

"THE CREVICE"

In memory of Eswyn

Newsletter of
The Alpine & Rock Garden Special Interest Group of the
Qualicum Beach Garden Club

Issue # 19

Part 2

June 2013

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ESWYN'S ALPINE & ROCK GARDEN - JUNE 2013

Report & photos by Elaine Bohm,
with additional information from Karen Unruh & June Strandberg

BLOOMING IN THE CREVICE AREA:



Asperula gussonii

IN THE MAIN GARDEN:



Above, L: *Rhododendron* 'Pink Pancake', a donation fr Barbara Kulla a couple of years ago
R: *Fragaria* 'Pink Panda', an ornamental strawberry donated by Valerie Melanson



Above, L: *Dryas octopetala*, commonly called Mountain Avens, R: *Polygala calcarea*



Above, L: *Aethionema saxatile* - one of June Strandberg's, her #J4251 fr AGCBC seed # 543 sown Jan 17, planted out in Oct 2012. R: White *Rhododendron*, transplanted from Eswyn's garden in 2009.

ADVERTS:



PARKSVILLE SPCA 2014 PET CALENDAR

Plant lovers are often animal lovers too, so if you would like to be part of this annual fundraiser showcasing wonderful creatures from this area, I'd love to hear from you. The donation per date is \$25, every penny of which goes to the Parksville Shelter. I need a photo of the animal, with his/her name, and a preferred date with alternates if that date is already taken. Photos can be emailed to me: pmark@shaw.ca or if you have a real photo, it could be sent by snail mail to 2399 Garryoaks Drive, Nanoose Bay, V9P 9G1, I'll scan it and send it back.

I really hope to hear from you! Paddy Mark

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - KATHY CLAXTON

Kathy writes: "This is the little plant you gave me for a talk 2 years ago. Boy has it ever grown. It got a bit buried under another plant, which now has been removed. *Silene hookeri*. Thought you'd like to see one of you babies."



WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - MARION SUMMERER



Leontopodium alpinum grown from seed



Rhodohypoxis baurii - a double variety

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - KIRSTEN JUERGENSEN



a lovely Poppy



'Hot Choco' Rose that blooms until frost

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - LORI PROSS



The finished crevice bed, the construction of which was profiled in Crevice # 16, part 2

Blooming in the crevice bed:



Phyteuma balbisii



Dianthus alpinus



Saxifraga stolonifera



In a trough: *Campanula barbata*,
a very happy, floriferous specimen



Sedums and others in pots set into gravel bed



L: *Clematis lanuginosa* 'Nelly Moser', R: *Primula x bulleesiana* in bloom with a young *Primula matthioli* ssp. *turkestanica* in front of it (see plant portrait in this issue).



L: *Linum perenne* 'Blue Sapphire' - Blue Sapphire Flax, R: *Anthyllis vulneraria* var. *coccinea*



L: *Primula vialii*, R: *Saxifraga cuneifolia* - Lesser London Pride/Shield-leaved Saxifrage/Spoon-leaved Saxifrage



More happy sedums and sempervivums under the roof overhang and drenched with sun

WHAT'S NEW IN MY GARDEN - VALERIE MELANSON

More columbines:



Above: L: *Aquilegia jonesii*, R: *Aquilegia jonesii* x *saximontana*



Aquilegia pyrenaica, grown from AGS seed, started January 8, 2012. This is the first flowering.



Lewisia rediviva - June 4, 2013



Above, L: *Allium amplexans*, bulb from Paul Spriggs via June Strandberg, first flowers in 2012, native to Western North America

R: *Allium crenulatum*, bulb from June Strandberg, who got it at Fraser's Thimble Farm, Saltspring 2013. Known as the Olympic Onion, we have found it on Mt. Cokeley.



Allium beesianum, SRGC 2009 seed sown Feb 2010, potted up Aug 2011, first flowers summer 2012, a native of China

And finally, the spectacular *Allium schubertii*, just coming into flower:



PLANT PORTRAIT –

Primula matthioli ssp. turkestanica

Formerly known as *Cortusa turkestanica*

Text and photos by Valerie Melanson

This *Primula* is a member of the *Cortusoides* (i.e. like *Cortusa*) section, and formerly identified as a *Cortusa*, and it is a vigorous herbaceous perennial. DNA studies have confirmed its identification as a *Primula* and subspecies of *matthioli* (id info from Kevock Garden Plants). It has light green rounded scalloped leaves, which make dense clumps in a relatively short time (20cm wide). The densely clustered flowers are borne on slender stems (to 30cm) and are rich purple-pink (occasionally white), pendulous and bell-like and usually hang to one side.

This subspecies is larger in all of its parts than *Primula matthioli*.

It needs moist humousy soil with some shade. It originates from Turkey and Central Asia, hence *turkestanica*.

In my garden the plant faces east but its base is protected from most of the midday and late afternoon sun. If it had more shading, the leaves and flowers would last longer, provided the deer didn't get them!

I started my plant from AGS 2010-11 seed on Jan 15, 2011, seed just covered in granite grit and given outdoor treatment under a dome, sprouts by mid April, potted up mid May and planted it out summer of 2011:



It had its first flower stalk in 2012:



A plant happy in its location nevertheless as it had numerous flower stocks this year:



I got the idea to request it from the AGS seed exchange from a lovely photo of it in the AGS Alpine Gardener, September 2010 issue, p. 287.

Further references:

Plant information from <http://www.plant-world-seeds.com>,

And <http://www.kevockgarden.co.uk>

The International Plant Name Index,

<http://www.ipni.org/ipni>, has:

ulaceae *Cortusa turkestanica* Losinsk.

a 1834, 1. Beibl. 1, 22; Steud. Nom. ed. 2, 423 (1840); Los.-Losinsk.

:ta Inst. Bot. Acad. Sc. URSS, Ser. I. Fasc. 3, 239 (1937).

hor: Losinskaja, A.S.Losina- (1903-1958)

QUOTABLE QUOTES

Kirsten Juergensen sent in this quote by Ken Druse:

"If it's rare, we want it.

If it's tiny and impossible to grow, we've got to have it.

If it's brown, looks dead and has black flowers, we'll kill for it."

POP BOTTLE GREENHOUSES FOR HOUSE PLANTS

Kirsten found the following photo on Facebook:



Lots of potential here for cuttings and seed starting I would think.
Original photo and post by Sherri Levering Eaton.