

Fall, 2008



~Gardening with Bulbs ~

Volume 7, Issue 3

The Bulb Garden

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Fall Bulbs in Greece and Turkey

Jane McGary

Jane is the editor of 'The Rock Garden Quarterly', the bulletin of the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS). She is interested in rock gardens as well as the specialty bulbs on which PBS focuses. She gardens at 1600 feet elevation near the foothills of the Cascade Mountains, southeast of Portland, Oregon. Jane also sells her excess bulbs; you can request her bulb list at janemcgary@earthlink.net. She also lists her extensive seed collection with the NARGS seed exchange (available to NARGS members only) at www.nargs.org.

In late October 2006 I joined the excellent nature-touring company Greentours for two of their short trips: a week in Greece's Mani Peninsula, part of the Peloponnese region, and the next week in the Antalya region of southwestern Turkey. Fall flowers

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Termessos. Photo by Jane McGary.

were the focus of these trips, and it was worth the rigors of organized group travel to see some populations of very uncommon species. Though I generally prefer to travel
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Fall Bulbs in Greece and Turkey (cont'd)

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alone or with a few friends, I highly recommend these trips, which are available most years.

Plant-hunting in these parts often means visiting archaeological sites where grazig animals are ex-



Tlos. All photos by Jane McGary.

cluded. The Greek sites we saw had so much tourist traffic that there weren't many plants, but Mycenae offered *Cyclamen graecum* and *Sternbergia lutea*.

The Turkish sites are less "improved," which gives them a more poignant atmosphere and richer vegetation. Termessos was a great place for *Colchicum baytopiorum*; *Galanthus peshmenii* and Cy-



Cyclamen hederifolium var. *confusum*

clamen mirabile grew around the medieval castle ruins of Geleme; Tlos had more *Sternbergia*; and the Roman forum of Phaselis (see back cover for photo) was carpeted with *Cyclamen graecum*.

Cyclamen graecum is at its best, though, in the

Mani, where robust plants with deep pink flowers and large, wonderfully varied leaf forms predominate. It grew everywhere: on rocky hilltops, in limestone crevices, in gentle woodland and olive groves, and most brilliantly where a recent brush fire had left the red soil quite bare. This plant should be in every garden in the drier parts of California, if only seed of these fine forms could be distributed.



Above: *Crocus hadriaticus*
Below: *Crocus boryi*



Also in this area, in dense woodland, was *Cyclamen hederifolium* var. *confusum*, the fragrant form of this commonly grown species. *C. mirabile*, seen in Turkey, is another fall-bloomer and does better than *C. graecum* in my Oregon garden.

Bulb enthusiasts visit the Mani in autumn primarily to see crocuses. The common species are *Crocus hadriaticus*, white with a dark-flushed floral tube; *C. biflorus* subsp. *melantherus*, a fall-blooming subspecies of a species that mostly flowers in late winter; *C. boryi*, a small cream-white flower of excellent sub-

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Fall Bulbs in Greece and Turkey (cont'd)

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stance; *C. niveus*, whose large flowers are usually white but, in this area, sometimes pale blue; and *C. goulimyi* with light blue-lavender bowl-shaped flowers. A different range of fall crocuses were seen in Turkey, two of them very rare. *Crocus mathewii* grew in short grass in the hills, mostly in the much-admired form with white tepals and a deep violet throat.

In one population I saw a pale lavender flower, rather longer than typical *C. mathewii* but with the violet throat, and wondered if it were a hybrid with *C. pallasii*, also present. *C. pallasii* and *C. asumaniae* are more widespread species, quite similar in their fairly large, pale lavender blossoms; *C. asumaniae* is the more substantial garden subject, but *C. pallasii* is easier for me to grow.

Crocus cancellatus was common, usually without the exterior markings that can add to its beauty. The Grail plant of the trip was *Crocus biflorus* subsp. *wattiorum*, a recently described taxon, which grew in crevices in a tumble of large limestone boulders below a pine woodland. Its huge blue flowers are set off by a scarlet style and black anthers. It is just barely in cultivation. (See photos on page 10.)

