

The Bulb Garden



~Gardening with Bulbs ~

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What's Inside...

- > Legacy Bulbs, or, What Will Grow in Your Garden? by Kathleen Sayce, p. 2
- > Bookaholic on a Budget, by Robin Hansen, p. 8
- > Books by the Greenhouse Sitting Place, by Marguerite English, p. 10

Lilies of Quarryhill

William A. McNamara and Howard Higson

Every fall for the past twenty-three years William McNamara, director of Quarryhill Botanical Garden (visit the website at www.quarryhillbg.org), has undertaken expeditions to China, Japan, and the Himalayan areas of northern India, collecting seed and voucher specimens for the benefit of Quarryhill and many other institutions. He received the 2009 Eloise Payne Luquer Medal from the Garden Club of America and the Scott Garden and Horticulture Medal and Award for 2010.

Howard Higson joined Quarryhill in 2001 as head of horticulture and curator. Previously, he was production manager at Marquard Gardens, a small wholesale nursery in Santa Rosa, California, specializing in small containerized herbs and herb topiary. He received his master's degree in horticulture from the University of Minnesota and his bachelor's in biology from UC Davis. — Ed.

I often refer to our garden as my little piece of Eden. The many lilies that thrive here reaffirm this to me every spring, summer, and fall. They grace our garden with their elegance at a time when our many shrubs and trees have finished their spring flowering. Their

stems rise up through our perennials and low shrubs as if to greet me at the edge of our pathways throughout the garden. The pleasing colors, shapes, and fragrance of their flowers cool the senses during the intense heat of our summers. As the leaves wither on their stout stems in the fall, they remind me of the fleeting nature of life. But as the pods open

and the seeds scatter in the wind, I am also reminded of the bounty and renewal that the next spring will bring.

This Eden I refer to is better known as Quarryhill Botanical Garden, located near Glen Ellen, California, a small town in Sonoma County wine country located halfway between the town of Sonoma and Santa Rosa, in the picturesque Valley of the Moon. At twenty years of age since its first plantings, Quarryhill boasts more than 1,200 species and almost

2,500 living accessions, the vast majority of which are of wild origin. Its late founder, Jane Davenport Jansen, originally conceived of the garden as her private sanctuary of East Asian plants, sourced through yearly seed-collecting expeditions to China and Japan in conjunction with other such prestigious institutions as England's Kew Gardens in Surrey and the Howick Arboretum in Northumberland.

(continued to page four)

"In late June and July it is possible to walk for days through a veritable wild garden dominated by these beautiful flowers"

-E. H. Wilson,
China ~ Mother of Gardens

Legacy Bulbs, or, What Will Survive in Your Garden?

Kathleen Sayce

Kathleen Sayce gardens on a sand dune next to Willapa Bay in southwest Washington, a Pacific Northwest location that is usually zone 8, sometimes zone 9, and historically was zone 7, with dry summers and wet winters. Species in Liliaceae and Iridaceae are her favorite plants, followed by all things bulbaceous and native plants in general. When not gardening, she hikes, birdwatches, bikes, and goes on natural history forays in the lower Columbia River area. Her day job is Science Officer at ShoreBank Pacific, a bank that focuses on sustainable business development. — Ed.

Legacy bulbs occupy a delicate position between enduring and thriving in a garden or dominating it and the neighborhood. My curiosity in these bulbs was triggered one day in winter 2010 when I went out to check on a population of “white-flowered scillas” a friend had mentioned. She’d been seeing a wash of white flowers down a forested hillside on the way to work for weeks. I had a free day; the weather was moderate, so I went to check on it.

My friend lives inland from the coast on the Naselle River, which flows to Willapa Bay; she drives to work on Highways 101 and 401, along the north side of the Columbia River. She’d seen the bulbs from Highway 401, just past the crest of a hill, as the road came down a long slope above the Columbia, more than ten miles northeast of Astoria, Oregon. As I parked at a logging gate on the highway hundreds of feet above the river, I could see east Astoria and a huge sweep of bay, shipping channel, freshwater marshes to the south, and timbered hills on both sides of the river. A long carpet of white flowers was visible from the road, falling from a shady, flat-topped ridge down to a small stream in drifts, patches, and clumps.

These were double-flowered snowdrops, *Galanthus nivalis* ‘flore pleno’, and they did indeed spread down a hillside from a former homestead to a small streamside valley. Elk move up and down the hillside and along the stream on a trail, carrying bulbs around

in clayey mud stuck to their hooves. The entire patch is more than one hundred yards long, with thousands of individual bulbs. Further evidence of the former homestead was present in *Narcissus* and *Hyacinthoides* shoots around the remnants of the original building. Yes, a few of those bulbs somehow stuck to my boots and came back with me.

