



## ADIRONDACK CHAPTER

*North American Rock Garden Society*

# Green Dragon Tales

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**March 2022**

## Christopher Gardener is March Speaker

For our March meeting, ACNARGS will have the wonderful opportunity to travel fabled routes linking Europe and Asia live with Christopher Gardener, who has explored the globe in search of its most intriguing plants. Chris declares this area “the most spectacular floral region on earth.”

***Flora of the Silk Road***  
**Saturday, March 19 at 1:00 PM via Zoom**



Trained to be a professional horticulturist studying at Reading University, England, Christopher worked as a plantsman and garden restorer and landscape designer for fifteen years. In 1998, he co-authored the bestselling book *The Plant Hunters*, about some of the world's great plant explorers. At that time he had no idea that he would eventually join their ranks, circling the globe and having at least one plant species – *Bellevalia chrissi* - named in his honor.



*Chionocharis hookeri*

A lifelong birdwatcher and naturalist, his own fascination with travel brought him into contact with the wildlife, flora and cultures of many exotic countries. He soon became consumed with seeing and identifying plants in the wild and in 1999 began guiding botanical and wildlife tours throughout Turkey, near and Central Asia, China, Chile, Morocco, Borneo and many other countries.



*Bellevalia chrissi*, a new species Chris discovered in the Anti-Taurus mountains

The journey goes through botanical paradises including rugged plateaus, dramatic deserts, vast steppes, and spectacular mountains. We will have the benefit of seeing and learning about rare plants growing in remote and dangerous lands without concern for extremes of weather - or encounters with suspicious authorities. Chris's superb photographs and great depth of knowledge promise to combine in a program you will not want to miss.

Along the way, he met and married Basak who was head of the herbarium at Nezahat Gokyigit Botanic Garden in Istanbul. She joined him in running [Vira Natura Tours](#), based from their home in Turkey. He has led over 150 tours all over the world.

As he journeyed through remote and beautiful lands, Chris' photographic interest and ability grew, leading to the publication with his wife Basak Gardner of 'The Flowers of the Silk Road' (May 2014) a collection of 530 species of beautiful flowers from Turkey to China. This was followed by 'Flora of the Mediterranean' in 2019.

Join us on March 19, as we travel with Christopher through parts of the Silk Road from Turkey into Syria, Iran, the "Stans" in Central Asia and eventually west to China.



*Iris petrana*



*Fritillaria eduardii*

## Letter from the Chair

*John Gilrein, ACNARGS Chair*

It's still winter while I'm writing this, but I'm thinking there will be the first flowers of spring blooming when we have our March meeting. Thoughts of sunshine, spring, and early flowers help us get through the end of winter here in our cold climate.

If you were thinking of registering for the NARGS Annual General Meeting for 2022 in Ithaca and have not done it yet, you should consider registering soon. As I write this in mid-February, there are still openings available. I'll apologize in advance if registration is full when you read the March *Green Dragon*.

Mark your calendar for our spring plant sale: Saturday May 14 at Myer's Park, Lansing, Pavilion B (the same one we've used before).

Since everyone, or almost everyone reading this article is a member of the Adirondack Chapter, you see some benefit in joining with other like-minded gardeners. I know some of us are also members of other garden related organizations; I am a member of several. These groups may be larger or smaller and have an array of benefits; many or most offer cultural information about their plants of interest. I'll share some thoughts on those I have some familiarity with.

Name	Journal	Seed exchange	National/Int'l Meetings	Comments
Alpine Garden Society	x	x	x	1, 2
American Conifer Society	x		x	2, 3
Cyclamen Society	x	x		1
NARGS	x	x	x	2, 3
Primrose Society	x	x	x	
Rhododendron Society	x		x	3
American Rose Society	x		x	1
Scottish Rock Garden Club	x	x	x	1

Key to comments:

1 Offer shows

2 Offer trips to see wild plants

3 Plant sales

Other societies (as you see, some of these are very focused!):