Colchicums are often the first fall bulb people think of, and we saw

many species, mostly the small ones that are seldom cultivated but deserve our attention. In Greece were *Colchicum boissieri*, *C. psaridis*, *C. cupanii*, and *C. parlatoris*. All these

of the popular garden plant *C. x agrippinum*, was in bloom in bare, sunny places. Small species seen included *C. baytopiorum* and the tiny white *C. pusillum*. One new to me

was *C. sanguicolle*, named for its “red neck” – a prophyll, a kind of sheathing leaf that shows just above the soil surface – which seemed to grow exclusively just downhill from large conifers, at or immediately outside a tree’s drip line. (See photos, page 11.)

A number of aroids were active at this time. *Arisarum vulgare* can bloom in both spring and fall and exhibits much variation in its little striped flowers. I find it too tender to grow here. *Biarum tenuifolium* lifted its narrow blackish flowers in the same burn where *Cyclanthera graecum* was so spectacular. *Biarum pyrami* was a revelation to me: I hadn’t know it could become very big, but on a sunny bank it had produced a spadix about 18 inches (45 cm) long. I made sure to give it more room the next summer.

In addition to *Sternbergia lutea* and *S. sicula*, which our guides believe to be botanically separable

though this is not a universal opinion, we were fortunate to see *S. clusiana* in Antalya. The last species flowers before the leaves emerge, bearing upright goblets of pure gold. (I was excited to see it in the

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All photos by Jane McGary. Clockwise from top left: *Arisarum vulgare*, *Sternbergia sicula*, *Biarum tenuifolium*, *Sternbergia clusiana*, and *Biarum pyrami*.



have pink flowers of modest size, suitable for containers or choice sites on the rock garden; I find them all easy to grow in the bulb frame, where they increase rapidly.

In Turkey *Colchicum variegatum*, a large species that is the parent

Fall Bulbs in Greece and Turkey (cont'd)

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NARGS seed exchange this year, but when my seeds arrived, they were obviously not *Sternbergia* seeds; I think they're *Habranthus tubispathus*, possibly sent in by someone who had something yellow flowering in fall and tried to



Narcissus serotinus. All photos by Jane McGary.

identify it by looking at pictures on the Internet.)

A number of Mediterranean bulbous genera have one or two fall-blooming species along with many spring bloomers.

Scilla autumnalis is a ubiquitous little plant, often colonizing roadside gravel. It has tiny but numerous violet florets. The seed

ripens rapidly, so I collected some and am hoping to naturalize it in the garden – it's so small I don't think it could be much of a pest.



Allium callimischon

The well-known fall daffodil is *Narcissus serotinus*, which looks like a miniature *N. poeticus* and has a wonderful scent; it seemed to prefer dry spots. In contrast, *N. tazetta* was more common in moist areas. It was flowering well in the Mani, though most of the flowers near the towns had been picked. There were a few early flowers on

Anemone coronaria, which prefers lush grassy meadows. *Allium callimischon* has little floral beauty but is unusual in its flowering period.

Companions to these fall bulbs, and plants that ought to be grown more in mild-climate gardens, included *Campanula versicolor* growing on dry walls and cliff faces; *Bellis sylvestris*, a neat daisy of medium height; *Globularia alypum*, a woody-based perennial covered with pure blue puffs; and *Clematis cirrhosa* festooning tall shrubs and the ruined walls of Tlos. I also en-

joyed the ferns, especially white-



Above: *Campanula versicolor*
Below: *Globularia alypum*



woolly *Cheilanthes catanensis* walls and limestone cliffs.

There are more of Jane's photos from Greece and Turkey on pages 9, 10, & 11!

Bulbs in the Sonoran Desert

Leo A. Martin, Phoenix, Arizona, USA

Leo Martin is a medical doctor specializing in anesthesiology. He has gardened since he was four years old in the American Midwest, southern California and central Arizona. He has grown cactus and succulents for over 40 years, and also cultivates cycads, fruit trees, exotic bulbs, a water garden and, in line with his profession, many extremely poisonous plants. He is a director of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America and has served as its Convention Program Chair.

The Sonoran Desert stretches from Mexico north into the United States; Phoenix lies near its northern margin, far from marine influence. Unlike most inland deserts of the world, which have summer rainfall and winter drought, or the coastal deserts of South America and Africa, which receive rain only in the winter (if then), the Sonoran Desert receives rain winter and summer.