On my way home, I stopped by a historic military fort, now Fort Columbia State Park, to talk to staff, and I mentioned the identity of that wash of white flowers down the hillside, growing a few miles upriver from the fort. We ended up touring the Civil War era fort to see what bulbs might be up, and saw *Hyacinthoides*, *Narcissus*, *Muscari*, *Ornithogalum*, and a

patch of *Amaryllis belladonna* foliage, tucked up against a south-facing sunny wall. The last has probably been there for more than century.

Thus are born obsessions of curiosity. I went to my computer and asked a question of the PBS wiki: what species persist where bulbs live long after gardeners, gardens, and homes are gone? I received dozens of replies from around the world, across six or seven hardiness zones, and in many climate regimes.

I researched other sources, in books and on the web, the



Galanthus nivalis ‘flore pleno’. Photo by David Pilling.

Flora of North America, and the USDA Plants National Database, for comments on naturalized (in the botanical sense) and weedy species. Again and again, I found comments that a particular species “is probably far more widely naturalized than is realized.” It seems that naturalized bulbs are like mice; if you see one, there are probably tens to hundreds more nearby.

I checked global weed compendia and found well-behaved hardiness zone 8 bulbs that are noxious weeds in zone 9. Some like dry summers, some like damp summers. Some want damp sand; others, clay that bakes bone dry in summer. Weedy bulbs in agriculture are another trove of information. I began to compile lists by genus and found that *Allium* species are outstanding weeds in some climates and barely hang on in others. Likewise, *Ornithogalum*—they sit

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Legacy Bulbs, or, What Will Survive in Your Garden? (cont'd)

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and sulk or they dominate. There's not much middle ground.

Bulbs are grown all over the world because of the allure of the new and exotic, along with general bulbophilia, but there is also something innately satisfying about growing "old" bulbs. In a sense, most bulbs are old; many have been grown for hundreds to thousands of years. Think about how long gardeners have grown *Allium*, *Iris*, *Lilium*, *Tulipa*. There is something pleasing to me as a gardener to grow plants that have been grown by others for thousands of years. Or to grow a species that is native to the Caucasus, Altai Pamir, Tien Shan, Cascade or Siskiyou Mountains, or the Andes. Old in a garden, and yet also exotic, at the same time.

What I knew about bulbs began to seem very Eurocentric. Blackberry lily, *Iris belamcanda*, has a long history of cultivation in China, yet with my own resources at hand, I could not find out how long it has been cultivated; likewise oca, *Oxalis tuberosa*, from the Andes. Both have probably been grown for millennia, but for exactly how long?

Jane McGary discussed on the blog how toxicity is important to persistence for bulbs. This is true for many genera, such as *Amaryllis*, *Colchicum*, *Crinum*, *Hyacinthoides*, *Muscari*, and *Narcissus*. Yet not all legacy bulbs are toxic. Persistent edibles or medicinals include *Allium*, *Brodiaea*, *Camas*, *Fritillaria*, *Hippeastrum*, *Lilium*, and *Oxalis*. Even *Crocus* and *Tulipa* persist as legacy bulbs despite being highly edible to some animals.

Other bulbs that persist in gardens are those native to the region or that come from very similar climates.

Thus, native species of *Arum*, *Crinum*, *Erythronium*, *Lilium*, *Trillium*, several rain lilies, and others do well in the North American Midwest and Southeast. In the American Southeast, some bulbs do so well (yet not so well so as to be considered weeds) that they are called pass-along plants (*Crinum*, *Lycoris*), passed from gardener to gardener as gifts and less commonly sold commercially. A host of genera from the Mediterranean does excellently throughout the warmer parts of Europe, where these



Iris domestica, also known as *Belamcanda chinensis*.
Photo by Jay Yourch.

are also native. Meanwhile, on the West Coast of North America, native species of *Brodiaea* (including those moved to new genera), *Camas*, *Erythronium*, *Lilium*, and *Trillium* flourish.

South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and California share much climatically, and a raft of South African bulbs from summer dry climates have achieved weed status (*Crocasmia*, *Gladiolus*, *Watsonia*, for example) outside their natal ranges in these areas. Those zone 9-to-10 areas

have the ability to grow so many bulbs so well that these gardeners are envied by those in cooler zones. Likewise, in the American Southeast and Australia, South African bulbs from summer-wet areas have found second homes in similar climates.

Here are some guidelines for choosing bulbs to become your garden's legacy.

