

The Bulb Garden

Volume 5, Issue 1

Winter 2006

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Inside this issue:

| | |
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| <i>Inside PBS</i> | 1 |
| <i>Calendar of Events</i> | 2 |
| <i>Garden Humor: Complements of Art Wolk</i> | 3 |
| <i>Chinese Trumpet Lilies by Arnold Trachtenberg</i> | 4 |
| <i>Officers' Reports</i> | 6 |
| <i>Directors' Meeting</i> | 6 |
| <i>Book Review : Garden Lunacy By Art Wolk Review by Cathy Craig</i> | 7 |

Inside PBS

Hello PBS members!

Newsletter Update

The board of directors likes to keep you apprised of the particulars of the operation of PBS, including mechanical and financial functions. We know this matters to you because I routinely receive calls and emails from members who say they appreciate the honesty and 'transparency' of PBS.

As producer of the newsletter, and since I am a tax accountant by profession, I keep meticulous track of the costs of producing our newsletter. We are now producing 175 copies of each newsletter because our membership is approaching 150 and we need some extras for members who join mid-year. The entire production cost for each newsletter (barring postage) is \$2.10 each.

This compares very favorably with the last printing quote I obtained. Believe it or not, the best quote was \$12 each!

What is precluding our production of four issues per year is mainly one of time constraint. My time, that is. Like all the other board members, I must still work full time and so the newsletter must be produced in my spare time and on

weekends. Which, by the way, I am very happy to do.

I am doing my level best to get three newsletters out in 2006 and if it is at all possible I will do four.

Member Renewals

All memberships in PBS are on a calendar year basis and are up for renewal at end of each year. By now you will have received your membership renewal notice. Please note on the renewal form that you now have the option to renew for 3 years if you wish. This is in response to requests by several members. Your opinions DO matter to us!

Pay Pal is here!

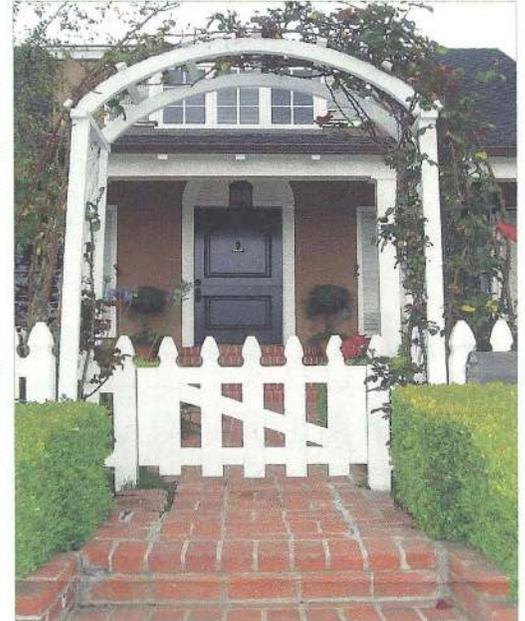
Because we have a new financial institution subject to the new terrorism and money-laundering laws, we can no longer accept money orders of any kind.

Due to this change we are strongly encouraging members, especially international members, to use Pay Pal to pay for their membership renewal.

Pay Pal is FREE and completely secure. There is an instruction sheet included with your renewal notice explaining how to open and pay with a Pay Pal account. Please take advantage of this great service.

Other benefits of using Pay Pal are: no waiting and no wondering. You receive a receipt and confirmation immediately.

If you have any questions, please contact our secretary Jennifer Hildebrand, TheOtherJen88@msn.com.



*Our "Inside the Garden Gate of PBS" photo for this issue is a photograph I took of a home in San Clemente during a walk through the neighborhood near my office.
Editor*

Editorial

Renew your membership now!

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

Your personal year of expiration (most being 2006) appears on the address block or mail label on this newsletter.

Please send your check, NO money orders, or use Pay Pal 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
- PBS WIKI with thousands of color photos of bulbs
- Newsletters
- Local dinners, lectures, travelogues, and bulb auctions
- PBS very popular BX/SX (bulb and seed exchanges)
- Annual Membership Directory

CONTEST!

PBS needs a LOGO! Please put on your thinking caps and fire up your imagination. Submit LOGO ideas (drawings) to:

Cathy Craig
630-A So El Camino Real
San Clemente CA 92672
CathCraigEA@hotmail.com

Contest deadline is December 31, 2006. The winner will be awarded a **FREE ONE-YEAR MEMBERSHIP** in PBS. Good luck!!

