a plateau strewn with innumerable small pieces of volcanic rock. Almost every interspace is the home of some diminutive alpine plant, and as many species are represented, a splendid display is produced. The other is an area perhaps three miles long and one mile wide, underlain by a volcanic rock locally known as porphyry, which is greatly fissured and cracked throughout. This lies near Cisco on the main Lincoln Highway at about 5000 feet. A fine-grained soil has developed in many of the crevices, and I have seldom seen a greater profusion of flowers." Cisco is a tiny railroad settlement just south of present-day US Highway 80 in Placer County.

The eastern and northern **Sierra Nevada** was the special province of Margaret Williams, who founded the Nevada Native Plant Society and had a remarkable cliffside garden in Reno. "Contrasts in the Sierra Nevadas" (19:53-54) presents Mt. Rose, near the pass leading to Lake Tahoe.

The name of Marcel Le Piniec is remembered in an award given by the Society to people who have done distinguished service through introducing new plants to rock gardeners (see p. 201). Le Piniec came from the east coast, but he became fascinated by the flora and geography of the **Siskiyou Mountains** on the Oregon/California border, and he eventually settled there. He was an important influence in the founding, by Lawrence Crocker and Boyd Kline, of the Siskiyou Rare Plant Nursery, still in operation under its third ownership. "Plant Hunting in the Siskiyou" (7:36-37, 1949) tells how a local cowboy guided him to "the Middle of Hell," an "elongated pothole surrounded by perpendicular cliffs" with a huge population of *Lewisia cotyledon*. Where exactly is "the Middle of Hell?" Does anyone (calling Baldassare Mineo or Phyllis Gustafson!) remember?

Great Basin and Rocky Mountains

By the early 1950s Americans were on the move for pleasure again, and ARGS members began to explore the West. Carleton R. Worth asked, "Going West This Summer?" (8:37-39). He recommended setting out from Flagstaff, **Arizona** "not over any but quite good and much-travelled roads, even though some of them wind over mountain tops; nor shall I ask you to walk more than a few feet from the road itself." Worth remarks on the penstemons of Walnut Canyon, and the road up the San Francisco Peaks, but "we must go farther north for most of the choice plants." In Colorado he mentions but did not explore Loveland Pass, visited lately by our group during national meetings, and "the highway from Ouray to Durango . . . very definitely not a road for nervous drivers." A Coloradan, Virginia Johnson, detailed it in "A Trip to **Loveland Pass**" (9:19-20), remarking, "Dr. Worth, you do not know what you are missing by failing to see the flowers on Loveland Pass." She wasn't scared of the road, either. She dug up a primula, but seeing a small colony of *Gentianella barbellata*, "I am afraid I could not live with myself if I dug a single plant."

Still, Worth was willing to brave real mountains to see some real alpines. He loved the highway between Cheyenne and Laramie, Wyoming, and on into the **Snowy Range**. He recommended Hoback Canyon on the approach to the Tetons, but "the flora of Jackson Hole is more showy than rare." "The drive north from Jackson to Yellowstone Park is much of the way through woods, and nothing exciting should be anticipated, nor does Togwotee Pass offer anything but the larger and more trashy plants . . . nor have I seen anything to tempt me in Yellowstone." However, "the road out of the northeast entrance to Yellowstone, leading to Red Lodge and Billings, goes over a collector's paradise." One wonders how many of the plants Worth dug on these trips survived his Northeast climate. He refused to "reveal the hiding places" of *Aquilegia jonesii* and *Eritrichium howardii*, no doubt assuming that they would all be dug otherwise, but they've been well described by later writers. "Idaho, Nevada, and Utah offer, in my experience, little to be seen from the roadways," but he urges a visit to **Zion National Park** to see *Primula specuicola*: "These are protected, of course by the park custodians, so that I usually visit them elsewhere in the jumble of cliffs and canyons that is eastern Utah and that makes Zion as dull to me as Flatbush."

In a later volume, Worth returned to "The **Rocky Mountain and Great Basin Ranges**" (18:33-53), repeating some of his earlier material (he was the *Bulletin's* editor at the time, and probably had to fill some pages). He added notes on **Utah** mountains (Uinta, LaSal, Abajo, Henry, Wasatch, and other ranges), with the usual complaints about hard hikes and terrifying roads. He had had an epiphany about **Nevada**, however: "Nevada is perhaps the most fascinating [Western state] of all. Because of the limited water supply, the original flora seems to have been little disturbed." Charleston Peak near Las Vegas was a favorite site, as were the alpine meadows of the Wassuk Range. Like later visitors, he recommended excursions into the mountains from Ely. He found little to attract him in Arizona, but "the most interesting of the New Mexican mountains is the

Sierra Blanca, just east of White Sands.” He expanded on his Nevada travels in “A Day in the **Snake Range**” (18:75–77), exploring around Wheeler Peak.

Worth inspired James K. McGrath (“Plant Hunting on **Beartooth Plateau**,” 10:37–43), a strong article on the plateau between Red Lodge and Cooke City, Montana, with many stops to explore alpine meadows and screes. These old articles can be problematic with their outdated and sometimes misspelled plant names, but a detailed one like this can still offer help to the traveler.

Brian Mulligan and friends made a “Cross-section through **Idaho**” (19:101–106) on a road trip from Seattle, diagonally through Washington, and entering Idaho via the Blue Mountains in northeastern Oregon. Their botanical stops included the cliffs of the Snake River near Cuprum; Hazard Lake and Lake Forks near McCall; Deadwood Summit; Cape Horn Summit; Galena Pass; and many roadside spots where someone no doubt yelled “Stop! Plant!”

Immediately following is Olga Johnson’s account of the **Kootenai Flats** on the border between British Columbia and Montana. Here “the plants have to contend with conditions neither alpine nor prairie nor desert, yet having some of the characteristics of all three.” The growth patterns of *Lewisia rediviva* and several eriogonums and penstemons are related to the environment. “The plants that have perfected the summer dormancy expedient—and of most interest to rock gardeners because of their brave and dainty brilliance are the low, shallow-rooted spring bloomers,” such as *Mertensia oblongifolia* and *Fritillaria pudica*. A visit to the Kootenai Flats in April or May should be rewarding!

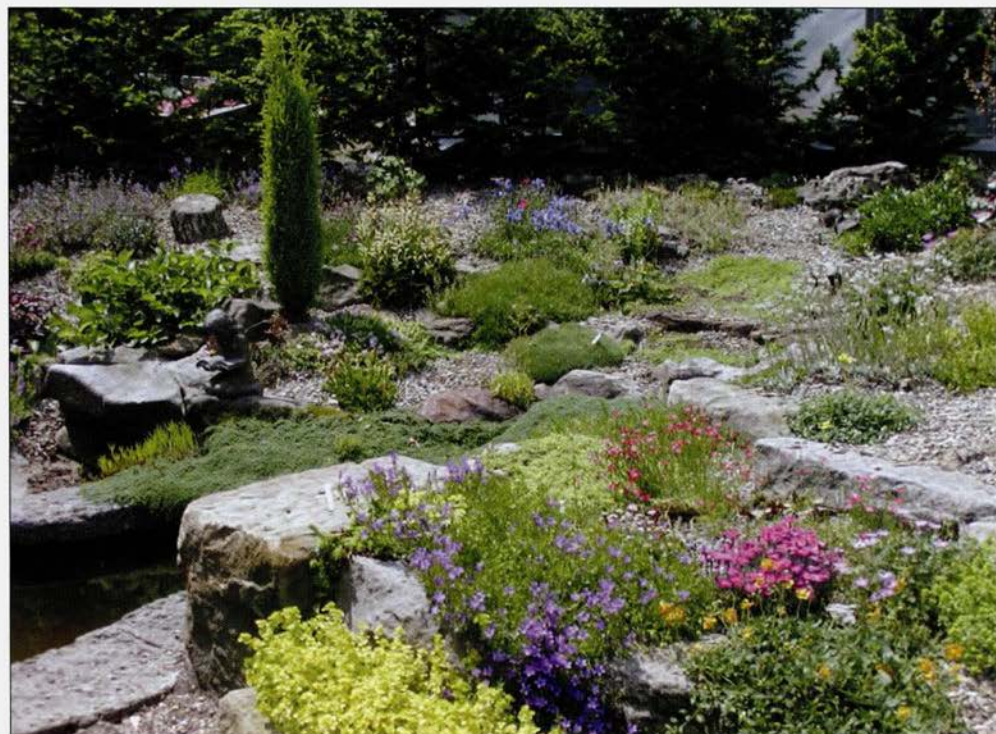
Some of us dream of taking off on an extended road trip, unhampered by domestic and work obligations and wandering as the land and its plants lure us. Roy Davidson and a few friends did this in summer of 1973, and he described it in “The Great Basin Phenomenon” (32:15ff., 33:19ff., 33:64ff.). They set out to circle the **Great Basin**, driving south along the eastern Sierra Nevada, crossing the Nevada desert to the Wasatch rim in Utah. They visited Idaho’s Snake River Plateau, ascended Mt. Nebo in Utah, hiked around Cedar Breaks, admired the Craters of the Moon, camped on Mt. Borah and worshipped *Kelseya uniflora*, descended into the Salmon River drainage and up into the White Cloud peaks, and thence back to Seattle via Lewiston, Idaho, with many stops for plants.

Davidson described a shorter excursion in “A September Spring in the **Selkirks**” (21:23–24), in the northeastern corner of Washington and extending into Canada. The many small streams and waterfalls and their plants inspired him as he built his rock garden.

To be continued.



