

The Bulb Garden

Volume 3, Issue 2

Spring-Summer 2004

Pacific Bulb Society Board of Directors

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- BX Director: Dell Sherk-
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- Newsletter and Website:
Cathy Craig (see above)

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Inside PBS

PBS is continuing to pursue tax-exempt status and the board is currently reviewing the drafts of the Articles of Association and By-Laws. The board needs to pass final versions of these before we can apply to the Internal Revenue Service for our tax-exempt organizational status.

Our membership continues to grow and flourish under the excellent leadership of PBS' new membership director; Pat Colville. Please note: Pat has a NEW email address; you will find it listed in the Director List at left.

The Email Forum and Wiki, expertly managed by Mary Sue Ittner, our ListServ and Wiki Administrator, is also flourishing.

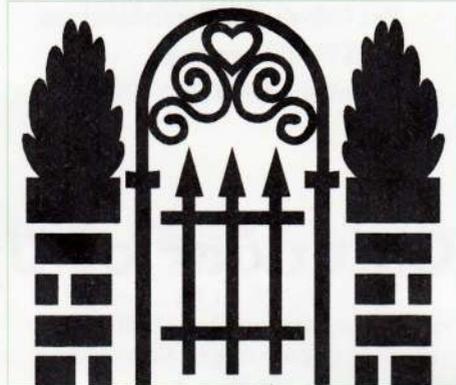
Dell Sherk, our BX and SX

director, reports that the BX has sent out over 50 separate offerings since our inception in April of 2002.

Marguerite English, our able Vice President, has taken a break from editing our newsletter and I have taken over this responsibility. This has always been a favored fun job of mine and I look forward to producing your newsletter in the upcoming quarters.

Our treasury is in great shape, thanks to the hard work of Jennifer Hildebrand, our treasurer.

You will find more detailed reports from all our directors and officers inside this issue of your newsletter.



Dr. Harold Koopowitz, author of the latest book on Clivias (published by Timber Press), has graciously invited PBS to co-sponsor the next International Clivia Conference. We gratefully accepted Harold's kind offer. There is more detailed information on the upcoming conference elsewhere in this newsletter.

PBS President, Cathy Craig

Secretary Needed for PBS

PBS needs a secretary. The secretary has just one main responsibility; that is to produce the minutes from the PBS Board of Directors quarterly meetings. This can be done anytime after the meeting. The procedure is

quite simple: summarize a log (copy of actual conversations) from AOL Instant Messenger. We record the meeting via this method and the secretary can summarize from an email or from a print out of the log.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact any board member. The board members email addresses are all listed in the upper left-hand corner of this page.

Thanks, gang!

Editorial

Renew your membership now!

Memberships in PBS expire at the end of each calendar year.

Your personal year of expiration (most being 2004) appears on the address block or mail label on this newsletter.

Please send your check for renewal \$20 (US), or \$25 (outside US) to:

Pat Colville PBS memberships
1555 Washburn Road
Pasadena, CA 91105 USA

Membership Benefits:

- International email forum (nearly 250 members at last count)
- PBS wiki with thousands of color photos of bulbs
- Newsletter
- Local dinners with lectures, travelogues, and often bulb auctions
- PBS famous and very popular BX (Bulb & Seed Exchange).

2005 PBS Bonus!

Due to the reduced number of newsletters we produced in 2004, we are giving every person who was a member of PBS in 2004 a special bonus.

Each member will receive a FREE \$10 CREDIT for the BX. This means even if you join now, as long as your membership ends in 2004, you will get your \$10 BX credit good for any offering of the BX during 2005.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Preview— International Clivia Symposium coming to Southern California in 2005!

The Second International Clivia Symposium is coming to the Huntington Botanic Gardens on March 26 & 27, 2005.



The symposium is co-sponsored by the Pacific Bulb Society, North American Clivia Society, and the Huntington Botanic Gardens.

The symposium falls on the last weekend in March, which is Easter



weekend so you will perhaps need to plan extra carefully to attend.

There will be speakers from all over the world; all internationally-recognized Clivia experts.

While the planning of the symposium is still ongoing, it is anticipated that there will be a main sit-down dinner on Saturday night, a Clivia showing of live plants, sales

of Clivia plants and seeds, slide shows, and perhaps a travelog.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For information and/or registration, please contact:

Dr. Harold Koopowitz.

Email: HKoopowi@uci.edu.

PLEASE put, "Clivia Symposium" as the **subject** in your email.