Phoenix averages eight inches of rain per year. Sixty percent falls between July and September with often-violent and very localized summer thunderstorms; the remainder falls between November and April as gentle, cool winter rains. Summer temperatures are extreme: days usually top 105 degrees F. and nights are in the 80s to 90s. Our all-time high was 122 F. Winters are sunny and cool, with days in the 60s to 80s, and

nights in the 40s to 60s. Occasional overnight frosts to the 20s might occur on clear, dry and still nights between November and February, with snaps every twenty years or so to the mid-teens. Some years there is no frost at all. Snow falls about once every ten years but does not remain for any length of time. Fall and spring are warm, with cool nights. Humidity is low to very low most of the year except during the summer monsoon, when it may linger around 30-40% for a few days.

Most parts of our city have extremely well-drained soil. In the flatter areas, formerly cotton fields and citrus orchards, soils may be deeper and richer, but my soil is actually

rocks held together with a little dust. I must dig with a mattock; a shovel is completely useless except to remove loose rocks from the hole. This soil is actually a blessing for cactus, succulent and bulb growers like me.

Our main gardening issues are summer heat, winter frosts and low humidity. We cannot grow many tropical plants unprotected in the garden due to our cold snaps and arid air. We cannot grow many temperate plants due to our mild winters and arid air. Sorry, no lilacs. Specific challenges for bulbs here are drenching summer rains and mild winters. Winter-growers don't do well with wet hot soil, and some bulbs need more chilling than we get.

As in many parts of the USA, typical landscapes are mo-

notonous and boring, featuring an unnecessarily limited array of mostly non-native plant material. Many cacti and other desert-adapted plants do well here but are not used as much as they should be. Some housing developments require native or other xeric vegetation. The majority of homes sport water-wasting lawns, yellow lantana, red bougainvillea, a few deciduous trees, citrus and several palms, all of which require substantial supplemental irrigation.

We do have native bulbs here in the desert, but they are not widely used in landscapes. They are all winter growers and summer dormant but they tolerate our summer rains. *Dichelostemma capitatum* (still called *D. pulchellum* around here) is also known as Blue Dicks. It grows with winter rains and loses its leaves before it

blooms in mid to late spring. Blooming in habitat happens only with plentiful winter rains, about once every ten years. In gardens with a little irrigation it blooms every year and re-seeds plentifully. Unwanted sprouts are easy to pull, and the



Dichelostemma capitatum (pulchellum).
Photo by Carole Dearman.

flower clusters are pretty, so most people don't mind. It grows in the wild on rocky slopes with sparse vegetation, usually in large numbers. The rocky soil and perfect drainage may explain its ability to tolerate summer rain. Populations are mostly shades of bluish-lavender in color, but color variability is high, and a few white flowers are found in most populations. This would be a good small-scale plant in the greenhouse or sunroom in cold-winter climates.

Several *Calochortus* are native to lower elevations in Arizona. In Spring 2008, the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society performed an authorized plant rescue in the path of pipeline construction on BLM property near Bumblebee, Arizona, discovering four individuals of *C. kennedyi* and many of (probably) *C. nuttallii* growing on a very rocky, moderately steep hillside. The plants were in a fold in the slope where more water would flow. The soil here was typical of desert slopes: rocks separated by small amounts of finer material. This provides excellent drainage. Winters here are much colder than in Phoenix, with nights often into the teens and occasional periods of frost exceeding 24 hours. After a difficult dig of two feet the

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The Sonoran Desert stretches from Mexico north into the United States; Phoenix lies near its northern margin, far from marine influence.

Bulbs in the Sonoran Desert (cont'd)

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stems of *C. kennedyi* broke and it was not possible to find the corms. Our lower-desert *Calochortus* sprout in the fall after the first rains.

Hesperocallis undulata grows in southern Arizona in sandy bottoms and on dunes, in extremely arid conditions with minimal and almost entirely winter rainfall. Flatter and sandy areas stay moist longer than slopes and rocky soils; maybe this is a clue to its cultivation. It is known as the Ajo lily. According to Gene Joseph of Plants for the Southwest in Tucson, it will sprout and grow here but doesn't flower. Perhaps like many large bulbous plants it needs lots of root room. My rocky soil is completely wrong for this plant but I want to try putting it in very deep containers.