Coming Events: Int'l Clivia Symposium

NORTH AMERICAN CLIVIA SOCIETY
PRESENTS



2006
SYMPOSIUM & SHOW
AT
THE HUNTINGTON
LIBRARY, ART COLLECTIONS,
AND
BOTANICAL GARDENS
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA

MARCH 18, 2006
10:00 AM TO 4:30 PM

PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE SPEAKERS FROM ACROSS NORTH AMERICA
A TALK BY HENRIETTE STROH FROM SOUTH AFRICA
CLIVIA SHOW AND SALES

* MEMBERSHIP OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT NO COST *
COST FOR MEMBERS \$55 NON-MEMBERS \$65
LUNCH AND DINNER INCLUDED

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.NORTHAMERICANCLIVIASOCIETY.ORG
OR VISIT WWW.HUNTINGTON.ORG

Clivia Symposium March 18th

The annual clivia symposium is
almost upon us. Act now!

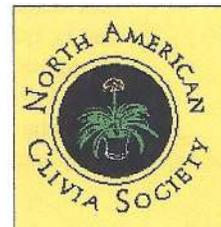
Symposium
Nursery & Garden Tours
Clivia Show

Clivia Judging Class March 16th

For specific information on all
events, classes, & tours

please go to:

Www.NorthAmericanCliviaSociety.org



Donate to the BX—Note: **New Address**

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 100 BX offerings on the table for PBS members.

When you re-pot or re-dig a garden bed, or anytime you find you must divide bulbs or plants, or when you have seed pods, please send your extras to Dell.

Clean them and make sure they are labeled. We try to offer bulbs & seeds that are true-to-name. If you don't know exactly what you have, give Dell the best description you can.

It's easy to contribute to the BX!

Send clean and labeled bulbs, tubers, corms, rhizomes, and seeds to our BX Director:

NEW ADDRESS!

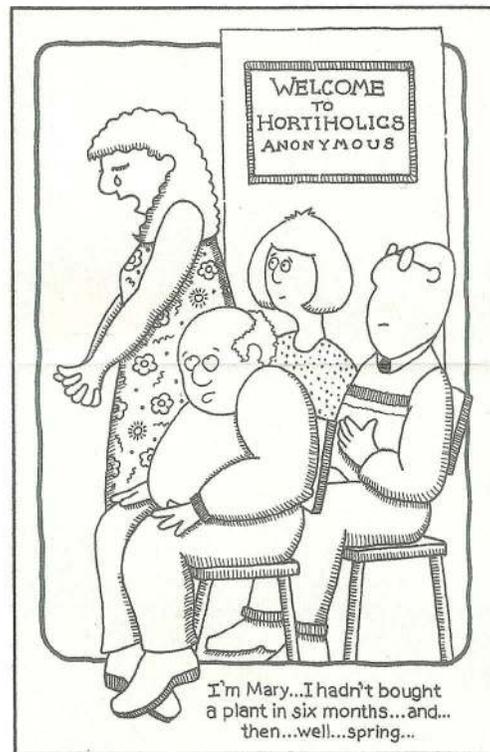
Dell Sherk—PBS BX
PO Box 429
New Hope PA 18938
Dells@voicenet.com
(215) 862-0438

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

Garden Humor

This cartoon is from a new book by Art Wolk (a member of the Garden Writers of America) which is reviewed in this newsletter.

*Cartoon at right: © Laurie Baxendell. Published with permission of the author.
[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 FREE. We make it easy for you!

Let our members know that you are out there and what you sell.

Offer catalogs, and list your website 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 VP in charge of advertising: Shawn Pollard.

Pollards@Adelphia.net

Trumpet Lilies of China

By Arnold Trachtenberg

The genus *Lilium* contains about 100 species spread throughout the north temperate region of the world. The southern most occurring in India, *Lilium neilgherrense*, at about 11 degrees N and the range of the northern most found at the edge of the forest in the USSR, *Lilium martagon* var. *pilosiusculum*, at about 68 degrees N. The greatest diversity of the species is found in Eastern Asia with about 60 present. North America has about 30 species, Europe about 10 and the Caucasus with 8. It is thought that Manchuria, Japan and Korea represent the center of the origin of genus *Lilium*.

China alone boasts 40 species and is home to more lilies than any other single county in the world. China with a diverse topography would lead lily enthusiasts to think that they come from very different environments and this has led to many failures in the garden. Lilies are generally plants of hills and sloping terrains most often liking their tops in the sun growing among shrubs and bushes whereby they derive some support.