All Clivia photos copyright Dave Conway 1998-2004

CONTACT INFO for Dave Conway: S.B.Clivias@att.net

Refer a Friend for Membership and Get a Free Bulb

Many of our members join the Pacific Bulb Society because a friend tells them about us.

We'd like to give you a little gift when this happens.

If you refer a friend who joins PBS, please let our membership director know. You can email Pat Colville at Pat.Colville@JHResearchUSA.com.

Or your friend can email Pat. Or your friend can put a note on his or her membership application form.

This offer also applies to GIFT MEMBERSHIPS. Just write FREE BULB on the new member's application form with your name as the referral person.

MEMBERSHIP FORM is available

at our website: www.PacificBulbSociety.org and scroll down to "membership form".

This offer is good through December 31, 2004. Hurry!



Donate to the BX

The BX (Bulb Exchange) was an idea originally suggested a few years ago by Dr. James Waddick, author of several excellent bulb and plant books and co-founder of the Variegated Plant Society.

The BX is one of PBS' most popular member benefits.

Dell Sherk (dells@voicenet.com) is our super-organized BX director. To date he has put over 50 BX offerings on the table for PBS members.

When you re-pot or re-dig a gar-

den bed, or anytime you find you must divide bulbs or plants, or when you have seed pods, please send your extras to Dell.

Just clean them and make sure they are labelled. We try to offer bulbs and seeds that are true-to-name. If you do not know exactly what you have, then just give Dell the best description you can.

The BX continues to be one of PBS members' most popular benefits. To date PBS has made over 50 BX offers to members.
Ed.

It's easy to contribute to the BX!

Send clean and labelled bulbs, tubers, corms, rhizomes, etc. and seeds to our BX Director:
Dell Sherk—PBS BX
PO Box 224
Holicong PA 18928

Dells@voicenet.com
(215) 862-0438

Garden Humor

Dispute Was Just Too Mulch; Senator's Wife Faces Charges

WASHINGTON – The wife of Sen. Max Baucus (D_Mont.) was accused Wednesday of hitting a woman in a dispute over mulch at a garden center, police said.

Wanda Baucus, 56, was arraigned in D.C. Superior Court on a charge of simple assault, a misdemeanor, and released on her own recognizance and ordered to stay away from the other woman and the store. The incident took place Tuesday; she turned herself in Wednesday.

Baucus apparently was upset that she did not get help loading the mulch into her car while the other woman was being assisted, a police spokesman said.

Witnesses told police that Baucus put a bag of mulch behind the woman's car, preventing her from leaving the store, and that, after exchanging words, she allegedly struck the woman several times, police said. Wanda Baucus' lawyer, David

Schertler, said he disagreed with the version of events offered by police and witnesses.

"Based on what we know, we do not believe that there was any kind of criminal assault in this case and we don't believe there was any basis for

the charges," he said.

Max Baucus acknowledged in a statement that there was a "situation" involving his wife.

This story is from the LA Times, June 24, 2004. Ed.

Advertise with us & get your message out there!

Our members loyally support our advertisers.

The advertising rates are simple: \$10 per column inch per issue. Any size available. We don't require 'camera ready art' copy. We will design and set up your ad for you. We make it easy for you!

Let our members know that you are out there and what you sell. Offer catalogs, and list your web site in

addition to your other contact information.

Let them know if you have special rates or offers for PBS members.

Encourage them to order early by suggesting a deadline or offer a discount for orders received by a certain date.

Make suggestions for plants and

bulbs that are your personal favorites.

Include a sketch, photo, or ask us to find and include one for you.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Contact our Vice President, Marguerite English, at MEEnglis@cts.com



C. byzantium

Copyright Mark Wilcox 2004



C. agrippinum

Copyright Mark Wilcox 2004

Here are two photographs that show the speed of emergence of *C. Byzantium*.

The top photo was taken on September 24, the bottom photo was taken on September 25.

Notice in both photos, immediately to the close right, a single flower of *cyclamen hederifolium* for size perspective.



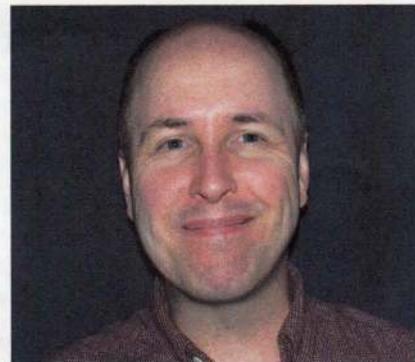
C. 'The Giant'

Copyright Mark Wilcox 2004



C. byzantium

Copyright Mark Wilcox 2004



Mark Wilcox

Mark Wilcox has lived in the Washington, DC, area since 1973, but only began actively gardening in 1997, shortly after he moved to the Capitol Hill Historic District.