First, look at the families with potent toxins, such as Amaryllidaceae and Hyacinthaceae, including genera such as *Colchicum*, *Crinum*, *Galanthus*, *Hyacinth*, *Leucojum*, *Narcissus*, *Scilla*, and many others. Second, look at what is native in or near your region.

Third, look carefully at which species become noxious weeds in your hardiness zone around the world. If you are worried about introducing potential weeds, pick those species that are not known to be weedy when growing at least one zone warmer than your garden. Problem genera may include *Allium*, *Crocasmia*, *Gladiolus*, *Ornithogalum*, *Oxalis*, and *Watsonia*. Not all species are necessarily problematic in these genera.

Finally, try to match growing conditions. Snowdrops like year-round moisture and partial shade. It's no accident that they are happy in the Willapa Hills of southwest Washington: they are growing on a shady, perennially damp hillside in silty clay—just what snowdrops prefer.

The few weeks I spent on this topic revealed that there is much more to learn. Keep posting your comments to the PBS group, and I will keep compiling them. Thanks, everyone, for taking the time to write to the PBS group about legacy bulbs in your area.

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Lilies of Quarryhill (cont'd)

(continued from page one)

Quarryhill is dedicated to the conservation, study, and cultivation of the temperate flora of Asia, an aspiration that Jane pursued tirelessly with the help and guidance of numerous botanists and plant hunters until her untimely death in 2000. Now a nonprofit open to the public, Quarryhill continues to pursue Jane's vision for the benefit of conservationists, researcher scientists, botanists, and an ever-increasing throng of delighted visitors making their way to this wonderland of Asian flora.

Quarryhill continues to pursue Jane's vision for the benefit of conservationists, researcher scientists, botanists, and an ever-increasing throng of delighted visitors making their way to this wonderland of Asian flora.

All of our lilies are from Quarryhill-sponsored expeditions to China and Japan and, with few exceptions, of wild origin. Only seed and bulbils were collected due to our firm policy of not disturbing the natural habitat by digging and removing plants. Of the more than ninety species of lilies in the world, about half occur in China and Japan. Almost a third of the world total occurs in the three provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, and Xizang (Tibet) in China. This region is considered to be the major world center of distribution for the genus *Lilium*. We have been fortunate to explore this part of China on numerous occasions. Seeing lilies in their natural habitat has been instrumental in our success at cultivating them. Almost always, we found them growing in full sun on



rocky, fast-draining, steep mountainsides. Moreover, they always occurred in areas of relatively high summer rainfall followed by a dry winter.

The lilies at Quarryhill begin blooming in May with the magnificent white trumpets of *Lilium leucanthum* Baker. Leucanthum means "white flowered." The robust stems grow four to seven feet tall with six to ten sweetly scented large flowers. We found this lily in September of 1988 in northern Sichuan south of the town of Pingwu. It was growing



on a south-facing mountainside at an elevation of 2,340 feet. The stems were about four feet tall and were found among dense regenerating shrubs.

The deep orange *Lilium davidii* Elwes are the next to display their elegance.

Clockwise from top left: *Lilium leucanthum*, *Lilium davidii*, *Lilium japonicum*. Photos by Liam McNamara.



They start blooming in June on stems three to four feet high with five to twenty-three flowers. Their recurved tepals are covered with tiny black dots. This lily is named after the French missionary Père Armand David. As with much of the flora of western China, he was the first westerner to come across this floral gem. We found this lily growing at the Maowen Research Station in northern Sichuan at an elevation of 6,080 feet in October of 1995. The plants there had been collected in Gansu Province and were growing in full sun to about four feet tall.

As the *Lilium davidii* fade, the choice pink trumpets of *Lilium japonicum* Thunberg ex Houttuyn arise. These start blooming in late June with nodding delicate trumpets on stems about three feet high with

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Lilies of Quarryhill (cont'd)

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one or two flowers. Japonicum refers to its native home, Japan. There it grows on mountain slopes up to an elevation of 3,400 feet in southern Honshu. K. Ogaki gave seed of this lily to us in October of 1989 in Osaka, Japan. He collected them at an elevation of 500 feet at Osaka-sayama, Osaka, in southern Honshu, Japan. Sadly, of all our lilies, only this one lacks vigor and is not regenerating by offsets or bulblets.