Eriogonum Society

Penstemon Society

Saxifrage Society

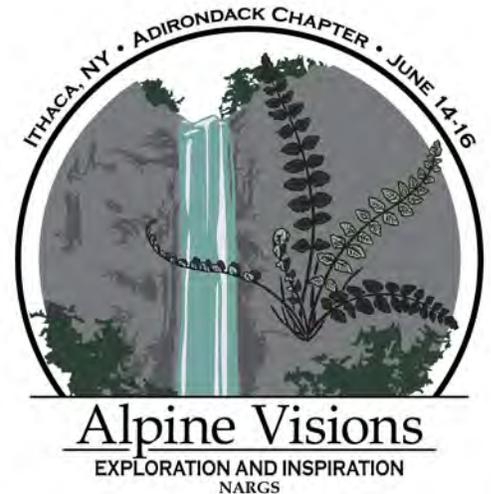
Your local garden clubs

I'm a huge fan of NARGS for multiple reasons. I am also a big fan of the conifer society. I was a member of the Rhododendron Society, but I joined mainly hoping to find sources for unusual rhododendrons; that was unproductive. I am currently a member of the American Rose Society; it's too focused on showing roses for my taste, so I may not renew my membership. The Alpine Garden Society has a great journal, and I enjoy reading the articles about foreign trips and exotic plants. I do think it is rewarding to join a group like one of these that reflects your interests.

# NARGS Annual General Meeting 2022

Carol Eichler, Plant Sales Chair

## Alpine Visions: Exploration and Inspiration Program Itinerary for Registrants as of 1/31/2022 with approximate times



### Tuesday, June 14

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 8:00 – 3:30   | Pre-AGM motor coach tour to 3 Syracuse area gardens<br>(add-on to registration fee is \$55 which includes lunch and transportation by coach); we have capacity for 50 people so we <u>may</u> be able to open this trip up to non-registered people  |
| 2:00 - 6pm    | AGM check-in officially opens, Robert Purcell Community Center   |
| 3:30 – 5:30pm | Plant sale and book sales, 7 vendors represented, Multi-purpose Room, Townhouse Community Center **  |
| 5:00 – 6pm    | Reception and cash bar   |
| 6:00 0 7:00pm | Dinner at Morrison Hall  |
| 7:00 – 9:30pm | Evening Program, Multi-purpose Room, Appel Community Center ##<br>Welcome by ACNARGS & Cornell Botanic Gardens<br>Talk #1 F. Robert Wesley, Cornell Botanic Gardens on NYS Native Orchids<br>Talk #2 Sue Milliken & Kelly Dodson of Far Reaches Farm |

### Wednesday, June 15

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 8:00 – 4:00pm | All Day Field Trips to 2 private gardens and a nature walk in one of our gorges, lunch and transportation provided |
| 4:30 – 6:00pm | Plant sale and book sales, Multi-purpose Room, Townhouse Community Center **                                       |
| 6:15 - 7:30pm | Catered dinner w/cash bar, Multi-purpose Room, Appel Community Center with evening program to follow               |
| 8:00 – 9:00pm | Evening Talk #3 Keynote Eleftheris Dariotis, same room ##  |

### Thursday June 16

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 9 - 10:00am   | Talk #4 Sue Milliken & Kelly Dodson, Far Reaches Farm ##                               |
| 11 – 12:30pm  | Self-guided tours at Cornell Botanic Gardens with docent on hand to answer questions   |
| 12:30pm       | Free time, lunch when you wish, and dinner “on-your-own”                               |
| 7:00 – 9:30pm | Reconvene for evening program<br>Talk #5 Eleftheris Dariotis ##<br>AGM Officially Ends |

### Friday June 17

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 10:30 – 4:00pm | Optional “On-your-Own” visits to ACNARGS members’ gardens |
|----------------|---|

Additional items for the schedule: preview of *The Crevice Garden*, book by Kenton Seth and Paul Spriggs, NARGS annual meeting and awards, sneak peak at the 2023 NARGS AGM in Nova Scotia

\*\* Open to all 2022 ACNARGS members

## Open to all ACNARGS AGM volunteers

Because we have now booked a much larger auditorium for the talks, we are able to open all the talks to our volunteers. You are welcome to attend as many as you wish. There are five talks altogether – two by Eleftherios Dariotis, two by Sue Milliken and Kelly Dodson, and one by F. Robert Wesley.

## Volunteering at AGM

*Carol Eichler, Plant Sales Chair*

Alpine Visions: Exploration and Inspiration is coming. As volunteer coordinator for this national conference, we are hosting June 14-17, I have been identifying volunteer needs and soliciting helpers. If you haven't yet been contacted and want to help, please reach out to me, [carolithaca@gmail.com](mailto:carolithaca@gmail.com).

We'll find a job for anyone who wants to volunteer. We feel we can make it worth your while by allowing our volunteers to attend (and buy) at the plant sale and, since the talks are now located in a much larger space we can welcome our volunteers to attend any or all of the lectures (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights as well as 1 talk Thursday morning) - a total of 5 in all, by 3 different speakers.

We haven't hosted a national NARGS meeting since 2000 - 22 years ago! - so this year is a rare opportunity to join in and see what those who have attended past meetings get so excited about.