As with most bulbs, lilies spend a part of their year dormant but not requiring the drying off like that of a narcissus or tulip. Roots are produced in fall preparing for the coming spring growth. Anyone receiving a lily bulb from a supplier can easily determine the reputable growers who send out their bulbs with healthy flesh roots attached. A dried out bulb may flower well the first year following planting because the bulb has stored up enough energy to produce a flower but subsequent years may be difficult until the root system can grow adequately to supply the bulbs with moisture and nutrients. Once the winter cold sets in growth comes to a stop and the bulb lies dormant until spring urges it into growth once again. As the weather warms the stem elongates and flowers are produced usually between June and September.

The lily seeds fall into two categories for germination. In one case the seeds produce a leaf above soil level and roots form a bulblet below the level of the soil. This is termed epigeal germination. The second group of lilies produces no leaf at all the first year but a root pushes out of the seed and forms a bulblet below ground. The year following bulblet formation a leaf is sent up, this is termed hypogeal germination. Epigeal germination is common among most Chinese lilies and only a few germinate through the hypogeal method.



Lilium regale

The lily genus is subdivided up into 13 sections by Stephen Haw in "**The Lilies of China**". Eight of these are found in China. The section "**Regalia**" contains the trumpets with most of them being white such as *L. sulphureum*, *L. sargentiae*, *L. leucanthum*, *L. regale*, *L. brownii*, *L. formosanum*, *L. longiflorum*, *L. wallichianum*, *L. philippinense*, *L. nobilissimum*, *L. alexandrae*. *L. japonicum* can be either white or pink.



Bubils of *Lilium sulphurum*

All photos courtesy of Arnold Trachtenberg © 2005

Seed of lilies easily grown from seed is available from Judith Freeman, owner of The Lily Garden. She offers over a half-dozen species seeds in her current catalog. For a free catalog: www.TheLilyGarden.com [Ed]

I will discuss the four I have grown in my New Jersey garden.

Lilium leucanthum was introduced by Henry in 1889 and later Farrer found *Lilium leucanthum* var. *centifolium* growing in villages. It has been a robust plant growing eight to ten feet tall with upwards of 15 scented blooms towering over everything else. Leucanthum translates as "white flowered" and it is found in Hubei and Gansu Provinces in Southern China. I have it sited under the edge of a beech tree overhang that protects it from midday sun but allows an early morning sunbath. I would say the shade and lower temperature prolongs the blooms and the scent is most pronounced in evening. Flowering in July to August the seed pods ripen in October. Seed germination is immediate epigeal.

Lilium regale, introduced by E. H. Wilson who came upon it in 1905 in the Min Valley, wrote that he "would proudly rest his reputation with the Regal lily". It is from an area with very hot summers and equally cold winters. It flowers in June and Wilson found the valley covered in white blooms. *Lilium regale* is a trumpet of shorter statute than *L. leucanthum* but more intense in scent and pure whiteness of the flower. It can produce one to several blooms. I grow it a few feet deeper into the beech overhang where it gets less direct sunlight. This has suited it well. Seed germination is immediate epigeal.



Lilium sargentiae

Lilium sulphureum, named for the yellow in the flowers throat, is found along the Red River in Southern Yunnan province. It flowers June to July usually with two pure white trumpets having yellow within. It grows in Yunnan, Guizhou, Sichuan and Guangxi. It has tolerated direct midday sun and produces a profusion of stem bulbils along its upper third. It gently leans over my box hedge for support. *L. Sulphureum* can be confused with *L. Sargentiae* but differs in having glabrous filaments and flowers a little larger. Germination is immediate epigeal.



Lilium sargentiae (above); named in honor of the wife of Charles Sprague who was the Director of the Arnold Arboretum in Boston at the time Wilson was traveling extensively to China. It is native to Sichuan Province occurring at 1100 to 1500 meters.



Lilium leucanthum

Lilium sargentiae can produce one to four trumpet shaped flowers, pale green toward the base. This lily will produce stem bulbils that can be planted as they mature or over-wintered in a frost-free cold frame and planted out in the spring. They will grow and produce a two-centimeter diameter bulb the first year. I have grown them in pots, then unpotted the bulbs in fall and over-wintered them packed in coir in zip lock bags in the refrigerator with success. The plant can carry 15 nodding trumpets which are eight to ten inches long with a pleasant scent. On first inspection *L. sargentiae* can be confused with *L. sulphureum*, but it has filaments that are hairy at their base. Germination is immediate epigeal.