Scenes in the award-winning garden of Carl Gehenio (p. 157): above, the crevice garden; below, a rock garden strip along the driveway. (Photos, Amanda Haney)





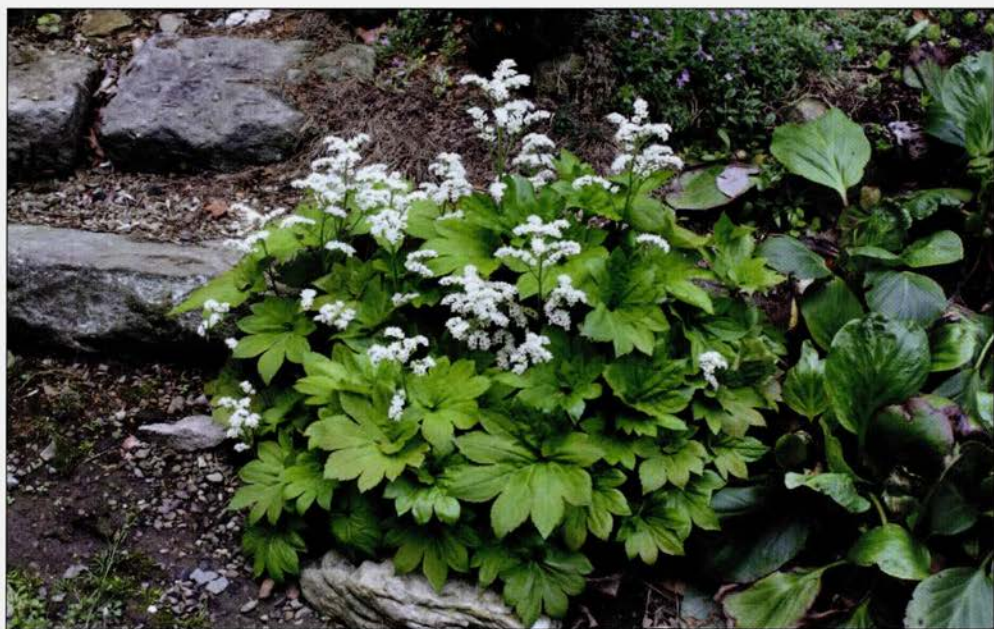
Wooded areas of the Gehenio garden (p. 157) feature shade-tolerant spring flowers and *Primula japonica* color forms along a little stream. (Photos, A. Haney)





Carl Gehenio's "Millennium Garden" begun in 2000 (p. 158) and his innovative raised bed made with slag from nearby mills (p. 160). (Photos, A. Haney)





Mukdenia rossii (p. 157) in the Gehenio garden. (Photos, A. Haney)

A massive specimen of *Draba bryoides* in one of Carl Gehenio's troughs (p. 158).





Two species of *Androsace* that are well adapted to the open rock garden (p. 161): above, *A. studiosorum* (photo, David Sellars); below, *A. villosa* in the garden of Harvey and Irene Wrightman (p. 162; photo, Esther Wrightman).





Above, *Androsace halleri* (p. 162; photo, Zdenek Rehacek); below left, *Androsace laggeri* (p. 162; photo, David Sellars); below right, *Androsace chamaejasme* (p. 162; photo, Zdenek Rehacek).





Androsace alpina (p. 161; photo, David Sellars).

Miniature hostas (p. 185): left, 'Pixie Vamp'; bottom, 'Cherish';
below rock on right, tiny sport of 'Cherish'. (Photo, Elin Johnson)





Miniature hostas 'Miss Muffet' and golden 'Fairy Frolic' occupy a trough, while 'Twist of Lime' huddles between larger cultivars in the shady bed (p. 185; photos, Elin Johnson).

Below left, the popular combination of hosta and heuchera; below right, a tall pot with miniature hostas 'Masquerade' (white foliage), 'Cookie Crumb' (variegated), and seed-grown *Hosta venusta* (green); the lower pot contains 'Raspberry Sorbet' with red petioles.





Iris tenuis, a narrow endemic in northwestern Oregon (p. 196; photo, Jay Lunn).

Hacquetia epipactis, a spring woodland carpeter (p. 195; photo, Zdenek Rehacek).





New troughs at the Toronto Botanical Garden (p. 198) demonstrate three types of construction. (photos, Sandra Pella)





Ivesia gordonii at Cone Peak, Oregon, Exceptional Quality award in the 2008 Photo Contest for Tanya Harvey.

Rhododendron ferrugineum in the Alps, Honorable Mention for Stefania Wajgert. To enter the 2009 contest, see p. 209.





Two plant portraits receiving awards in 2008 for Michal Hoppel of Poland:
above, *Viola grisebachiana* in the Pirin Mountains, Bulgaria; below, *Senecio incanus* in the Hautes Alpes.





Keen photographers sense the beauty in subtle tones.

Above, *Monotropa uniflora* in Delaware, by Jim McClements ;

below, *Eriogonum ovalifolium* in Nevada, by David Sellars; both Exceptional Quality in class 1.





Douglasia montana by David Sellars, Exceptional Quality, class 1;
some authorities place it in *Androsace* (p. 162).

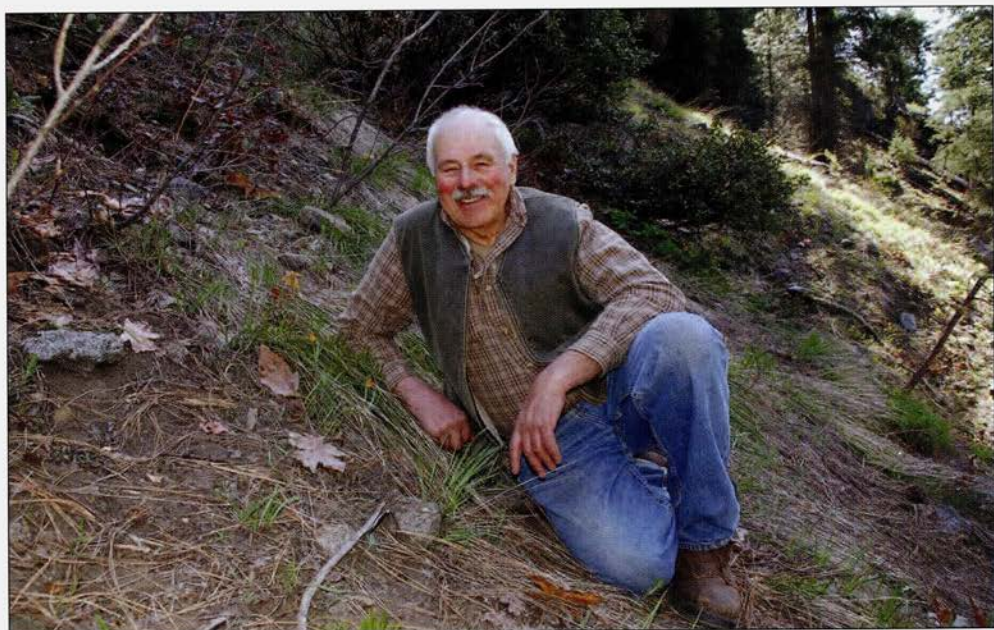
Exotic but growable *Centaurea achtarovii* in the Pirin Mountains,
by Michal Hoppel; Exceptional Quality, class 1.





Select forms of great refinement, photographed by Jim McClements in his Delaware garden, won awards in class 3. Above, a dark color form of *Jeffersonia dubia*; below, a “blue-leaved” form of *Helleborus thibetanus*.





Steve Doonan, spring 2008. A memorial article appears on p. 188. (Photos, Harry Jans)

Shortia 'Leona' is one of Steve Doonan's most cherished introductions.



Miniature Hostas for Containers

Elin Johnson

My property is not large, and since I love not only hostas but every other plant known to man—rhododendrons, Japanese maples, daylilies, clematis, true lilies, and hundreds of wildflowers—I ran out of room a long time ago. Recently I've gravitated toward containers. A good friend, Brian White of Maynardville, Tennessee, is a true hypertufa artist, so I've acquired a nice collection of his troughs. But there are also ceramic pots, plastic pots, foam pots, and terracotta pots (which, unfortunately, fall apart if I don't bring them in for winter). My husband once told me I'm a "sucker for punishment" because they all have to be watered. Many of these containers now hold a large collection of small and miniature hostas (photos, pp. 175–176).

Miniature hostas have become so favored that the American Hosta Society has initiated a separate popularity contest for them. There is much discussion about what cultivars qualify for the miniature category, but to me it's just splitting hairs. The true miniatures are wonderful, but there are many small ones that just miss the classification, and they too are really attractive in pots. Technically, a "dwarf" hosta is less than 4 inches (10 cm) tall. Hostas that qualify as "miniatures" have a leaf blade size (total expanse) of 2 to 6 square inches and a height of 4 to 6 inches. "Small" hostas have leaf blade size of 6 to 25 square inches and can be from 6 to 10 inches tall.

The first little hosta I bought was 'Ginko Craig', and not long thereafter, 'Chartreuse Wiggles'. I planted them along the edge of a flower bed and thought they looked pretty there. But there were two problems: slugs and snails had too easy access to them on the ground, and larger plants quickly overwhelmed them. (I am notorious for placing plants too close together. I tend to forget about the little ones; and by the time I remember and look for them, they are gone.)

One early purchase was 'Little Princess', and it was nearly lost, too; but I realized what was happening in time and placed it in a pot, and now there are two full pots of this little cutie with ruffled green leaves. Hostas multiply quickly, and in my climate, one tiny division of most cultivars will fill a 6-inch (16-cm diameter) pot in about three years.

That was the start. I discovered that most of the tiny ones are descended from the species *H. venusta*, native to Korea. The Dixie Region of the American Hosta Society held its convention in Brentwood, Tennessee, in May 2008, and one of our speakers, Cynthia Miller Wilhoite of Indiana, presented a paper on the different hosta species and the parentage of the modern hosta cultivars—a fascinating genealogy. Her work confirmed that most of the tiniest ones are indeed descendants of *H. venusta*, although some other popular small hostas come from the *H. sieboldiana* group after multiple crosses.

I came home from the convention with a treasure trove of tiny plants with adorable names: 'Imp', dark green with yellow leaf margins; 'Hideout' with white, pointed leaves; 'Cherish', heart-shaped leaves with white variegation in the center; and 'Pixie Vamp', darker green hosta with white edging. All four have beautiful variegation in their very small leaves. While putting them into their pots, I discovered a sport with tiny blue leaves hiding underneath 'Cherish'. I'll watch it carefully to see how it develops. Also at the auction in Brentwood I made the winning bid on a tray of hosta starts that included three very small unnamed seedlings. They are all welcome additions to my collection.

It is wonderful fun to compose a bowl of little hostas and companion plants. Rocks, miniature conifers, and other small growers are candidates. But it's hard to find other plants that meet the criteria: happy in shade and a habit of staying small. A 16-inch pot can contain three hostas or companions. A little fern, *Athyrium filix-femina* 'Minutissima', purchased this spring, has already encroached on its hosta companion, 'Green with Envy'. I brought back another fern from the convention and have great hopes that it will be happy: *Cheilanthes argentea*, a little jewel with fronds that have silver undersides. It now accompanies 'Cherish' and 'Pixie Vamp'. Dwarf conifers also make good companions in their earliest years.