He works for Verizon in a technical capacity, and also enjoys reading science fiction novels. Other interests include foreign travel and languages.

Officers' Reports

BX—Bulb Exchange Report **BX/SX Director: Dell Sherk**

Our BX continues to thrive thanks to our generous donors and enthusiastic participants. As of June, we have had more than 60 online offerings, sales for new members, sales for members who are not online, and general sales for list participants. More than 100 people have participated. Donations have run the gamut from exotic to well-known and from blooming-size material to seeds. Thanks to all of you! In the future watch for seeds from the Australian Bulb Association and maybe some seeds of xerophytes from a South African list member.

Membership Report **Director: Pat Colville**

PBS now has 101 members! Please welcome these new members: Tony Avent, Steve Ball, Fred Bisasella, Fred Boutin, Dave Brastow, Mike Brewer, Debra Burgess, CP Carley, Greg DiChirico, Christine Curtis-Council, Charles Edelman, James R. Fisher, James Frelichowski, Gary Gossett, Sam Hay, Susan Hayek, Ellen Hornig, Norm Kalbfleisch, Dennis Kramb, Michael Loos, Raphael Lopez, Erik Lux, Leo Martin, Mike Masterson, Kelly O'Neill, Marilyn A. Pekasky, Mary Rose, Kathy Stokmanis, Boyce Tankersley, Frederick Thorne, Lou Warren, Robert Werra, Chris Wiesinger, Peter Maynard, Paige Woodward, and Eugene Zielinski. Welcome all!

Meeting!

The last directors meeting was held on April 25, 2004. Present were: Cathy Craig, Marguerite English, Jennifer Hildebrand, and Pat Colville.

We reviewed the Articles of Associa-

Treasury Report **Treasurer: Jennifer Hildebrand**

Checking Bal 1/1/4 \$5,536

INCOME

Members US	1600
Members Intl	175
SX/BX	2818
Advertising	30
Donations	21

Total Income 4644

EXPENSES

Newsletter	640
SX/BX	326
Internet	85

Total Expenses 1051

NET INCOME 3593

Checking Bal 6/30/04 \$9,129

Vice President Report **VP: Marguerite English**

The VP job currently consists of helping out where help is needed. I have given over the responsibility of the newsletter to our president, and am now the director of advertising.

Minutes of the last Directors' Meeting

tion and made necessary changes. These are scheduled to be voted upon at the next directors meeting.

With regard to the budget, the board voted to upgrade the newsletter by improving the quality of the paper, adding more color photos, and putting in more short articles on bulbs and gardening. We will be moving from 6 pages to 8 pages with this issue.

We voted to co-sponsor the International Clivia Conference to be held in Southern California in March of 2005. Cathy Craig assumed the re-

Email Forum and Wiki Report **Administrator: Mary Sue Ittner**

Committee of helpers:

*Arnold Trachtenberg • Mark Wilcox
Mark McDonough • Jay Yourch*

Our PBS list continues to grow and now has 265 subscribers. The wiki continues to grow and is becoming an increasingly helpful resource about geophytes. Eighty five people have contributed pictures or information to the wiki. We now have wiki pages for 186 genera with various degrees of information on each. New images and information continue to be added to the wiki and we are enjoying continuing participation of new contributors.

To facilitate viewing, separate folders have been created on the wiki files page for genera with at least 15 images (plus some others with not quite 15 images as yet).

President Report **President: Cathy Craig**

I continue to oversee operations, chair the directors meetings, and lend a hand where necessary.

I have taken over the newsletter production formerly performed in a remarkably efficient fashion by our Vice President, Marguerite English.

responsibility of newsletter production starting with this issue.

Jennifer Hildebrand assumed the task of finding a secretary for PBS.

Marguerite English will be responsible for procuring vendors who wish to advertise in our newsletter.

The prospect of having an annual meeting for all PBS members was also discussed. What do you want? If you are interested in having an annual members meeting, let us know!

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for August 8, 2004.

Book Review: *Hippeastrum*: the Gardener's Amaryllis

By Charles Hardman

In 1995, I received a letter from the UK written by a young lady named Veronica Read. Veronica's letter was full of questions. While I am accustomed to receiving letters of this kind, I noticed a difference in hers. There was an intensity about her questions concerning *Hippeastrums*, a passion behind them which went beyond the usual sort of plant enthusiast's inquiries.