Datura innoxia is our local Jimson weed. It grows from a big underground storage root so I think it belongs in this discussion. It looks fantastic in a xerophytic landscape, with dark green triangle leaves and great numbers of huge white fragrant night-blooming trumpets. It would also be good as a pot plant or spilling out of a large tall urn. It will sprawl to twelve feet across or more and four feet high with regular but not plentiful water, but it is easy to keep much smaller. I prune most of my plants by cutting entire branches back to the ground. I do this to keep them in bounds but also to keep fruits from forming. It must be grown from seed and seedlings must be transplanted with root ball fully intact, so peat pots or paper cups are required. I don't sprout it deliberately since it reseeds here. I allow it to grow throughout a desert wash on my property. Its only drawbacks are the thorny fruits, its relatively short lifespan of three to seven years, and the fact that it's toxic if eaten.

Animals leave it alone but people try to use it for fun, and sometimes die. The plant is harmless to touch.

A few exotic bulbs are easy to grow; some need a little extra care; some grow but don't bloom; and almost none of the "spring bulbs" popular in the eastern US bloom even once. In the first category, Mexican immigrants brought with them a white-flowered *Crinum*, which is still common in lawns in the barrios. Many of these neighborhoods date to the early 1900s. The *Crinum* flower every spring when it warms up a bit, and occasionally through the summer. I

don't know *Crinum* species well enough to identify the plant. Propagation is easy: Gardeners dig up a bulb from the outside of the clump and pass it along. Some of the bulbs are as big as volleyballs.

Also bulletproof is a dark red form of *Rhodophiala bifida*. This normally winter-growing plant tolerates heavy summer watering and blooms reliably every year. It offsets well. I have not tried other forms of the plant but will soon - I recently received some seed through the PBS Bulb Exchange. Bulbs are usually available in our better nurseries in the fall. Mine have never set seed, and I assume they are the common sterile variety.

Narcissus won't survive here beyond a few years - other than the common paperwhite. I am among those who love its fragrance. I planted mine over 20 years ago in an irrigated bed and they still return every year. They bloom for me sometime between December and March. Foliage survives until it's good and hot, which varies from March to June. Mine set seed regularly, though I have not tried growing it.

Moraea polystachya (see photo next page) grows and blooms with abandon during cool weather and reseeds all over the garden. It's a small-scale, pretty plant, wonderful for xeric landscapes. It doesn't usually escape from gardens because it needs more water than we get as rain.

In the middling-care group, *Polianthes tuberosa*, the Mexican tuberose, was loved by the Aztecs but has never been found in the wild. It is

in the Agave family together with (non-bulbous) Agave, Manfreda, Nolina and Yucca. Like so many plants it won't take our sun all day long. It does very well with morning sun or dappled light. It requires frost protection during severe cold snaps; I grow it in large pots that can be moved, and in beds against the house. It blooms here in August; bloom is best with regular feeding; otherwise it just requires regular water during the growing season. It survives severe desiccation

at the cost of next year's bloom. Like its Agave relatives, an individual rosette blooms only once and then dies; plants clump quickly so this is not noticed. I have not tried *Polianthes geminiflora*. Local experts say it seldom lasts more than one or two years.

Hippeastrum hybrids do well and take a little more sun and a little more frost than tuberose. They do better in the ground than in pots. On my way to work I drive by a house with an east-facing bed filled with a red and white striped

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Above: *Hesperocallis undulata*, photo by Carole Dearman. Below: *Rhodophiala bifida* flourishes in Lee Poulsen's Southern California garden. Photo by Lee Poulsen.



Bulbs in the Sonoran Desert (cont'd)

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clone. Gardening is clearly not the occupant's hobby but the Hipps grow just fine. Bulbs bought for winter forcing have had their roots amputated; they bloom once with the preformed flowers and then struggle for a year or more to establish more roots. If they survive, once well-rooted, they should grow and bloom regularly. Plant so the equator of the bulb is above the soil line and fertilize plentifully.

Bearded iris do well so long as summer irrigation is avoided. Natural rain is tolerable because temperatures are a little lower during storms, but just a little bit of water on the crown during really hot weather leads to rot. Bulbous Dutch Iris bloom for one or two years and disappear. I am just about to try some hybrid *Oncocyclus* irises, which should do well with our hellishly hot summers.

Lilium hybrids are very tricky. They really need cool feet and regular water. People here with irrigated lawns and shrub borders often plant out each year's Easter lilies and keep them going among the shrubs. When I was able to provide a dwarf orange lily such conditions in a pot it grew and bloomed for a few years. One spring I forgot to move it back from the advancing sun and it cooked in a few days. I have a well-situated bed where I would like to plant some lilies but I haven't had the time to plant them when bulbs were available. Maybe this fall.