The tiniest hosta in my repertoire is 'Tot-Tot'; its leaves are $\frac{3}{8}$ inch wide by 1.5 inches long. It is a little green replica of its slightly larger parent, *H. venusta*. There is another one that small, 'Tiny Tears'. Other cultivars that I recommend highly are the beautifully variegated 'Pandora's Box', which is always no. 1 on the Society's popularity poll; 'Cookie Crumbs', a vigorous green-and-white variegated hosta that's on top of my popularity poll; and 'Lakeside Miss Muffet', which just missed qualifying as a miniature but is a great container hosta with tricolor variegation—bright green, gray-green, and white. The Hosta of the Year for 2008, 'Blue Mouse Ears', also doesn't qualify as a miniature, but it is a unique small hosta with heavy textured, rounded, blue-green leaves. It bears a mass of lavender blossoms.

Maybe alpinines won't grow well here in Tennessee, but I can experience the same delight in small plants with my beloved tiny hostas. I highly recommend all the named miniature and small hostas I have mentioned here, but they are only a sampling of those available.

More Information

All these books are somewhat out of date as regards recently named cultivars. The website is up to date with all registered varieties.

At the website www.hostalibrary.org you can call up pictures of thousands of species and named varieties.

Grenfell, D., and M. Shadrack. 2004. *The Color Encyclopedia of Hostas*. Portland: Timber Press.

Grenfell, D., and M. Shadrack. 2007. *Timber Press Pocket Guide to Hostas*. Portland: Timber Press.

Schmid, W. G. 1992. *The Genus Hosta*. Portland: Timber Press.

Zilis, M. R. 2001. *The Hosta Handbook*. Rochelle, IL: Q & Z Nursery.

Elin Johnson has contributed several articles to the *Quarterly* on gardening in the south central United States, with a special emphasis on the woodland plants that flourish in the region.

In Memoriam: Steve Doonan

One of the finest plantsmen and most delightful characters in the Rock Garden Society, Steve Doonan of Issaquah, Washington, died April 3, 2009, a few months after being diagnosed with cancer. He was 68. Steve was born in Seattle and grew up in Issaquah. He graduated from Washington State University in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science in botany. He and his cousin, Phil Pearson, established a landscape maintenance business and the nursery for which they became famous among rock gardeners: Grand Ridge Rare and Native Plants. Steve, pictured on p. 184, was a lifetime member of NARGS, which bestowed the prestigious Marcel LePiniec Award on him and Phil for their introduction of choice plant material.

A few of Steve's many friends have contributed the following memories of him. Many more cherish in their gardens the plants that will be his lasting, growing memorial.

☛ While I have spent a great deal of very enjoyable time in the company of Steve Doonan, much of it in the field in search of the special plants that grace our small part of the world, one trip especially stands out as the perfect combination of good company, good plants, and Steve's delightful good humor.

One day Steve told me and a mutual friend, Richard Ramsden, that he knew of a site for *Cypripedium fasciculatum*. Since neither Richard or I had ever seen this plant in nature, we both eagerly agreed to set a date for a trip to see it in bloom. We met Steve at his nursery in Issaquah in mid-June of 2007 and headed east over the Cascade Mountains to a trailhead in the hills above Cashmere, Washington. It was a fine sunny day, and we made good time to a site several miles and about 1500 feet of elevation gain up the trail, where Steve brought us to a stop and said "Look here at this little beauty." Well, I saw a lovely clump of what was obviously *Cypripedium montanum* in beautiful bloom, and I thought that was the reason for our stopping. But no: there at the base of this wonderful specimen was a tiny clump of a little, purplish-mottled *C. fasciculatum*, very much the ugly duckling in comparison to the *C. montanum* towering above. We all had to agree that this rated as one of the ugliest of the rare plants of Washington.

We climbed to the top of the ridge and had lunch, during which I mentioned that since we were seeking out ugly rare plants, I had heard that *Trillium petiolatum* grew at a site just west of Leavenworth, Washington, less than an hour away from Cashmere. This is a very large trillium which has leaves rather like a plantain and a tiny inflorescence that has been described as having a scent similar to the rotting corpse of a dead lizard. Of course we could not resist the lure of this ugly rarity and headed out for Leavenworth.

Even though we didn't know exactly where to look, we soon located a promising area and quickly found the trillium, which to our great pleasure was every bit as ugly as expected.

Now that we were on a roll, Steve exclaimed that a sun-baked area of open grassland nearby looked like just the place to find another plant that we all agreed belonged on our list of ugly rare plants of Washington. With just a bit of searching, we soon found *Paeonia brownii* in all its glory, displaying its 1-inch blooms of nondescript brown.

After this great success, we stopped at a roadside drive-in in Leavenworth and celebrated the "great three uglies expedition" with Steve's favorite libation, a pineapple milkshake, before heading home.

—Rick Lupp, Mt. Tahoma Nursery

☛ We met Steve in the 1970s about the time we joined the NARGS. By then we already knew several local members, and had several overseas contacts. I had been corresponding with some of the Czechoslovakian growers and was sent a photograph of *Jankaea heldreichii*. This I showed to Bob Putnam, who asked Steve if he had seen "Betty's picture of *Jankaea heldreichii*." You can imagine the reaction Steve had to this, as it was one of Steve's lifelong ambitions to grow this plant. He got the impression that I had grown it, which was soon dispelled! Over the years he became a master grower of this difficult plant and always dreamed of traveling to Mt. Olympus to see it in the wild.

Steve led or supported many NARGS field trips in the mountains in the area, especially the Olympic, Cascade, and Wenatchee Mountains. He and Phil also showed visiting dignitaries around our mountains. I recall one such fun trip camping in the Wenatchees with Ron and Susan McBeath. His trips to more distant places were limited by his work. We were fortunate to have him accompany us on one longer trip in 1998 to some remarkable places in Idaho, including Square Mountain in Gospel Hump Wilderness to see *Douglasia idahoensis*, and Railroad Ridge (White Cloud Peaks). We also recognized his fascination with *Kalmiopsis* and spent some time in the western side of the Kalmiopsis Wilderness, where he discovered several properties of the plant.

Steve was a superb propagator. He was a wizard at the vegetative propagation of difficult plants, including favorites such as rare Asiatic Ericaceae. He was very generous in sharing these with me and other growers. He always had faith that I would be able to grow them. Always positive, he'd say "It's easy!" but I was often unsuccessful in our warmer garden. At first I tried to reciprocate by giving him some of my "gems," but they were really not Steve's cup of tea. My dryland

plants were not suited to the cooler, wetter conditions at Grand Ridge. But Steve grew few seeds, and I am a seedaholic, so I was able to give him some plants of interest—*Epigaea gaultherioides* and some porophyllum saxifrages from the Czech seed collectors Halda, Holubec, and others probably pleased him most.

Steve loved all things about nature; he cherished his little piece of wild land on the north side of Tiger Mountain with the pond he made (“Doonan’s Pond”) next to his dwelling and that gave a home to frogs and salamanders. He loved the wild berries that grew in the region and would come back seriously scratched from picking native blackberries.

Steve helped us in many ways here in our own garden. One summer the three of us dug a well shaft by hand; he also helped Ned with other big physical jobs, such as mixing and pouring a concrete floor. And it was he who so kindly looked after our garden when we went on our longer trips, both winter and summer. I wanted to help him out at the nursery, but he rarely took me up on the offer.

Steve was a life member of NARGS. At the time of his death he was vice president of the Northwestern Chapter. He lectured extensively on plants in England, Scotland, Nova Scotia, Canada, and across the United States. He received the Chapter Service Award, the Marcel LePiniec Award, the Seattle Garden Society Award, and many other prestigious awards.

He discovered a disjunct population of the arctic alpine *Cassiope lycopodioides* subsp. *crispilosa* in a remote crevice on Mt. Si. He published many plant articles and introduced several selected native plants into the nursery trade. He was very generous with his knowledge and plants. Other nurseries are cultivating “Grand Ridge” plants both here and abroad.

As a plantsperson Steve was tops; as a person, exceptional in his optimism, kindness, and generosity. We have lost a great friend.

—Betty Lowry, with Ned Lowry and Kitty and Phil Pearson

☛ Steve Doonan was very well known to many members of NARGS, as he has spoken many times at study weekends and annual meetings, on a variety of subjects. Steve had friends in many corners of the world, made during visits while seeking out new plants, through correspondence and meetings, and because of his partnership in the well-regarded Grand Ridge Nursery. Steve was of course best known to the Northwestern Chapter, where he has been one of the stalwarts for many, many years. He joined NARGS at the age of 15, when he burst on the scene full of the boundless energy, curiosity, humor, friendliness, and even at that young age, knowledge, all qualities that he shared throughout his life.

One of his “duties” at our meetings was to go through our show-and-tell tables (to which he often contributed rather intimidating specimens). He would hold each plant aloft, as if it had just won an Award of Merit, and knowledgeably banter with the owner as they described the treasure. Many people, myself included, have expressed how much they appreciated the praise and encouragement they received the first time they dared to bring in plants to show to others. This is why our tables were always overflowing, not just with show quality plants

but also with young, interesting, and unusual plants that we could all learn from and admire.

Steve will be intensely missed.

—*Dave Brastow, Northwestern Chapter president, and friend.*

☛ I met Steve in the 1980s when I was first starting to grow alpines and rock garden plants. He was a very interesting guy. He got along with everyone. He knew everyone. He lived for plants.

Over the years I knew him, I watched his focus move from *Kabschia saxifrages* and *Primula allionii* forms, through *Anemonella*, *Anemone nemorosa*, and dwarf waterlilies to *Cypripedium* and *Trillium*. *Kalmiopsis*, Gesneriaceae, and Diapensiaceae began and ebbed before I knew him. Steve would get interested in a group of plants. He would read everything he could find on the plants. He would correspond with the experts, both academics and growers. He would start collecting—and then he would start propagating. Steve could get roots to grow on a broom handle. He would have hundreds of plants in a very short time, and in some cases many, many more.

His collections were amazing. Steve's enthusiasm was boundless. He never stopped learning, growing, and experimenting with new plants and new ways of working with plants. He had an impish streak and fun sense of humor. If you had the plant, did you have the good form?

Steve was generous with his plants and his knowledge. He taught us how to grow *Kabschia saxifrages* in "Grand Ridge mix." Steve showed how easy plants like *Primula allionii*, *Campanula piperi*, and *C. zoyisii* are to grow in pure ground pumice. He traveled widely on the lecture circuit, sharing his knowledge. Steve enjoyed the people he met on these trips and the friends he made.