Officers' Reports

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

Rare seed offer completed

The Bulb Exchange recently completed offerings on the bulb email robin which included seed from South America, South Africa, and Europe as well as great things from the ever-generous U.S. members.

If you have any favorite bulbs or seed you would like to see offered on the BX or the SX, please contact me directly.

Thanks to all of you!



Dell Sherk—BX

Vice President's Report VP: Shawn Pollard

The VP often does jobs for which we do not have director slot.

Shawn has graciously agreed to act as our director of advertising as well as maintaining his VP post. Thank you, Shawn.

Advertisers: Please contact Shawn Pollard for assistance.
PollardS@adelphia.net



Vice President
Shawn Pollard

Treasury Report Treasurer: Arnold Trachtenberg

Checking Bal 1/1/5 \$8,253

INCOME

Members US 2,100

Members Intl 622

SX/BX 2,805

Donations 51

Interest 72

Other Income 1,510

Total Income \$7,160

EXPENSES

Newsletter 1,447

Member Directory 36

SX/BX 574

Bank Fees 106

Adjustment 50

Total Expenses 2,213

NET INCOME \$4,947

Checking Bal 12/31/05 \$13,200



Secretary
Jennifer Hildebrand



Treasurer
Arnold Trachtenberg

President's Report President: Cathy Craig

This is the first newsletter of 2006. We are doing our best to increase the number of yearly issues, while working within our time constraints. We hope you are enjoying the newsletters.

Email Forum and Wiki Report Administrator: Mary Sue Ittner Committee of Helpers: Susan Hayek, Arnold Trachtenberg, Jay Yurch Tech Support: Mark Parrott

Our list continues to grow; we now have over 340 members.

The WIKI is a valuable time-saver and excellent resource for finding what a specific flowering bulb looks like.

Thank you all for your participation and for sharing your expertise with all the other members. It's a great learning experience for us all. [Ed.]

Membership Report Director: Pat Colville

Please welcome the following new members to our PBS family!

Linda Foulis
Per-Ake Lofdahl
Reinhard Menz
Ronald Redding
Burnt Bridge Nursery
Wisley Gardens Library
Georgio Pozzi
Scott Canning
Myrna Jewett
Richard Wagner
Amanda George
James Jones
Warren Willig
Terry Frewin
Sally Bourrie
Terry Alloway
Bruce Hartman
Margaret Morrisey
Tom Perry
Charles Powell II
Donna Anderson
Carl Dacus
Jon Lonsdale

Meeting!

The last board of directors meeting for the year was held on November 13, 2005. Present were: Cathy Craig, Shawn Pollard, Arnold Trachtenberg, Dell Sherk, Pat Colville, and Jennifer Hildebrand.

We discussed a number signifi-

Minutes of the last Directors' Meeting

cant issues: Membership renewal notices are to be mailed at year-end 2005. Shawn Pollard will spearhead a campaign to recruit advertisers for our newsletter. The logo contest continues—submit your design now! We discussed the possibility of producing a CD with high-resolution images from the WIKI (with contribu-

tor's permission, of course). Lastly we considered a face-to-face board meeting at some time in the future.

We also voted unanimously to donate \$250 to Ibiblio, who generously provides the free service of hosting our email forum and WIKI. Thank you, Ibiblio!

Book Review: Garden Lunacy

By Art Wolk

Review by Cathy Craig

By way of introduction, Art Wolk was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and so grew up in an area where there may be more garden clubs and horticultural societies than any place else on earth.

He enjoys a career as a reference librarian and is also past president of the Horticultural Society of New Jersey. (For those on the West Coast that's "New Joisey").

Judging a book...

This is a perfect example of why it's best to not judge a book by its cover. My opinion is that the cover was an unfortunate choice because it implies that the book is flippant and shallow. It is not. Yes, it has much to laugh over, but it also has much to think about.

You may be a completely serious gardener with a rather low humor quotient or one of the few with a grand appreciation for what's funny in life.

Regardless of your personality type; this book must be read. Really.