Next, a flurry of lilies arrives at the end of June beginning with the highly fragrant trumpets of *Lilium regale* Wilson. These bloom on stems to about three feet with one to six white flowers with a yellow throat. This lily has a very limited natural range along the Min River in northern Sichuan and was first introduced in 1903 by E. H. Wilson, the famous English plant hunter. Regale means "royal" and Wilson considered this plant to be one of his most important introductions. As he was dashing from an avalanche during an expedition in 1910 to re-collect this lily on the steep mountainsides along the Min River, his leg was broken in two places. His previous collection from 1903 had rotted in the ship's hold in route to America. His leg did not set right, leaving him with one leg slightly shorter than the other. For the rest of his life, he suffered from what he called his "lily limp." We found this lily in October of 1995 near the town of Tao Guang above the Min River in northern Sichuan. It was growing in full sun on a southeast-facing rocky outcrop with *Desmodium*, *Buddleja*, *Ceratostigma*, and *Bauhinia* at 3,750 feet of elevation.

The fragrant *Lilium brownii* F. E. Brown ex Miellez also starts flowering in late June. Large rosy purple trumpets that are white inside bloom on sturdy stems three to five feet high. Ours have from one to ten flowers each. This lily first arrived in England in 1835, where F. E. Brown, an English nurseryman, was the first to flower it. This lily has been

cultivated for centuries in China for its edible bulbs as well as for medicine. We made several collections of this lily in September and October of 1996 in eastern Sichuan and western Hubei. All were in sun in very exposed sites, often on a cliff face, at between 1,470 to 3,200 feet of elevation.

The dainty turk's-cap *Lilium duchartrei* Franchet likewise begins to open in late June. These precious lilies bloom on arching stems two to four feet high with two to six pendent white flowers with red spots. Père Armand David also introduced this lily from China in 1869. It is named after Pierre Etienne Duchartre, a French professor of botany. We found this lily north of Songpan at an elevation of 8,000 feet in northern Sichuan in September of 1988. It was growing in an open valley of dense shrubs with scattered pines near the Beishui River.

Lilium sargentiae Wilson is our next lily to flower. These bloom on stems three to four feet tall crowded with bulbils in the axils. Each has one to seven large, white, highly perfumed six-inch trumpets with yellow throats. Named after the wife of Charles Sprague Sargent, the first director of the Arnold Arboretum, this lily was introduced by E. H. Wilson in 1903 from Sichuan, China. We collected this lily twice in 1991. The first time was in September just east of the Erlang Shan at 2,750 feet of elevation in western Sichuan from a plant six feet high. It was growing on a vertical south-facing granite cliff. The seed was not ripe, but there were several bulbils along the stem. The second time was in October in western Sichuan on an east-facing mountainside above the town of Luding across the Luding Bridge. They were about three feet tall growing among dense regenerating shrubs at an elevation of 4,400 feet.

July is ushered in with the huge audacious *Lilium auratum* Lindley. These giant ten-inch flowers bloom on stems three to five feet high. Their out-facing

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Top: *Lilium regale*; Middle: *Lilium duchartrei*;
Bottom: *Lilium auratum*. Photographs by Liam McNamara.

Lilies of Quarryhill (cont'd)

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pure white blossoms have a central golden-yellow band and are dotted with ruby spots. The species name of this popular Japanese lily means "ornamented with gold." Several varieties have long been cultivated and it is widely used in hybridization. We found this splendid lily in October of 1987 in Aokigahara, Honshu, Japan. It was growing in a steep valley in an open, mixed deciduous forest at an elevation of 3,000 feet.

In a pleasing contrast with the massive flowers of *Lilium auratum*, the delicate light yellow blossoms of *Lilium lophophorum* Franchet (right) reach up above

the surrounding foliage. On stems one to two feet high are two small lantern-shaped nodding flowers. The meaning of lophophorum is "wearing a crest." It was given to this lily due to the fringes along the nectaries. This lily occurs at very high elevations in Si-



chuan, Yunnan, Gansu, and Xizang (Tibet), occasionally as high as 15,000 feet. We found it in October of 1988 at 13,000 feet on Zheduo Pass in western Sichuan. It



was a foot high on a bare, open, east-facing alpine meadow with *Gentiana*, *Pedicularis*, and *Potentilla*.

August brings the curious orange *Lilium henryi* Baker (left) with their dense whisker-like papillae and a dark stripe at the base of the tepal. These

pendent turk's-cap lilies have as many as fifteen blossoms on three- to four-foot stems. Henryi refers to Augustine Henry, an Irish plant explorer who first

introduced this lily from China. Like *L. auratum*, *L. henryi* has been used extensively in hybridization. We collected ours in September of 1996 in southeastern Sichuan near the town of Ma Wu. It was growing to three feet high in an open, east-facing hillside with regenerating trees and shrubs at 2,200 feet elevation.