In the end, Steve was a very special person who touched many people's lives. He will be missed, and the plant world will never be the same.

—*Rick Wagner*

☛ Steve Doonan was always very generous with his plants and I have been a lucky recipient of his generosity several times. He also donated many plants every year to our NARGS chapter plant sale. One pot of his bulbs that I purchased from the plant sale sprouted a chance saxifraga seedling that I put in the garden and forgot about. Several years later that seedling was identified as a fine form of *Saxifraga fortunei* with deep red-purple leaves—a plant Steve had once had and then lost. I invited him to take a cutting, so the plant could return to its originator.

He arrived with a plastic bag and knife in hand. After he spent several minutes trying to get the least obvious cutting—he didn't want to ruin the shape of my plant—I told him to just whack off a piece. That he did, and discovered that his cutting had two rosettes and a couple of small roots attached. He danced around singing "I'm a lucky Irishman!" It gave me great pleasure finally to be able to give something back to him.

—*Claire Cockcroft*

☛ I had no idea how important Steve Doonan was to me until I heard the news, and I am tearing up even now as I write this. Looking back, Steve (and Phil and Kitty Pearson) have been my longest-running horticultural influences since high school in the early 1970s.

Sue Milliken and I went to see him about every 10 days after we got done with the Northwest Flower and Garden Show in February of this year. Steve came to that even though he was pretty unsteady by then. He was always very generous and would give us full flats or seed pots of “some damn weed,” like a 5-gallon pot of gravel with 200 *Paeonia mlokosewitschii* seedlings in it. We would grow them on and sell them, and on our label attribute them to Steve and refer to him as a “National Horticultural Treasure” or “The Man, The Myth, The Legend”—which, while all true, was mainly designed to provoke a great deal of spluttering from him when he came to the show as always. We were able to do this every year with one or two plants, which was great fun.

Steve gave Sue and me his old wooden shade structure this spring, so we would work on dismantling it—slowly—while visiting him. It was on one of those visits that I realized that he had imprinted upon my subconscious the business model for our nursery: “Learn how to grow very cool plants, make a whole lot of them and hardly ever sell them.” Steve would never sell me a plant but would give me a piece of anything. We are constantly annoying customers who see 6 flats of something and we tell them we don’t have enough to sell. I blame Steve for this.

Steve was distraught that he had never written a pamphlet on *Schizocodon*, *Shortia*, and *Diapensia*. He had a lifetime of experience with these related genera and felt that he knew things that eluded some of the so-called experts. His vitality and enthusiasm made him seem immortal, and we can’t believe he is gone.

—*Kelly Dodson and Sue Milliken*

☛ Steve Doonan was “Mr. Show and Tell” to our Northwestern Chapter. He had conducted the monthly show ever since Cliff Lewis was no longer able to do so. This miraculous display of potted plants consisted mostly of Steve’s beautifully grown specimens, together with those from our other great growers. But Steve’s plants were the standouts—beautiful pots and beautifully potted [Steve’s cousin, Phil Pearson, created many of the distinctive pots]. We all hung around the display hoping that some of the magic might rub off on us. Generous to a fault, he might not sell you something you wanted, but would probably give it to you. We were so lucky to have someone with his charm, wit, knowledge, and generosity appear at every meeting to guide us through “Show and Tell”. Such facts we learned! (Head and Shoulders Shampoo to kill moss. Who knew?)

—*Patricia Bender*

☛ Steve Doonan spent much of his life tending and seeking out alpine plants in the mountains of the Pacific Northwest. He and his cousin, Phil Pearson, used to say that it was strange to have customers of their landscape care business say, “Hey, don’t you know you should do . . .” and then be treated as honored guests of international reputation at rock garden chapter meetings across the country.

I would pick up Steve's grandnephew Jimmy to go hunting bugs in eastern Washington. When we returned, very late, Steve would still be grooming his plants, removing damaged leaves from a *Saxifraga* with tweezers, or cursing the little blighters and removing root aphids from a treasured alpine; and Phil would be firing the alpine pots for which he was renowned. We spent many good times sitting around their kitchen table drinking coffee and discussing topics till the wee hours.

Steve freely shared his knowledge with any and all on field trips, at meetings, and probably with strangers on the street if they expressed any interest. He and Phil brought back seeds and cuttings expertly removed so that no harm came to the plant. They defied anyone to find where a cutting was removed. He was cautious of doing any harm to the parent plant, and the plants now thriving in pots and gardens may one day help repopulate areas where changing environmental conditions and human impact decimated wild populations.

In 1984, I had the pleasure of traveling to England, Wales, and Scotland with Marvin Black and Dennis Thompson. One of our goals was to bring back *×Jankaemonda vandedemii* for Steve. This plant was nurtured for the entire trip to ensure this treasure made it back to Steve. Under his care it thrived and showed up in bloom at our meetings for many years. Steve's connections to plant people spanned the globe, and his contributions at our meetings will be sorely missed.

—Sharon Collman

Unfamiliar and Underutilized Plants: A Forum

Some time back I inquired on the Internet discussion group Alpine-L about plants that correspondents enjoyed that were little known outside their local areas, or perhaps widely known but rarely grown despite good garden qualities. I started the discussion hoping to learn about local endemics, offering the description below of *Iris tenuis* as an example. Some responded by describing their enthusiasm for local plants, and others discussed species they enjoyed but rarely saw in gardens. I hope others will write to me and continue this feature!

—JM

John P. Weiser: In early March through mid-May on volcanically derived lithosol and fine grained talus foothills one is likely to come across a gem of the Great Basin sagebrush steppe, *Viola beckwithii*. The pubescent, sage-green, bi-pinnately dissected tufts are often seen growing as “fairy rings” of diminutive stature. The true showstopper is the display of vibrant bicolored flowers dancing in the wind just above the foliage. The lower three petals come in a multitude of shades, from pale sky blue through to white. The upper two petals are saturated red-purple. They all meet in a central eye of buttercup yellow lightly penciled in purple. *V. beckwithii* grows in poor, rocky mineral clay soils and depends on ample spring moisture to perform well. By late June it is done flowering and setting seed. The foliage will die back as the soil dries out, leaving no trace that the slender rhizomes are hiding in the rubble, about 6 to 8 inches deep. They do not extend their reach each season more than 1 or 2 inches. The fairy rings I have observed are about 8 to 18 inches across and have taken many years to extend from the original mother plant. To see my photo, visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/sierrarainshadow/sets/72157604298691460/>

I have had success scattering seed in the fall on a rather deep, coarse gravel bed mixed with coarse sand and clay fines. The seeds sprout well with ample spring moisture but take up to three years to reach flowering size. The key to survival is the summer drying period from late June through early November. Its native habitat receives little moisture in the hot summer months.

A very similar violet from the eastern (rain-shadow) part of the Pacific Northwest is *Viola trinervata*. A major difference between the two is the foliage. *V. trinervata*'s leaves are not so dissected and are leathery, with no pubescence. The flowers are very much the same. I have not tried this one as seed is not readily available.

Jim McKenney, Rockville, Maryland: I'll mention two favorites here. One is a true rock garden plant; the other is hardly a rock garden plant in the usual sense, but it is the sort of plant that rock garden enthusiasts in this part of the country are likely to be the only ones growing. In other words it's a typical "weird plant club" plant although there is nothing weird about it.

The one that deserves consideration as a rock garden plant is *Hacquetia epipactis* (photo, p. 177). I like this little plant so much! I first learned of it from Anna Griffiths' book on rock garden plants published by Collins back in the 1960s. Back then I never thought I would actually one day grow it. It's one of those plants whose garden effect depends on bracts more than actual flowers. In our climate most plants seem to have a blooming period of about two weeks; plants with bracts, however, remain in character for weeks and weeks. Something about *Hacquetia epipactis* reminds me of *Eranthis hyemalis*: the inflorescence of each has a yellow center surrounded by green bracts. In each the yellow flowers are relatively short-lived, but the bracts remain good for a long time. The bracts of *Hacquetia* are an especially vivid yellow-green and remain that way for a while even after the true flowers have fallen. This is not a conspicuous plant; yet whenever I'm taking people around the garden and they notice this plant, I know I've found garden soul mates.

The other underappreciated plant, the "weird" one, is *Danaë racemosa*. There is, in fact, nothing weird about it: it's one of the most polished and elegant plants we can grow. And it has a rather elegant vernacular name, too: Alexandrian laurel. It's an asparagus relative, close to *Ruscus*. Imagine a yard-high evergreen clumping bamboo with hard, dark green, shiny, polished "foliage". The word "foliage" is in quotes because what passes for leaves on this plant are actually cladodes (leaflike branches). By late summer it has the added charm of bright red fruit, each a red sphere about a half inch in diameter. It gets off to a very slow start from seed (after three years there is likely to be no more above ground than a short stem with one or two cladodes), but it eventually forms a hemispherical mound about three or four feet (to 1 m) high. Late in the year the stems are apt to flatten down to the ground and pass the winter protected by snow and leaf litter. Propagation is by division or seed, and as mentioned seed is a very slow route. Perhaps that is why the plant is so rarely available except from specialist suppliers. I'm not sure how hardy it is; I suspect to USDA zone 6 at least. I wouldn't be surprised if it proved to be root hardy in even colder areas. *Danaë* is still commonly seen in this area (stripped of its fruit) as a garnish in butchers' meat cases, and some florists sell the cut stems. *Danaë* and its relative *Ruscus* make interesting cut material for the winter months. Three of my favorite plants for cutting during the winter are these two and the magnificent (and house-swallowing) *Smilax smallii*—a rock garden plant only if your rock garden is on the order of Neuschwanstein.