## Members' Spring Plant Sale is May 14

*Carol Eichler, Plant Sales Chair*

After some discussion at our February members' share meeting, we have decided to hold a member-only plant sale again this year on Saturday, May 14th. Details will be announced in April.

Some of the factors that led to this decision include the fact that as a Chapter we have not been holding in-person meetings for over two years. By keeping our sale exclusive to our members, the sale is more relaxed, occurs over a shorter time, and gives us the chance for some much-missed socializing.

We have demonstrated that a closed sale like this can still be financially successful too. Our Chapter relies on our plant sales to cover the cost of our speaker meetings. So, plan to pot up plants from your garden for the sale. Plan to attend. Plan to buy. And let's not forget, plan to meet together in-person and have some fun!

## So Many Primulas, So Little Time

*By Deborah Banks*

*Editor's Note: Please see last page for photos by the author.*

I am obsessed with Primulas. A friend gave me my first plants about twenty years ago. Since then, I have participated in the American Primrose Society (APS) seed exchange several times to expand the number of varieties that I grow. The ones that I have are hardy, easy to grow from seed and appreciate the cool, damp conditions of my spring woodland garden. Here are some of my favorites, listed in the order that they bloom.

***Primula elatior*** is known in England as the oxlip. Its nodding pale yellow flowers are the earliest primula blooms for me, usually in late April. *P. elatior's* native habitat is damp woods and meadows. It likes shade but is not fussy about soil moisture. It is very hardy; late freezes don't affect it. It reseeds enthusiastically but is easy to thin out. *P. elatior's* blooms last for several weeks unless we have an early spell of hot weather.



*Author's garden*

***Primula denticulata***, or the drumstick primula, is the next to bloom, in early May. Its showy four-inch round flower heads can be found in white, lilac, magenta and purple. It prefers some shade and rich soils with normal moisture. *P. denticulata*'s flowers are sensitive to freezing, although the plant is fully hardy. When a late frost is predicted, this is one of the plants I try to protect, along with *Darmera*, *Dicentra spectabilis* and *Podophyllums*.

***Primula veris***, known as the English cowslip, also blooms in early May. Its stalks of nodding flowers are commonly lemon yellow but the 'Sunset Shades' and 'Coronation' cultivars are rimmed with red or orange. It prefers shade and is long-lived and not in need of moist soil. Another tough plant. It resembles *P. elatior* in appearance but differs in color and bloom time. It is not a prolific self-seeder.

***Primula vulgaris*** has open-faced flowers held just above the leaves and is available in every possible color, often with an eye of a different color. These bloom in mid-May and like shade, fertile soil and average moisture. Barnhaven, a famous Primula nursery in France, is a well-known breeder of many *P. vulgaris* cultivars. These primulas will bloom for weeks. They do not self-seed. The clumps increase in size over time and can be lifted for division.

***Primula polyanthus*** is a naturally occurring Primula hybrid with *P. vulgaris* as a parent. Its open-faced flowers are similar to *P. vulgaris* but are above the leaves on upright stems. The comments for *P. vulgaris* also apply to *P. polyanthus*. ***Primula cowichan*** is a type of *Primula polyanthus*, typically with dark bronzed leaves and jewel-toned flowers.

***Primula kiosana*** is an Asian primula species with soft felted leaves and small stature. The mid to late May blooms of bright pink or white rise above the leaves on three to four-inch stems. It needs shade but is not fussy about moisture. This is the only primula I grow that sends out runners to start new plants nearby. It is not aggressive and is easy to relocate if necessary. Its habit of weaving in among other plants is charming.

***Primula sieboldii*** is an Asian species for shade with mid to late May flowers held on short stems above pleated leaves. There is great variation in the flower shapes and coloring. Some flowers are deeply cut and fringed like snowflakes, others may have split and rounded lobes. The petals may be a solid pink or white, or a deep pink on the back and washed in white and pale pink on the front, or have pale centers and picotee edges. This species has many variations, each more beautiful than the last. It is an ephemeral species, going dormant in mid-summer. It is not a self-seeder for me.

***Primula japonica*** was my first love. It is a candelabra type of primula, with three or four tiers of blooms on stalks rising a foot or more above the leaves. The flowers in early to mid-June range in color from white through all shades of pink into a deep pink called "red" in primula circles. It is a wetland species that needs some moisture to do well. This species is a prolific self-seeder and tough in all conditions except dryness. I have had young plants frost-heave out of the ground and spend the winter like that, and be no worse for it if I tuck them back into place in spring. I think every seed must germinate (and there are scores of seeds per stalk), but the babies are tiny and easy to clear out when young. I try to deadhead most of my japonica plants before the seeds ripen.