I'd like to point out that bananas grow from large underground corm-like structures. I regard them as fair game here. I harvest bunches of delicious bananas each year. I grow dwarf varieties, fruiting at 7 feet or less, which are easier to protect from frost and wind. I site them against my house, and drape frost cloth from my roof to the ground during cold spells. The house looks like something Christo might have done. Each stem grows for about a year and then develops a terminal inflorescence. After

flowering and fruiting the stem will die, but the corms produce new shoots all the time. Important to remember: for best fruit production, shoots should be pruned out so each plant has no more than three shoots at one time - one bearing this year, one next, and one the year after that. If bananas here are shredded by wind or frozen to the ground they will recover but will not fruit for another 18 months or so. During active growth they require regular water; mine get watered



Moraea polystachya grows well in Mary Sue Ittner's Northern California garden. Photo by Bob Rutemoeller.

every 4-5 days during the summer. They don't need swampy conditions. Bananas are extremely heavy feeders. I have been told they are impossible to burn with fertilizer. Proper fertilization leads to production of one new leaf per week per shoot. With less fertilizer shoots grow slower and take more than a year to fruit. Bananas need almost no water and no fertilizer once temperatures drop below 50 F. Specialty nurseries sell corms and potted plants are often available. Bananas require very careful transplanting and are slow to establish. Transplanting should only be done during warm weather. If overwatered after transplanting but before well-established they are at risk of rotting. Once they are growing they are unstoppable. The standard Cavendish variety found in our gro-

cery stores is one of the least-flavorful bananas; it does ship well. I recommend the variety Raja Puri, a natural dwarf that produces bunches of 72-96 angular, smallish but wonderful bananas borne in hands of six each. There is also a Super Dwarf Cavendish that will fruit in a 3-gallon or smaller pot.

If you're really crazy for the tropical look but have too much frost, I have friends in St. Louis who grow standard bananas in their lawns during the summer.

Each fall they host a banana digging party. The cluster is undermined, a tarp pulled underneath, and the crowd pulls the bunch into the basement where it rests dry over the winter. The following spring the bunch is relocated to the lawn.

The grows-but-doesn't-bloom category leads off with *Amaryllis belladonna*. I have it in desert landscapes on drip irrigation and in a planter bed with regular irrigation. Some bulbs went in 20 years ago. It returns each year but I have had only one bloom stalk once. (It made seed which I am growing on.) It clearly does better with some summer water but beyond that I don't know how to bloom it reliably. Also in this category belong *Chlidanthus*, *Ismene* and *Pancratium*. They grow strongly during their season but that's it. Another Mexican native,

Sprekelia formosissima, grows well here but hasn't bloomed. On expert advice from the PBS forum I am moving mine to much bigger pots, which I hope will be the key.

Won't grow here at all: hybrid tulips try to bloom when it's already warm to hot and humidity is 10% or less. Often buds don't even open, or they produce dried flowers. Hyacinths and crocus do the same. *Muscari* bloom for one or two years and disappear. *Tigridia* grow beautifully during spring; on the first 110 degree day they die en masse. *Cyclamen* are winter annuals. I wouldn't dream of trying *Galanthus*. Many African winter-rainfall bulbs grow well for me from seed in containers. I must protect them from summer rains, so I keep them in pots. But this article is already long, so that will have to wait for another day.

My Favorite Tools

Robin gardens in North Bend, Oregon just east of the Pacific Ocean on a property sheltered by dunes and conifers (slightly colder and hotter than USDA zone 9). She grows and sells Cyclamen and a few other Oregon native plants. Send an e-mail to hansennursery@coosnet.com for her plant list.

A tour of my greenhouse may cause a puzzled look or two from folks passing the potting bench. The oddities that appear are as much a result of inventive inertia as of cheapskate habits. (Do I really want to go to town... or I know none of the stores have what I need... or a trip to town will take too much time, gas, etc. for one little item?)