Jane McGary, Estacada, Oregon: The narrowest endemic near me is *Iris tenuis*, which can be grown and is not endangered though of very limited distribution, so I'll make it my topic (photo, p. 177). It grows only in the drainages of the Clackamas and Molalla rivers, which descend from the Cascade Mountains to the Willamette River southeast of Portland, Oregon. It is botanically interesting as the only western American representative of the crested irises (section *Lophiris*, also called *Cristatae* or *Evansia* irises), related to eastern American *I. cristata* and Asian *I. tectorum*, among others. Its rather broad, light green leaves form wide, lush patches on slopes dominated by Douglas fir, mostly just above the usual winter snow line and often near streams. It persists in shady situations, increasing vegetatively, for many years, but it flowers mainly when the tree cover is removed by fire, blowdowns, or logging. Thus, the best places to see flowers are on road cuts and under a high-tension power line near the Roaring River picnic ground by Highway 224 in Mt. Hood National Forest, where the ground is kept open. The rocky soil where it grows is moist in fall and spring, snow-covered in winter, and rather dry in summer. The flowers are not as showy as those of some other crested irises, being rather small in proportion to the plant, of thin substance, and white sometimes tinted violet. Not much seed is set even where flowering is good, and I wonder if this is due to a lack of cross-pollination; a colony is likely a single clone. I obtained a permit to collect a few rhizomes of *I. tenuis* and had it in the garden for several years, but it was badly mauled by slugs (which also destroyed *I. cristata*). It should not be difficult to grow if protected from slugs and snails. Although described in some books as a woodland plant, it is one of many plants that should be called "shade-tolerant" rather than "shade-loving." Good drainage, moderate moisture, and sufficient light will suit it if seed can be obtained by gardeners wishing a representative botanical collection of *Iris* species.

Elin Johnson, Sweetwater, Tennessee: One summer I noticed that a small fern had come up next to a rock at the base of a daylily growing on the north side of the house. This little fellow had narrow fronds that were standing straight up, about 8 inches (20 cm) tall. I had no idea what it was. I thought about moving it but decided to leave it alone, and it is still there, several years later. The next spring I visited Nancy Robinson's garden and saw some of these little ferns growing in a moss bed; Nancy told me it was ebony spleenwort (*Asplenium platyneuron*). Since then I have found several more of these little plants growing in the moss behind my house, and some have even come up on the west side in an impossibly hot spot. I tried moving one into a pot, but it was not happy. I suspect I killed it with too much water. (Mickel warns about this in his book *Ferns for American Gardens*, and recommends growing them in "gritty humus among rocks"). I have never seen these ferns for sale, but they fascinate me. They are tenacious beyond belief. This neighborhood was established more than a hundred years ago, and our house was built 50 years ago. Where did the spores come from? Could they have survived in the soil for many years? They remind me of a phrase Nancy likes to use about native plants: "They wanted to be there." I'm glad they wanted to be in my yard.

Thelma Hewitt, New London, New Hampshire: Two plants I like in my woodland garden are *Marshallia grandiflora* and *Dalibarda repens* (which I was told is now known as *Rubus dalibarda*). One reason I particularly like them is they both flower in summer after the usual spring woodland burst of bloom, and neither is tall. *Dalibarda* is practically flat to the ground, with small white five-petaled blossoms, and *Marshallia*, with pinkish-lavender “bachelor-button” blossoms, grows about 10 inches (25 cm) tall in my garden, though it can be taller in the wild. Both plants want moist soil. I find *Dalibarda* growing under ferns in our wild woods, where it is very shaded, but my *Marshallia* is in a sunnier place in the woodland garden, which may be why it maintains its low stature.



New Eriogonum Society Formed

Enthusiasts of the genus *Eriogonum*, one of the largest genera endemic to North America, love to grow these plants in their gardens and also view and photograph them in the wild. They have formed the Eriogonum Society with the objective of gathering like-minded people in order to learn more about these fascinating plants. The Society's charter lists its goals as follows:

- To enjoy and promote the use of eriogonums in gardens.
- To enjoy and evaluate eriogonums in the wild for use in gardens.
- To assemble, develop, and share information on the propagation, cultivation, identification, and distribution of *Eriogonum* species.
- To operate a seed exchange to distribute *Eriogonum* species seed for use in gardens.
- To protect rare and endangered species of *Eriogonum*.

To meet these objectives, they have started a website, www.eriogonum.org, and an on-line newsletter published four to six times a year. They also plan to hold an annual seed exchange, and later an annual bulletin with articles of interest and good photographs. The first two newsletters and a membership application form can be found on the website. All interested are cordially invited to join.

Submitted by Bob McFarlane <DenvrBob@aol.com>

For a major article on *Eriogonum* species and their garden value, see *Rock Garden Quarterly* 65(2) (Spring 2007) for James Reveal's "Eriogonum in the Garden."

New Troughs at the Toronto Botanical Garden

Sandra Pella

The Toronto Botanical Garden (TBG) had a very special project in mind when staff applied to the North American Rock Garden Society for a grant from the Norman Singer Endowment Fund. TBG wanted to add rock gardens to its list of green spaces, in the hope of encouraging and inspiring other gardeners to do the same. Our vision was to create three different trough gardens, each demonstrating a different way of incorporating rock gardens into home garden spaces.

TBG has twelve award-winning theme gardens designed to inspire visitors with ideas for their own gardens. These are open free to the public year round. The three new troughs (photos, p. 178) are located in the Demonstration Courtyard, a specialty area focused on hands-on education and practical demonstrations. Each trough displays the variety of materials available for rock gardens: *Abyssum* species, heather (*Calluna vulgaris*), rock jasmine (*Daphne cneorum*), creeping thyme, hens-and-chicks (*Sempervivum*), and many others. All plants are labeled and accessioned, with data available for future research projects.

One element of the trough demonstration is that each trough is an example of a different method of construction. The smallest is a traditional stone container. The two larger ones are made, respectively, of hypertufa and of rot-resistant lumber. The wooden trough rests directly on the gravel surround, and the others are slightly elevated.

Along with five new rock gardening programs offered to the public, the trough project was published in TBG's newsletter, *Trellis*. This article introduced many readers to a new world of gardening experiences and horticultural challenges. With the help of NARGS, the TBG has created a treasure for everyone to enjoy. We hope the troughs will lead people to bring rock gardening home and carry on this traditional style.

Sandra Pella is Head Gardener at the Toronto Botanic Garden. Several grants from the Norman Singer Endowment Fund are awarded annually, often to public gardens for projects that promote rock gardening.

NARGS National Awards 2009



PHOTO: JAN SLATER

Marvin Black Award: MIKE SLATER

The Marvin Black Award is given to a member of the Society who excels at promoting membership, organizing study weekends and national meetings, and is involved in other activities that “help other people reach their potential in the plant world.” It is not awarded every year, and is the highest honor given for service to the Society. In 2009 it was given to Mike Slater of Pennsylvania, the current Recording Secretary.

The luckiest organizations are those that have unsung heroes among their members: people who do not look for mere titles or dominant positions, but are willing to help and take on responsibilities wherever and whenever needed. NARGS is indeed fortunate that Mike Slater has been one of its longtime supporters. He has brought his talents and skills to bear in many positions and at several levels.

As one of the more active supporters of NARGS, Mike has been an officer and promoter of the Delaware Valley Chapter. He and his wife, Jan, carried (literally!) the chapter’s bookstore for many years, bringing pleasure to members and funds to the organization (Jan is the current manager of the NARGS Book Service). When Mike was chapter chair, he always made a point of promoting membership in the national.

A natural teacher and consummate naturalist, Mike has happily shared his knowledge and his joy in the world of plants—and rocks and birds. With an easy-going manner and deep fund of gardening experience and wisdom, he has long

been a sought-after lecturer for other chapters. He has led innumerable field trips to natural sites. For many years he was responsible for the plants in the chapter's exhibit at the famed Philadelphia Flower Show and produced the informational booklet accompanying it. His own exhibits have won numerous blue ribbons.

Mike works exceptionally well with others and is also confident enough to delegate responsibilities without micro-managing, allowing his colleagues to pursue the common goal in their own style. He always offers a ready ear, a receptive spirit, warm support, and sound advice.

A splendid organizer, Mike has initiated and led Eastern Winter Study Weekends and Annual General Meetings, the latest being accomplished on relatively short notice when other chapters failed to step up. He worked with Martha Oliver of another chapter to put on this successful West Virginia summer meeting. This is where Mike excels: tackling jobs and responsibilities that others shy from. At the national level, he stepped in to fill the void when a Seed Exchange manager was needed, and then again when the position of Recording Secretary was vacated—jobs that no one relishes, but that are so crucial to the operation and success of NARGS.

Beyond meetings and administration, Mike has regularly contributed interesting articles and excellent photos to the *Rock Garden Quarterly*, particularly on the native plants of his region. His contributions are always carefully researched and enhance readers' understanding and appreciation of many important species, their habitats and conservation.

—Joyce Fingerut, Ann Rosenberg, and Jane McGary



PHOTO: C. ROSE BROOME

Edgar Wherry Award: JAMES REVEAL

The Wherry Award is given to “a person who has made an outstanding contribution in the dissemination of botanical and/or horticultural information about native North American plants.” In 2009 this award recognizes one of the premier students of North American plant families, Dr. James Reveal, Professor Emeritus, University of Maryland, Adjunct Professor in the Department of Plant Biology of Cornell University, and Honorary Curator with the New York Botanical Garden.

Jim Reveal's work has lain in the discipline of systematic botany, but he has also been assiduous and success-

ful in extending his knowledge to a lay audience. Having written the synopsis of the genus *Eriogonum* for the *Flora of North America*, he brought his experience and collection of wonderful field photographs to a lecture at the international rock garden conference hosted in 2006 by the Wasatch NARGS Chapter at Snowbird, Utah, and for the subsequent proceedings issue of this journal, he provided a long written version and collaborated graciously and promptly to create the definitive article on eriogonums for gardens.

More recently, Dr. Reveal has collaborated on a revision of the genus *Dodecatheon*, which resulted in its being subsumed in the genus *Primula*. Many North American gardeners and wildflower enthusiasts were likely to be puzzled or even upset by this change. At the editor's request, Dr. Reveal quickly wrote an excellent article for us that not only explains the current status of *Dodecatheon* but also acquaints readers with important principles of the relationship between taxonomy and evolutionary biology.

Dr. Reveal's lifelong work on the difficult genus *Eriogonum* is well known and is in itself worthy of recognition. But without his other taxonomic work throughout the Intermountain West, our knowledge of it would be much poorer. He is one of the last of that great generation of field botanists whose accomplishments will never be equaled, both because there are fewer new things to discover and because field botanists are a disappearing breed. In addition to his taxonomic work, he has made significant contributions toward our understanding of the origins of the western North American flora through his several biogeographic treatises.

For his long career studying American plant genera, his scores of scientific publications, his extension of this knowledge to gardeners, and his obvious enthusiasm for the beauty of plants in both nature and gardens, Jim Reveal is eminently worthy of receiving the Wherry Award.