Next, the garden bursts into a sea of the orange tiger lily *Lilium leichtlinii* Hooker f. var. *maximowiczii* (Regel) Baker (right). Their stems rise up over six feet, topped with a large raceme with up to thirty black-spotted turk's-cap flowers.



This lily is named after the German botanist Max Leichtlin and the Russian botanist Carl Maximowicz. It is native to the mountains of Japan, Korea, north-eastern China, and far-eastern Russia. We collected ours on an exposed mountainside covered with shrubs and low-growing sasa near Nose-mura, Honshu, Japan, at 4,000 feet of elevation.

In mid-August as you tire of this plethora of orange,



the stunning huge pink flowers of *Lilium speciosum* Thunberg var. *speciosum* (left) start opening. Their stems are four to seven feet high with as many as twenty-five fragrant blossoms. The strongly reflexed tepals are bright pink with carmine spots. This lily is found in

southern Japan and southeastern China and was first introduced from Japan in 1830. It is aptly named, as *speciosum* means "splendid" or "brilliant." We collected ours in October of 1989 on Yokogura San, Shikoku, Japan, at an elevation of 2,300 feet. It was in full sun on the edge of a woodland.

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Lilies of Quarryhill (cont'd)

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And finally, the wonderful towering stems, some over eight feet tall, of *Lilium formosanum* Wallace arrive at the end of summer. These six-inch gorgeous white trumpets with up to seven on a stem are a crowning finale to a summer of lilies. Like an encore performance, some of them keep blooming into December. Its name refers to the island of Formosa, now called Taiwan, where it is native. We collected ours from naturalized plants near Nagoya in Honshu, Japan, in 1987.

More recent additions to the garden include:

Lilium callosum, native to lower elevations of eastern China, Japan, Korea, and Russia – an unusually wide latitudinal range for lilies – is rare in cultivation. The small, nodding flowers sport petals that are recurved backward to form a complete circle, revealing weighty, pollen-laden anthers within, all richly colored a deep, brick red with black-spotted throats and appearing in midsummer.

Lilium dauricum, with a similar wide range to the north but not nearly so far south in China, is a striking beauty, reminiscent of the tiger lily in coloration. Its colorful, erect blossoms appear in very early summer, rising above a whorl of linear, rich green leaves fringed with wooly hairs, displaying tepals that narrow at the base or "claw" to reveal the separate and beautiful outline of each. The color is vermilion or red with purple-red spots and, rarely, yellow claws (pictured). This may be the first East



Asian lily to have reached western gardens.

Lilium tigrinum (accepted by some as *L. lancifolium*), the renowned tiger lily and most endemically widespread lily of China, is widely cultivated there for its



edible bulbs and medicinal uses. "The Flower which Turns its Head to See its Offspring"* produces bulbils in its leaf axils, setting it apart from the otherwise very similar *L. leichtlinii* var. *maximowiczii*. It is native to China, Japan, and Korea and displays recurved tepals of

vermillion-orange color, with dark purple spots.

Lilium han-sonii has been planted at Quarryhill, but is not yet established, and we still hope to add this ravishing beauty to our collection. This strongly fragrant lily prefers light



shade, unlike its sun-loving cousins, and hails from Ul-lung Island in Korea. Its brilliant yellow, thick and fleshy tepals curve away and curl in at the edges, displaying large brown spots on the inner surfaces. With a generous four to twelve flowers per stem, this lily should make

(continued to page eleven)

Clockwise from top left: *Lilium formosanum*, *Lilium dauricum*, *Lilium callosum*. Photos by Liam NeNamara, Marci McMillan, and Peter Clements.

* from the *Qun Fang Pu* ("Register of All Sweet Flowers"), ca. 1621

Bookaholic on a Budget

Robin Hansen

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. To ask questions or request her plant list, send an email to robin@hansennursery.com. — Ed.

As most gardeners know, just growing a few flowers, shrubs, and trees is never enough, because growing be-