On to the book

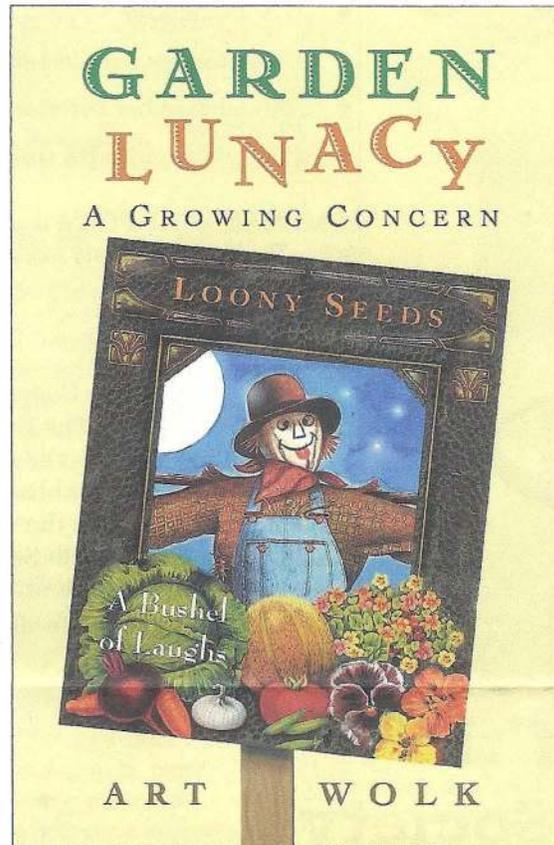
Garden Lunacy is not simply a book of humorous garden stories. No. It is full of insight into the 'processes' of gardening we all feel: "the worry, the caring, the love, the hope, the occasional devastation, and the days of sheer bliss that can only come after experiencing some failure. It is not possible to have one without the other."

The reason Mr. Wolk is able to empathize with our plight is that he is one of us—he has been a serious gardener all his life.

This is one of the most diverse books I have read. It is not a book where the format is exactly the same from chapter to chapter, nor is the tone. Being a simple-minded person for the most part, I usually prefer books that are uniform and heterogeneous. This book is not, and I'm glad!

It is, for the most part, funny but it is oftentimes serious. There are cartoons, interspersed with serious stories, there are hysterical observations amongst humorous tales, there are various kinds of lists of definitions, and chapter-length stories.

While I find the format different enough to be intriguing, it is not a concoction of un-related items; it flows effortlessly and seamlessly from front cover to back cover, making perfect logical sense all along the way.



Some Examples

In the front of the book there are several sub-chapter lists. Here are a few examples of the humor you will find there:

From "A Digger's Dictionary": "Compost Pile: A heap containing soil, manure, and garden plants that were supposed to yield flowers and vegetables, but died while under the gardener's care." Wait until you read the definition of the "hybrid tea rose"!

Chapter I, "Commandments for Real Gardeners", contains such thought-provoking and insightful observations as, "Real gardeners have one saw, one hammer, one screwdriver, and 17 different shovels."

You will find chapters such as, War with Critters, Garden Societies (uh, oh), Flower Shows (I and II), Aberrant Behavior in Gardeners, Differences between Gardeners and Non-gardeners, Garden TV and Magazines, and the final chapter, "On Becoming a Great, But Not Too Serious, Gardener".

Oops, almost forgot!

Many of us who garden also write and speak on gardening (and other topics). There is a short chapter near the end of the book that addresses the composition of audiences and the keys to success for speaking presentations. Having just delivered a talk to GWA in Vancouver on retirement planning, I found this chapter most illuminating. Mostly it will illuminate my *next* talk. Hey, better late than never. If you do any speaking, my advice is to read this chapter thoroughly. It will refocus your next effort. Truly.

Ok, So Go Buy the Book

Sources are listed in order of least expense to you: www.gardenlunacy.com, www.amazon.com, www.barnesandnoble.com, or check your local bookstore.

Art invites all readers to send him stories for a future book. Instructions are in the back of the book.

ISBN 0-9729730-3-6
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Book Publishing, hardcover,
246 pages, \$26.95.





Pacific Bulb Society

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:

- Our International email forum
- The PBS wiki with color photos of bulbs
- Our Newsletter
- Local dinners with lectures, travelogues, and bulb auctions
- Annual Member Directory published in July
- The PBS popular BX (Bulb & Seed Exchange)

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

Copyright 2006
The Bulb Garden

The Bulb Garden is the newsletter of the Pacific Bulb Society (PBS). It is published once-annually to quarterly depending on the time the volunteers have available 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.

Editor: Cathy Craig

CathyCraigEA@hotmail.com

Newsletter of the Pacific Bulb Society

The Bulb Garden
Pat Colville • Memberships
1555 Washburn Road
Pasadena CA 91105



FIRST CLASS MAIL