—Jane McGary and Steve Caicco

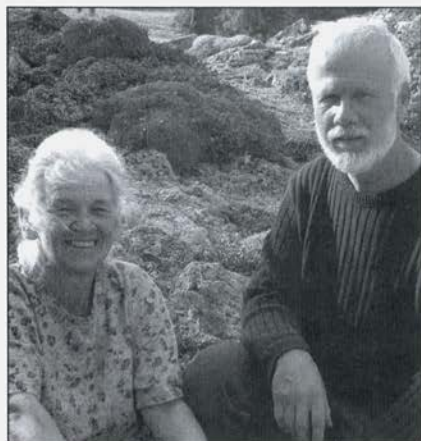


PHOTO: ESTHER WRIGHTMAN

Marcel LePiniec Award: HARVEY & IRENE WRIGHTMAN

The LePiniec Award is given to people who are actively engaged in extending and enriching the plant material available to rock gardeners. Some recipients are plant explorers, and others are nursery growers. The 2009 award goes to Harvey and Irene Wrightman, whose nursery in Kerwood, Ontario, is a premier source of plants for gardeners in both Canada and the United States.

Since 1985 Wrightman Alpines has been devoted to producing these specialist plants. Harvey and Irene continually acquire seed and stock plants from collectors around the world, enabling them to offer items never before available in commerce. Examples are *Silene serpentinicola* from seed Harvey himself collected in California; tiny *Erysimum caricum* from Turkey; *Asperula arcadiensis* from Greece; *Jankaia heldreichii* and \times *Jankaemonda vandedemii*; *Paraquilegia grandiflora*; and a superb range of *Gentiana*. Harvey is very observant and is always trying new techniques, bringing many wonderful plants to our gardens.

The accomplishment of these growers is not just one of plant availability, but also one of raising our consciousness. Wrightman Alpines has extensive display gardens where visitors can actually see how the plants perform in the open. They give excellent cultural advice and are pioneers in the management of difficult plants, including the use of tufa and crevice and wall gardens.

Harvey and Irene travel extensively to see plants in the wild and in gardens, and also to give workshops and lectures on various rock gardening topics. Harvey is very gracious with advice and always takes the time to talk with people about growing difficult alpine. He encourages those old and new to rock gardening. Harvey coauthored the chapter on crevice gardening in *Rock Garden Design and Construction* and has helped design tufa, crevice, and wall gardens at several locations, both public and private.

All that Harvey and Irene do in their profession extends rich knowledge and pleasure to others and draws many to the appreciation and creation of rock gardens.

—Frederick Case, Tony Reznicek, and Phyllis Gustafson



PHOTO: TERRY UNDERHILL

Carlton R. Worth Award: JANE MCGARY

The Worth Award is given to “an author of distinguished writings about rock gardening and rock garden plants” with special preference for material published in the NARGS journal. Worth himself was an editor of this publication, and several editors have received this award, including the 2009 recipient, Jane McGary of Oregon.

Jane, who works primarily as an editor of scholarly books and journals, joined NARGS in 1977 when she built her first rock garden in Fairbanks, Alaska, and discovered the Society through Lincoln Foster’s book *Rock Gardening*. After moving to Oregon in

1985, she joined the Columbia-Willamette Chapter and has served as its president and vice president, as well as working on a national meeting and three Western Winter Study Weekends hosted by the chapter.

She was named editor of the *Rock Garden Quarterly* in 2001 and has produced every issue on schedule since then, endeavoring to publish a variety of articles that will please the heterogeneous membership, from beginners to the most sophisticated in botany and gardening. She instituted the annual photographic contest to draw in new contributors and share the beauty of members' work, and organized several special issues on such topics as ferns and *Cypripedium*. The issue featuring the lengthy proceedings of the 2006 Snowbird international meeting involved her transcribing and heavily reworking many of the articles. When an issue's page count has fallen short, she has written articles to order, often based on her special interest in growing unusual hardy bulbs and other geophytic plants; her collection of more than 1500 such taxa is a good source of donations to the NARGS Seed Exchange each year.

Jane has compiled and edited three books copublished by Timber Press and NARGS: *Rock Garden Plants of North America*, *Bulbs of North America*, and *Rock Garden Design and Construction*. The first is an anthology of articles from the Society's journal, and for the others Jane selected topics and recruited authors and illustrators. For the latter two she also wrote chapters as well as introductions.

Linc and Timmy Foster Millstream Garden Awards, Special Garden Category: LAWRENCE THOMAS

The first presentations of the Foster Garden Awards occurred in 2009. These new awards, offered in several categories, have been established to recognize remarkable private gardens created by NARGS members. Nominations must be accompanied by a photographic (still or video) presentation documenting the garden.

Lawrence Thomas described his avocation, growing alpiners and other demanding plants on a balcony high above a Manhattan street, in a chapter of the NARGS/Timber Press book *Rock Garden Design and Construction*. Following is an account submitted in support of the nomination. An article with photos will appear in the fall 2009 issue.

This garden might initially be seen as a "container garden" [another of the Foster Award categories] in that almost any gardening situation in the middle of Manhattan is in fact a "container" built on bedrock, and particularly in a terrace garden with no natural substrate, virtually all of the plant material is contained within or upon a container of some nature. This garden for all seasons is a "Special Garden," however, because the elements on which the plants grow and depend are a collection of natural substances, more like the organic materials that gather in

the fissures of a rock face and the water that seeps from below or flows over the surface to quench the needs of the plants. Here the elements are made of wood or clay and many other forms and mixtures of rock, because the maker of the garden is also the maker of the substrate. Lawrence Thomas provides the passion that combines all these essential elements to make this special garden grow.

He also provides the passion that enables his friends and the public at large to appreciate and learn the pleasures of rock gardening. Whether he is helping to construct a mountainside exhibit at the New York Flower Show or throwing a pot to accommodate a tower of ramondas, the effort is his best—learned and earnest. More than 25 years ago he founded the Manhattan Chapter to include all of the New York boroughs and metropolitan area. We met in little rooms at the Horticultural Society of New York and listened to speakers who had traveled afar to bring us the little jewels tucked into outcrops around the planet.

Over the past year, this special garden has been all but destroyed during the renovation and relaid of the masonry facade of Larry's building. It was necessary, but no pleasant experience for all concerned. Larry could not even get outside to move or water plants when they seemed in harm's way. Now, with the refocus of the master and the help of friends, this garden has been reborn. Much has survived and is flourishing. We celebrate the vitality and spirit.

Eleven stories above Second Avenue, high above the ambulances and garbage trucks, lies a hidden mountain retreat filled with alpines and other rock plants grown from seeds and cuttings, choice shrubs, *Clematis* species and cultivars, and even a few trees. They are displayed in wooden boxes, homemade hypertufa troughs, and an array of high-fired unglazed pots made by Larry himself. A shaded sitting area with a bubbling fountain has welcomed countless visitors, who left refreshed, sated with sensory impressions and often carrying away a few choice plants grown from seed in Styrofoam cups.

In addition to human guests, Larry has nurtured a stellar variety of challenging and unusual plants, particularly members of the Campanulaceae and Ranunculaceae. Most were grown from seed, with the surplus offered at chapter plant sales to help fund speakers and activities. Seed harvested here has been freely shared with several societies' exchanges, and probably a large percentage of NARGS members can boast plants traceable to Larry's generosity.

Larry has often shared technical horticultural methods as a speaker at local and national meetings, and his terrace is familiar to many through his slide presentations and the *Rock Garden Quarterly*. It has inspired many members, and this award recognizes his contribution to rock gardening and gardeners around the world. His garden will continue to evolve and inspire for years to come.

—Steve Whitesell

Linc and Timmy Foster Millstream Garden Awards, Alpine and Rock Garden Category: CARL GEHENIO

Carl Gehenio's garden in Tarentum, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh, serves as the standard that gardeners in that area use to learn about rock gardening, including designing, planting, and growing rock and alpine species, described in detail in Amanda Haney's article and illustrated elsewhere in this issue (photos, pp. 169–172). This garden contains five separate rock/alpine sections. A heath and heather border built of slag demonstrates an unusual use of waste material to showcase plants. The design of the 30- by 50-foot section is impressive because the site is mostly flat, normally a difficult situation for creating a natural-looking rock garden. Yet a visitor would think that all five rock gardens were products of nature, so closely do they mimic natural alpine areas. All were constructed with more than 200 tons of local stone, tufa, and slag. Some were created more than 40 years ago, but Carl's care and expertise have resulted in their continual beauty.

Members of the Allegheny Chapter make regular pilgrimages to this garden to see the wide variety of plants and learn how to grow them. The wonderful design, great variety, and impeccable plant placement provide the basis for this garden as a teaching tool. Carl's use of color and texture is inspired. The garden glows with color in spring, but something is in bloom at any season. Even non-rock gardeners are impressed with the scope of his gardens, and members of other clubs visit it as well. Carl has been asked to assist in the design of a number of public rock gardens in the area.

Carl's love of gardening is something that he conveys to every visitor. Not only does he grow many choice and rare plants, he also propagates them. They include *Gentiana acaulis*, many species of *Saxifraga*, *Dianthus*, and *Aquilegia*, and his own winter-hardy strain of *Lewisia cotyledon*. In spring his garden is a feast of small *Phlox* cultivars, including many new hybrids that have arisen here from seed. Every visitor leaves with a bounty of these plants and instructions on how to grow them. He also supplies the chapter's spring sale with a plethora of choice items.

Carl Gehenio richly deserves the Foster Garden Award. He has constructed a rock gardening Mecca in western Pennsylvania that surpasses any other alpine garden in the region.

—Patty McGuire, Alan Peacock, and Amanda Haney



PHOTO: TERRY LASKIEWICZ

Award of Merit: DAVID & JAN DOBAK

Awards of Merit are given to members who make outstanding contributions to the activities, events, and goals of NARGS. Three of these awards were presented at the 2009 Western Winter Study Weekend/Annual General Meeting. It was a particularly appropriate place to recognize David and Jan Dobak of Portland, Oregon, without whose work this meeting could not have been nearly as successful as it was.

Jan was the registrar for both this and the Columbia-Willamette Chapter's previous study weekend, keeping careful records and energetically field-

ing inquiries. Dave is the "treasurer in perpetuity" of the chapter and took care of the financial end of these meetings, as well as managing the hotel contracts with a keen eye. He was at the back of the lecture hall, too, operating the digital projection equipment, having applied his computer expertise beforehand to making it possible for all the varied presentations to come to the screen without a glitch.

When the chapter assumed the responsibility for the order-filling phase of the seed exchange for three years, Dave and Jan headed the effort, receiving mountains of order forms, checking and recording the filled orders, and toting boxes to the post office for shipping to foreign and domestic recipients. Everyone who works with them is in awe of their attention to detail and their calm efficiency, and very grateful that they put these skills to the service of NARGS.