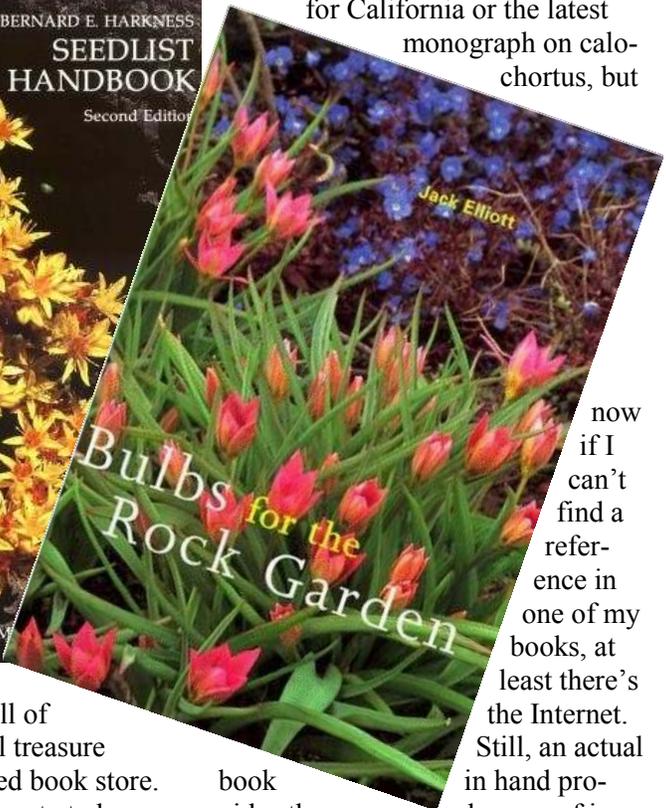
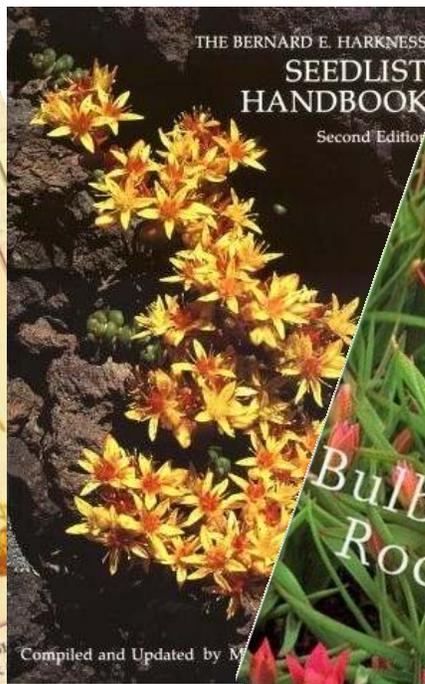
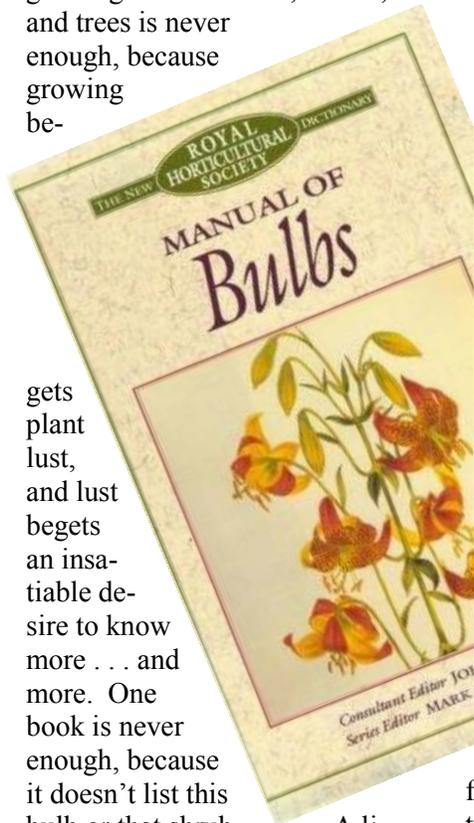
gets plant lust, and lust begets an insatiable desire to know more . . . and more. One book is never enough, because it doesn't list this bulb or that shrub. A library becomes a necessity, but insatiable desires must be tempered to some degree by such mundane affairs as budgets. So along with the plant lust came the book lust, which is when reality became a fallen log on the trail. Creativity was the saw I needed since I was determined to get what I wanted.

My first encounter with the

possibilities of getting what I wanted (and staying on a budget) came at Powell's Book Store in Portland, Oregon, when I discovered a little magenta-colored book on cyclamen, printed in 1958 in Great Britain, available for \$7.50. By that time, I had decided to specialize in growing cyclamen, so I was anxious to find as much information as possible. That was the first used book I bought, and although I have from time to time bought new books, there is nothing

Some of my finds, like Roy Genders' *Bulbs, A Complete Handbook*, Bryan and Griffiths' *Manual of Bulbs*, *The Bernard E. Harkness Seedlist Handbook*, and Jack Elliott's *Bulbs for the Rock Garden*, are references I use frequently. Another find was Munz's *A California Flora*, which is very useful here in coastal southern Oregon where I live, since Hitchcock and Cronquist's *Flora of the Pacific Northwest* doesn't cover this area well at all.