Such dedication, single-mindedness and bravura! And thank goodness for them. For what Veronica Read has brought forth is a marvelous book about one of the world's favorite flowers.

Read did not always come by her information easily. She met some resistance along the way. Much to her credit, she persevered. Those of us who love *Hippeastrums* with their big, bright, colorful flowers can be grateful to her for not giving up when the going got tough.

Written from the standpoint of a grower rather than a scientist, Read's book covers a lot of grower's ground and just enough science between its covers. With a foreword by Peter R. Crane, a short Preface, Acknowledgments section, and 12 Chapters, followed by an Appendix, a Glossary, a Bibliography, and an Index, this book is well researched and well written.

I highly recommend Read's book for a fascinating read and an excellent overview of this important genus.

And those 120 color photos: Excellent! It is wonderful to see so many closeups of modern hybrids among the photos including those spidery hybrids derived from *H. cybister* which just started coming on the market a few years ago.

Differences in opinions with Read's species nomenclature have already come to the fore in a few instances. Yet, these are hardly Read's problems. She is not writing a taxonomic treatise nor a botanical monograph here. She has put together an excellent book, even a milestone book, with the information available to her. Let the botanists and the taxonomists thrash out the hair-splitting on species among themselves.

And now for some hair-splitting of my own.

Considering the importance of the hybrid *H. 'Johnsonii'* (*H. reginae* x *H. vittatum*) it would seem appropriate to place the hybridizing date of 1799 at the first mention of the cross on page 41 as well as at the plate of *H. 'Johnsonii'* - plate 3-1.

The photo of *H. 'Royal Velvet'*, plate 3-3, is not, I believe, a photo of the true Royal Velvet which is far darker and duskier and more lurid and beautiful than this photo shows. There are, admittedly, too many nursery suppliers who will substitute one variety or cultivar for another and that, perhaps, is what has happened here.

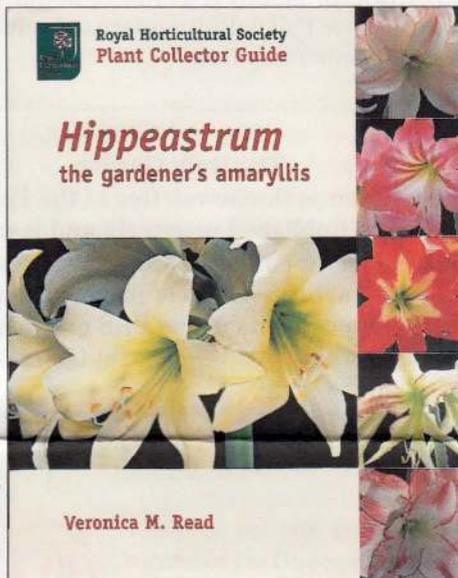
Finally, I will mention that the soil mixes listed seem to be heavy on the "loam" and organics and that, at least in Southern California

where I grow, unless these ingredients are sterilized and the bulbs repotted frequently, mixes heavy in organics can lead one down the road to *Hippeastrum* rot disaster. I, and others here, use coarse sand or gravel with about 5% organic matter — sphagnum peat works fine — and frequent weak feedings.

Except for this last, these are minor points considering the scope and timeliness of this book and the generous sharing of knowledge which the author has included herein.

If you love big, beautiful flowers, you'll want this book for your own library.

HIPPEASTRUM: the Gardener's Amaryllis by Veronica M. Read.



H. 'Reggae' © Ian Wolley

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Gardening with Bulbs!

We're on the web!
www.pacificbulbsociety.org

The Pacific Bulb Society was formed in 2002 by co-founders Cathy Craig and Marguerite English. We serve all people interested in flowering bulbs. Our major member benefits are:

- International email forum
- PBS wiki with color photos of bulbs
- Newsletter
- Local dinners with lectures, travelogues, and often bulb auctions
- PBS popular BX (Bulb & Seed Exchange)

MEMBERSHIP FORM is available at our website: find us at www.PacificBulbSociety.org and scroll down to "membership form".

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The Bulb Garden
The Bulb Garden is the newsletter of the Pacific Bulb Society (PBS). It is published quarterly and is available to Pacific Bulb Society members. This newsletter provides bulb & gardening articles, news of interest to members, and announcements of the PBS organization.
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