The Dobaks are also expert gardeners, currently engaged in reworking the front yard of their small but species-packed garden to accommodate more choice rock plants. Retired from careers as an engineer and laboratory technician, they often travel abroad to explore natural areas, especially in Australia, and bring back photos to share in talks for NARGS chapters and articles for the *Quarterly*. Closer to home, they guide excursions for the Oregon Native Plant Society.

—Jane McGary

Award of Merit: RICHARD ROSENBERG

Dick Rosenberg of Pennsylvania received the Award of Merit for his contributions both to the national Society and to the Delaware Valley Chapter. He has served as treasurer for both.

Dick assumed the office of NARGS treasurer, immediately taking charge of a situation that had become somewhat confused, and “ran a tight ship” without unnecessary fuss. His reports were models of clarity, and he left the organization in a sound, understandable financial position. He helped the president with detailed financial analysis, furnishing both insight and a thorough examination of the business aspects of two important decisions at the time: the establishment of the Publications and Expeditions committees. Both were approved and became successful endeavors for the Society.

For the Delaware Valley Chapter, Dick gave generously of his time and expertise as treasurer and in the chapter bookstore. He also made the financial arrangements for two Eastern Winter Study Weekends.

Dick’s enthusiasm for NARGS activities has been exemplary and sets a high standard for other members.

—Bobby J. Ward and Jim McClements

Award of Merit: PHYLLIS GUSTAFSON

The third Award of Merit for 2009 goes to Phyllis Gustafson of Oregon, one of our most prominent and popular members. A leader in the Siskiyou Chapter for three decades, she has successfully fulfilled nearly every possible job in the organization, as well as serving on the national NARGS Board of Directors. For the national Society, Phyllis also has chaired the Speaker Tour activity and the Awards Committee.

Phyllis worked for many years at the famous Siskiyou Rare Plant Nursery, demonstrating an uncanny love, knowledge, and ability to grow rare plants of all kinds. Her home garden in Central Point includes many “rooms” designed as different kinds of habitats, from desert to woodland. Always featured on garden tours, they welcome visitors and inspire them year round.

Phyllis’s special love and expertise lie with the native plants of the Siskiyou region. For years she collected seeds in the wild and sold them by mail. The culmination of her study of the region’s flora is the book she wrote, with photographer Mark Turner: *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest* (Timber Press, 2006). She also shares her knowledge in lively talks to NARGS chapters.

Phyllis’s enthusiasm, hard work, dedication, and plain good nature have been a major reason why so many plantspeople in southern Oregon have joined NARGS. She introduces them to rock garden plants and also makes people want to read about them and see them in the wild as well as growing them. At chapter sales members eagerly seek her handwriting on labels, knowing those plants will be well worth growing.

Going on field trips into the Siskiyou and Klamath mountains with her is great fun. She not only provides the names of the plants, but also little tidbits such as how they got those names, why they grow where they do, and whether they would be a good addition to the garden. She is the first local expert visitors

from abroad seek out to plan excursions in the region, and she and her husband, Dick, host many speakers and other travelers in her own home.

Phyllis Gustafson is an exemplary member of NARGS, combining a passion for plants, wild and cultivated, with service to the Society and a warm welcome to fellow and potential members.

—Baldassare Mineo and Kelley Leonard

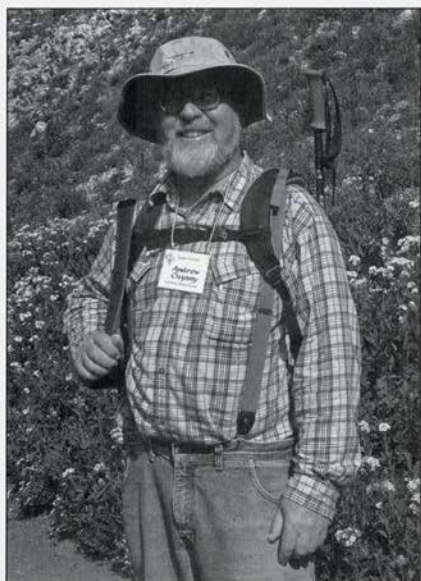


PHOTO: TANYA HARVEY

Geoffrey Charlesworth Writing Prize: ANDREW OSYANY

This prize, endowed by the late Geoffrey Charlesworth and first presented in 2008, is given for the best article published in the *Rock Garden Quarterly* in the preceding year, as determined by a panel of three judges. The 2009 award goes to Andrew Osyany of Ontario for “Two Gardeners in One Garden,” which appeared in the spring 2008 issue (vol. 66, no. 2, pp. 127–134). This is a fine example of the personal essay on gardening, a genre that has a long history in the literature generally and in the NARGS journal. It recounts how Andrew and Sue Osyany, already

single gardeners, began to garden together and created their large landscape in the country.

Andrew’s entertaining prose is a mainstay of both the *Rock Garden Quarterly* and his chapter’s excellent newsletter, which he has also edited. His gardening is as good as his writing, and he and Sue cultivate a great variety of plants, from alpines to trees. A special contribution he made to North American rock gardeners over the years was his “Karmic Exotix” seed list, which enabled Czech gardeners and seed collectors to sell their wares in a way convenient for U.S. and Canadian purchasers during a period when currency restrictions made this otherwise difficult.

The editor and, we’re sure, all our readers look forward to seeing more writing from Andrew Osyany in future issues.

—Jane McGary

Enter the 2009 Photo Contest!

If you enjoy photographing plants, why not share your enthusiasm with our readers—and perhaps win a prize? In addition to fame and the gratitude of the editor, you may win a year's NARGS membership for yourself or as a gift to a new member of your choice, or even the grand prize, a fine book of your choice.

To enter, please read the following instructions. The **deadline** for entries is **October 1, 2009**. Send entries to Jane McGary, Editor, 33993 SE Doyle Rd., Estacada, OR 97023, USA.

Entries may be submitted as digital images on CD, as slides, or as prints. Slides and prints will be returned after the contest or after publication; digitals will be archived for future publication. All published photos are credited, and copyright remains with the photographer. Entering the contest grants to NARGS permission for one-time use of all images submitted.

You may enter a maximum of **ten images in each class**.

Digital images may be submitted in jpg or tif format. Please do not submit images in Microsoft Office Imaging System format, as this is problematic for our printer and some judges. Please examine the file extension on your image files to make sure it says "jpg" or "tif." If you are not sure how to save images in these formats, refer to the instructions that came with your camera. Submit all your images on one CD, with each image file renamed with the subject and your initials (e.g., *Campanula raineri* JM.jpg). If you are entering several classes, it is helpful to make a separate folder for each class. Include a **text document** listing your entries by class, with plant names fully spelled out and any other pertinent information you feel should appear in a caption when the photo is published. Please submit this list on paper and also put it on the CD.

Slides and prints should be accompanied by a list like that described above. If you need them back quite soon, please let us know in your cover letter. Be sure that each slide or print is clearly labeled with your name and the subject.

Judging criteria are technical quality, aesthetic appeal, adherence to parameters of the class entered, and suitability for publication. Different judges are recruited each year in the editor's local region and remain anonymous.

Note that we have added two **new classes**. Images that show only a single flower or similar small details should be entered in class 5 rather than in the "portrait" classes 1 and 3. Images of plants in pots or troughs can be entered in class 6; we added this class because a photo of a plant in a pot, however technically good and horticulturally impressive, rarely has the artistic quality desired in class 3.

Classes

Class 1: Portrait of a plant in the wild. Image focuses on a single plant in its native habitat.

Class 2: Natural scene with plants. Image includes both wild plants and their surrounding habitat and scenery. Please identify the site.

Class 3: Portrait of a plant in cultivation. Image focuses on a single plant or small group of the same plant in the garden.

Class 4: Rock garden scene. Image of a rock garden (general view or isolated vignette). Please identify the owners of the gardens.

Class 5: Macro photograph. Close-up images of single flowers or other plant parts.

Class 6. Plant in container. Images of single or multiple plants in pots, troughs, or other containers.

Corrections

The photographs of *Physoplexis comosa* on p. 100 of the spring 2009 issue were taken by Mike Ireland; those of the same species on the preceding page were by the article's author, Gene Mirro.

In the fall 2008 issue, p. 300, the editor erred in stating that *Lysichiton camtschatcense* is native to North America as well as Asia. Although some older floras regard it as conspecific with *L. americanum*, the two are now considered separate species, with *L. camtschatcense* restricted to the Asian side of the Pacific Rim and *L. americanum* to western North America.



North American Rock Garden Society

Bulletin Board

The News Supplement to
Rock Garden Quarterly

Summer 2009

From the President

Dear Friends,

Although I'm writing this letter on the 7th of May, you are going to be reading it about seven weeks from now. That's because the Bulletin Board, the "administrative" info segment that includes this missive, is now embedded in the *Rock Garden Quarterly*, rather than being inserted as loose pages. As a result there is a much earlier deadline. While not entirely convenient, this change saves us money in publication costs.

Seven weeks is a fairly long time, and the "news" is not going to be entirely breaking. For the latest, please go to our website <http://www.nargs.org/>.

The Web site, as I am typing this, is NEW! Our improved site went up on Sunday, May 3. It is still a work in progress. **Hugh MacMillan**, its extremely dedicated creator continues to make it even better. Expect a different graphic look, among other things.

Another new initiative at NARGS will be to establish Interest Groups within the organization. These groups would be dedicated to a particular genus of plant, a specific type of gardening or a pastime related to rock gardening. This could include, for example, *Campanula*, *Fritillaria*, or *Helleborus* sections. Other groups could focus on a woodland rock garden or gardening in troughs and other containers. There might be a place for plant photography.

The "Interest Groups" idea is modeled after the Alpine Garden Society in the U. K. When established, the groups should provide an added layer of interest for our members, and, hopefully, bring us a few new recruits.

As many of you know, **Jane McGary**, our Quarterly editor is expected to retire next year. The search for the new editor is on. Please see the announcement elsewhere in the Bulletin Board.

Let me end with this appeal: volunteer for NARGS! There is much to be done in the organization and it only can be done if YOU help!

Best regards,
Grazyna Grauer,
NARGS President
Email: <grazynalg@sbcglobal.net>

NARGS Seed Exchange Seed List

The 2009-2010 NARGS Seed Exchange Seed List will be posted on our Web site mid-December 2009. If you require a printed copy of the Seed List, please send a request by November 15 to: **Joyce Fingerut**, 537 Taugwonk Road, Stonington, CT 06378-1805; or tel. 860-535-3067; or email: <alpinegarden@comcast.net>.