One day I'll buy a newer flora for California or the latest monograph on calochortus, but



quite like the thrill of finding some special treasure tucked away in a used book store.

I have been fortunate to buy a number of bulb books very inexpensively. Yes, the botanic names may change and change again, but what is so wonderful about plant books is that whatever name is used is followed by other names the plant is or was known by. Consequently, plant books remain useful almost forever, unlike books on first aid or television repair.

book provides the instant gratification (very important when you can only get dial-up service) and long-lasting entertainment when it's too wet to be out in the garden. And for identifying an unknown flower there's nothing like a beautifully drawn botanical illustration, which is often better than any photograph.

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Board of Directors Meeting, February 2010

This one was quick and easy! Treasurer Arnold Trachtenberg had nothing new to report at this time and stated that the year-end statement will appear in the next newsletter (v9 n2).

Dell Sherk and the entire board expressed thanks to Michael Homick for assisting with the BX by taking on the responsibility of conducting the year-end seed sale.

Jane McGary reported that when we get a description of the duties and methods of the Membership Director we will have a complete set of BOD job descriptions. This led to a discussion of how we could recruit new members. This topic will be continued at the next board meeting.

The discussion then turned to the possibility of converting membership records to a database. Michael Homick volunteered to make the conversion using Access 2007 and request snail mail and email address changes. Consensus was that, as we are increasingly an electronic society, the ability to blind copy the membership by email as appropriate would be beneficial. The database could be used by appropriate board members for both postal and electronic mailings. This means the Membership Director would need to have a computer with Microsoft Access software and be able to use the program.

The board voted unanimously that the next election will be conducted by electronic ballot. Anyone who is interested in serving as a board member should contact Jane McGary.

Alstroemeria hybrids on SALE at

Flowers and Greens

Go to www.buy-alstroemeria.com
for details.

The selection, Lipstick, is shown below.



Treasurer's Report, First Quarter, 2010

BALANCE 1/1/2010	\$22,223.44
INCOME	
U.S. Members	\$ 920.00
Overseas Members	\$ 200.00
Contributions	\$ 28.00
BX Receipts	\$ 1,055.00
Investment results	\$ 3.24
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 2,206.24
EXPENSES	
BX/SX Expense	\$ (431.81)
Board Conference call	\$ (42.00)
Supplies	\$ (87.00)
Total Publications	\$ (975.00)
PayPal expense	\$ (65.20)
Postage	\$ (263.03)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$(1,864.04)
BALANCE 3/31/2010	\$ 22,565.64

Keep Us Updated!

A new directory of Pacific Bulb Society membership will go out this year. Would you like to make changes to your current entry? Has your phone number or snail mail or email address changed? Have you discovered a new passion and would you like to add that to your entry in the directory?

If you are not sure what your current listing looks like, contact Membership Chair Patricia Colville at patrylis@aol.com and she will send it to you. New members—check with Patty about your listing. **We need your updates by AUGUST 10 at the latest!**



~Gardening with Bulbs~

Books by the Greenhouse Sitting Place

Marguerite English

Marguerite gardens in Descanso, California. Her days are filled with work (she and her daughter have their own business), her garden, and her library. In this issue Marguerite joins Robin in illustrating Cicero's advice: if you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need. — Ed.

I, too, have a love affair with garden books, especially those wonderful coffee table picture books. They make a lovely browse at the end of a busy day. One of my favorites is by Mary E. Gerritsen and Ron Par-

ago, oh my!) and have used it ever since. Some pages are coming out, but it seems to fall open at whatever page I need. I have since tried to keep up to date by purchasing the more recently published *Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California*. Unfortunately, it doesn't cover the southern part of the state as well as my good old Munz, so I usually do my research there, and then use Jepson to confirm name and family changes.

What's been blooming here? Bearded irises! The heavy rains in April brought out their colorful bounty and they bloomed profusely all through May. This bloom fest caused me to search for another old favorite picture book, *Iris: Flower of the Rainbow* by Graeme Grosvenor and Jim Frazier, published by Kangaroo Press in 1997. When I have had to come in from the garden,



sons—*Calochortus: Mariposa Lilies and Their Relatives*, published by Timber Press in 2007. Ron's photos are outstanding and the text is informative. I love the local Mariposa lilies.

Gerritsen discusses each species with history of discovery, habitat, bloom, and distribution. Her book provides an excellent set of keys for identification. There is a chapter on horticulture for those of us who attempt to garden with the species. My local species have started to bloom at lower elevations, but aren't showing along my driveway yet.