Some may rightly call this laziness, but it's really quite interesting to find that any number of ordinary household items will substitute nicely for fancy imported garden tools. Take the lowly fork – I was looking for something to scrape back the pumice used as topdressing in some pots in order to pluck out tiny weeds. At the time, I may have been cleaning up camping gear and stowing the eating utensils back in their cloth rollup pouch. A fork is not only a good weeding tool, but it's good for scratching in top dressed fertilizer!

Then along came a perfectly good plastic three-edged tent peg, turned up when I was leveling ground where the greenhouse now sits. It's perfect as a dibble for

transplanting larger seedlings and small bulbs. Butcher knives - the cheap ones that never take a good edge and are worthless in the kitchen – are much easier for slicing off the bottoms of pot bound plants than laboriously hacking away with the pruning shears.

For some time I'd tried to visualize a large flat pan sort of container where I could place new transplants to soak up water. I was thinking about those aluminum pans water heaters sit on, but they have holes in the sides. Then one



Robin gets ready to garden!

day, I decided to check them out, and found heavy pliable square white plastic pans, with, yes, screw-in plugs.

Of course, there are all those perfectly mundane plastic thingies: margarine tubs, powdered detergent scoops, and 5-gallon buckets of mayonnaise (without the mayonnaise). And concrete building blocks - what wonderfully versatile items these are. Ten blocks over the rear axle of my truck give me weight enough for slippery roads in the winter, then convert to the base of the potting bench complete with cubby holes for extra plant tags and jars of rooting hormone or, if you don't want to be bothered to make your own troughs, planters for rock garden plants.

While I suppose it would occasionally be nice to have one of those shining stainless tools we all see in Smith and Hawkins or A.E. Leonard, the tools I find work just as well. When I lose them, which happens a little too often, there's always something else at hand.

Income Statement

BALANCE 12/31/07	\$ 26,150.65
INCOME	
U.S. Members	\$ 2,860.00
Overseas Members	\$ 575.00
Contributions	\$ 28.30
BX Receipts	\$ 4,370.73
Total Income	\$ 7,834.03
EXPENSES	
BX/SX Expense	\$ (1,963.00)
Publications	
Newsletter Vol. 6 #1	
Postage	\$ (105.87)
Printing supplies	\$ (632.89)
Book review	\$ (50.00)
Labor expense	\$ (290.00)
Subtotal	\$ (1,078.76)
Newsletter Vol. 7 #1	
Printing	\$ (680.00)
Postage	\$ (115.90)
Contributors' Stipends	\$ (80.00)
Subtotal	\$ (875.90)
Newsletter Vol. 7 #2	
Printing	\$ (925.00)
Postage	\$ (114.00)
Contributors' stipends	\$ (95.00)
Subtotal	\$ (1,134.00)
Total Publications	\$ (3,088.66)
Total Expenses	\$ (5,051.66)
Investments results	\$ (2,021.31)
Total reductions	\$ (7,072.97)
Adjustment	\$ 46.52
BALANCE 6/30/08	\$ 26,958.23

PBS Elections

The candidates for board of directors this year are as follows:

President: Jane McGary
Vice President: Paul Machado
Treasurer: Arnold Trachtenberg
Secretary: Pam Slate

Elections will be held ONLINE in November via the listserv—watch for instructions! IF (and only if) you are not online, please cut out this box, circle your choices, and mail to: Jennifer Hildebrand, 31 E. 6th St., Dunkirk, NY 14048. Thanks to our elections committee for their hard work!

Fall Bulbs in Greece and Turkey



All photos by Jane McGary. Above: *Cyclamen graecum*;



Sternbergia lutea



Crocus baytopiorum



Galanthus peshmenii



Sternbergia lutea



Cyclamen graecum



All photos by Jane McGary. This page, clockwise from top left: *Crocus niveus*, *C. goulimyi*, *C. mathewii*, *C. asumania*, *C. biflorus* ssp. *wattiorum*, *C. pallasii*.



All photos by Jane McGary. This page, clockwise from top left: *Colchicum parlatoris*, *C. psaridis*, *C. variegatum*, *C. sanguicolle*, *C. species - Turkey*, *C. boissieri*, *C. cupani* (center).

Gardening with Bulbs



Phaselis ruins. Photo by Jane McGary

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The Bulb Garden is the newsletter of the Pacific Bulb Society (PBS). It is published about the third week of each quarter (unless articles are not submitted) and is available to PBS members. This newsletter provides gardening or bulb related articles, news of interest to members, and announcements of the PBS organization.

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