Rock Garden Quarterly Editor Search

Jane McGary, the *Quarterly* editor, has stated her intention to resign in 2010. Jane has done a terrific job for many years, for which we highly commend her. An editor's search is underway. The search committee consists of **Maria Galletti** (Que.), **Anne Spiegel** (N.Y.), and **Michael Riley** (N.Y.). For information or to apply, contact the search committee at: <nargseditorsearch@verizon.net>.

NARGS Speaker's Tour Program

Pam Eveleigh is the STP speaker for fall 2009 to eastern chapters; Maria Galletti <alpinemtecho@endirect.qc.ca> is coordinating her tour. Because of health reasons, **John Watson**, from Chile, has cancelled his spring 2010 tour. A replacement for John is being sought. **Beryl** and **Peter Bland**, from the U.K., are scheduled speakers for fall 2010 to western chapters. The coordinator of the Blands tour is **Eva Gallagher** <galla@magma.ca>.

The chair of the STP is **Maria Galletti**, assisted by new committee members **Philip MacDougall** (B.C.), **Alan Grainger** (Ky.), and **Mary Ann Ulmann** (Penna.)

Upcoming NARGS meetings

March 5-7, 2010 **Western Winter Study Weekend**, Siskiyou Chapter (Medford, Ore.). Title: "Alpine Trails—from the Switchbacks to the Suburbs." Contact Kathleen Pyle, <kmpyle2@yahoo.com>.

March 19-21, 2010 **Eastern Winter Study Weekend**, New England Chapter (Devens, Mass.). Title: "Rock Gardens Future—Great Plants + Fabulous Design." Contact Rosemary Monahan <rosemonahan@comcast.net>.

July 11-14, 2010 **Annual Meeting**, Rocky Mountain Chapter (Denver and Salida, Col., and optional post-conference tour to the San Juan Mountains). Title: "Romancing the Rockies—the Marriage of Plant and Stone." Contact Randy Tatroe <rltaurora@aol.com>.

Persons Joining NARGS Between March 26 and May 6, 2009

Australia

Windyridge Garden, Queens Ave., Mt. Wilson, Sidney, NSW 2786

USA

Baum, Patricia, 5885 Cromwell Rd., West Bloomfield, MI 48332

Davies, Chris, 94 Woods Brook Circle, Ossining, NY 10562

Doyle, Steven, 44 Velasco Court, Danville, CA 94562

Groshong, Nancy, 997 Palmetto Ave., Chico, CA 95926

Lovejoy, Bill, 34 Wintergreen Dr., Brevard, NC 28712

Maurer, Peter, 8107 31st Ave., NE, Seattle, WA 98115

McBee, Alice, 411 High St., Leslie, AR 72645

Merrill, Jensen, Jensen-Olson Arb., 23035 Glacier Hwy., Juneau, AK 99801

Teach, Gusta Morgan, PO Box 1922, New London, NH 03257

Waldman, Priscilla S., 6594 Waldman Ln., Seven Valleys, PA 17360



NARGS COMING EVENTS

2010 Eastern Winter Study Weekend: March 19–21, 2010
Devens, Massachusetts, hosted by the New England Chapter
Contact: Rosemary Monahan, rosemonahan@comcast.net

2010 Western Winter Study Weekend: March 4–7, 2010
Medford, Oregon, hosted by the Siskiyou Chapter
Contact: Kathleen Pyle, kmpyle2@yahoo.com

2010 Annual General Meeting: July 11–15, 2010
Salida, Colorado, hosted by the Rocky Mountain Chapter
Contact: Randy Tatro, rltaurora@aol.com

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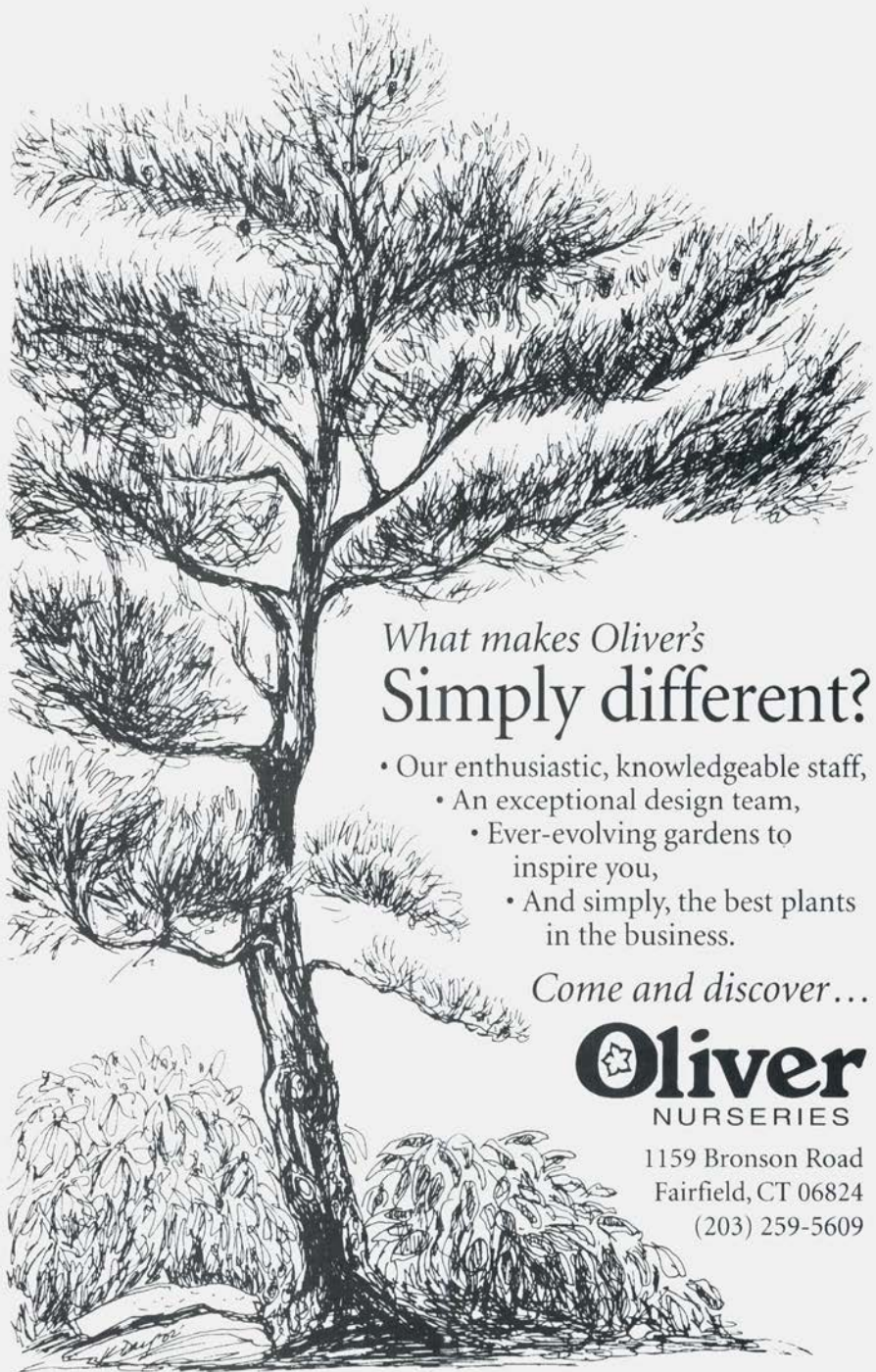
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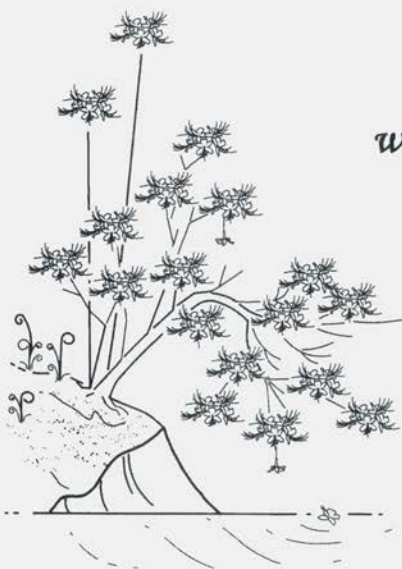
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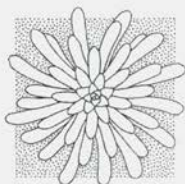


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Cotoneasters: A Comprehensive Guide to Shrubs for Flowers, Fruit, and Foliage, Jeanette Fryer and Bertil Hylmö, foreword by Roy Lancaster. The genus *Cotoneaster* includes some of the world's most useful and beautiful hardy shrubs. They vary in size; they're evergreen or deciduous, some with outstanding fall color; and they frequently bear eye-catching fruits. This comprehensive book includes information on the classification, identification, cultivation, and nomenclature of nearly all the known species and cultivars. **\$40.00**

The Explorer's Garden: Shrubs and Vines from the Four Corners of the World, Daniel J. Hinkley. If you thought the age of the great plant explorers was over, guess again. Dan Hinkley has scoured the globe for botanical treasures. He presents the most outstanding shrubs and vines from his plant-collecting trips—little-known exotics such as sapphire-berried dichroas and vermilion-flowered *Desfontainea spinosa*. Hinkley discusses why a plant deserves your garden space and what you can expect as it matures. Travel journal excerpts evoke plants' native settings. Hardback \$32.00; paperback **\$20.00**

Now in paperback with expanded resource section and updated photos: Bringing Nature Home: How Native Plants Sustain Wildlife in Our Gardens, Douglas W. Tallamy. Accelerating habitat disruption from development pressures wildlife populations. When native plant species disappear or are replaced by exotics, the insects disappear, impoverishing the food source for birds and other animals. Learn how to reverse this trend and sustain biodiversity by favoring native plants. 280 pp., 38 color photos. **\$13.00**



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<i>Creating and Planting Garden Troughs</i> , Fingerut and Murfitt	\$18.00
<i>Rock Garden Design and Construction</i> , ed. McGary (Timber Press)	\$23.00
<i>Handbook on Troughs</i> , NARGS	\$ 5.00
<i>Rock Garden Handbook for Beginners</i> , NARGS	\$ 5.00
<i>Alpine Plants: Ecology for Gardeners</i> , Good and Millward (Timber Press)	\$28.00

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