Another favorite book is Munz's *A California Flora*. I bought it for my college botany class (45 years

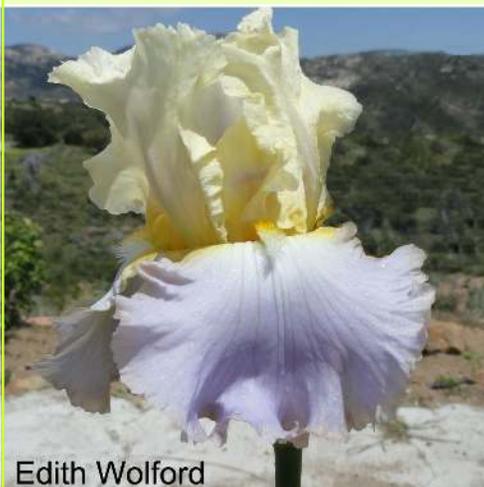


Upper left: *Calochortus splendens*. Upper right: *C. concolor*. Bottom: *C. alba* (Fairy Lantern) growing locally. All photographs by Carole Dearman.

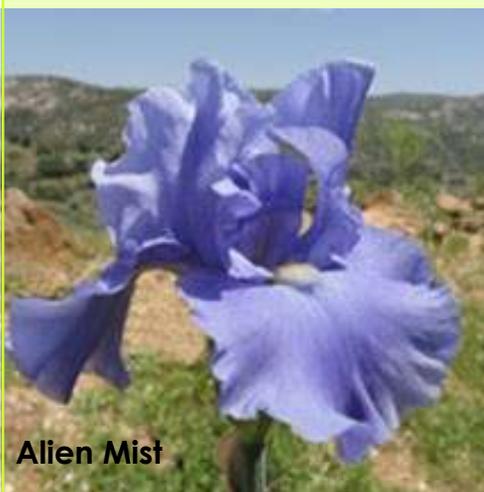
I've poured over the excellent text and photos in this book. Irises are aptly named after the rainbow goddess. There are several new hybrids that promise a second bloom in the fall. I am anxious to try more of these. Their fans will provide a tidy backdrop for my penstemons and salvias all summer long.

* * * * *

What's Blooming in Marguerite's Garden?



Edith Wolford



Alien Mist

Iris 'Edith Wolford' and Iris 'Alien Mist.' Photographs by Carole Dearman.

Contribute to *The Bulb Garden!*

Jamaica Kincaid, the novelist and short-story writer who gardens in Vermont, put together a delightful book called *My Favorite Plant*. She collected essays from the classically famous, such as Colette and D. H. Lawrence, as well as musings by contemporaries like Michael Pollan and Daniel Hinkley. In the same spirit, I invite my bulb-growing friends to send to *The Bulb Garden* a short piece entitled "My Favorite Bulb." You may wax poetic; become nostalgic, melancholic, or pedantic; or amuse us with your misadventures. One paragraph, one page, a whole chapter—we will find room for it. Send it to me, jane@sonic.net, as an email or as a Word attachment. Accompanying photographs are especially welcome! There is no deadline, since this is an ongoing project.

Lilies of Quarryhill (cont'd)

(continued from page seven)

quite a stunning addition to the garden in future years.

Lilies have been cultivated for thousands of years and remain a religious symbol in many parts of the world. They have been grown for food and used in medicine. Mostly, though, they are sought after for their



Lilium hansonii, photo by Derek Ramsey, taken in the pond at the Chanticleer Garden in Wayne, PA.

beauty. Hikers delight in their mountain splendor and gardeners in their extraordinary charm. Because of their vigor and propensity to multiply, we have successfully spread many of our lilies throughout the garden. When strolling through the garden during the summer months, I can't help but

admire the grandeur of these remarkable plants. I like to think of ours at Quarryhill as a tiny remnant of that magical place called Eden.

Note: Portions of this article previously appeared in *LILIES and Related Plants 2003–2004*, published by the Royal Horticultural Society Bulb Group, 2004.

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Gardening with Bulbs



A hummingbird visits *Lilium leichtlinii* var. *maximowiczii*. William A. McNamara and Howard Higson share this and many other “Lilies of Quarryhill” with us in this edition.

Inside This Edition:

Lilies of Quarryhill <i>By McNamara & Higson</i>	1
Legacy Bulbs, or, What Will Survive in Your Garden? <i>By Kathleen Sayce</i>	2
Bookaholic on a Budget <i>By Robin Hansen</i>	8
Books by the Greenhouse Sitting Place <i>By Marguerite English</i>	10

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