***Primula bulleyana*** is another candelabra style of primula that needs moisture to thrive. The blooms range in color from gold and orange to apricot. It begins blooming as the *P. japonica* is nearly finished, in mid to late June. It will self-seed but not to the extent I would like.

There are Primulas that prefer dryer gardens and more sun. If that describes your garden, you may be interested in the Primula auriculas and other alpine species. Whatever your conditions, there are primula species for you. Check out the [American Primrose Society](#) website for information on membership, the growing of primulas and a pictorial reference. It also has information on the spring show being hosted by the New England Chapter of APS at the Blithewold Mansion in Bristol, Rhode Island during the last weekend in April. Going to a show is a great place to see lots of different primulas at their best. The show will have a guest speaker, lots of plants on display and specialty vendors.

The APS seed exchange always carries a good selection of seed purchased from Barnhaven, as well as lots of seed provided by members. Their seed exchange is open to APS members starting in early January, and then opens to the general public sometime in March for a process known as the “Lucky Dip”. There are always plenty of seeds left for ordering in the Lucky Dip, but it is best to specify several alternatives for your choices, as available quantities are lower by then. I hope you join me in my love of Primulas!

## Book Review: Caucasian Delights

By Panayoti Kelaidis, Denver Botanic Gardens Outreach

*A Field Guide to the Plants of Armenia*

Tamar Galstyan

Paperback/ 592 pages/ full color photographs, 6 X 9”

Filbert Press January 2022

NARGS Chapters SPECIAL PRICE: \$30 (Regularly \$55) 46% Discount!

Minimum order per chapter: 4 copies

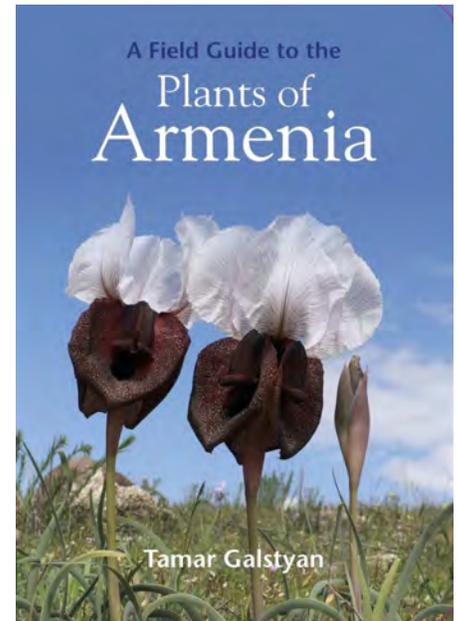
<https://www.ipgbook.com/a-field-guide-to-the-plants-of-armenia-products-9781999734589.php>

In April of 2018 I was privileged to participate in [a seed collecting expedition](#) with the Plant Collections Collaborative in Georgia (of the Caucasus—not the Peach State) for three weeks. A pretty extensive account of this expedition was published in the November 2019 *International Rock Gardener* which you can find here: [https://www.srgc.org.uk/logs/logdir/2019Nov281574975266IRG\\_119.pdf](https://www.srgc.org.uk/logs/logdir/2019Nov281574975266IRG_119.pdf).

Who doesn't have a bucket list? The Caucasus were near the top of mine—for many reasons. So many classic garden plants come from there: *Cyclamen coum*, *Helleborus orientalis*, *Draba bryoides*, *Paeonia mlokosevitchii* (and a host of other choice peonies), *Primula juliae*—the list goes on and on. After spending three spectacular weeks blessed with mild, sunny weather and a wealth of new impressions and a long list of seed collections and thousands of photographic images (criss-crossing Georgia repeatedly in the process!), I realized that we'd only encountered a fraction of the plants I'd hoped to see: the Caucasus are a botanical hotspot. They're BIG...and mind you, we'd only been to Georgia.

We drove through both Samtskhe-Javakheti and Kvemo Kartli—the two Georgian provinces bordering Armenia—and I peered longingly towards the fragmented homeland of the Armenian people, who (like the Greeks) have contracted to a fraction of the former lands they once lived in. I have grown so many plants with the epithet “*armenum*, *armeniacum*” and permutations on the name—almost all of which have thrived for me. What else could possibly be lurking there, beyond? I have many books on the flowers of Greece and Turkey, but with the notable exception of Vojtech Holubec and Pavel Krivka's fantastic coffee table book (*Caucasus and its Flowers*, ISBN: 10: 8090254136 ISBN 13: 9788090254138) which is now long out of print and extremely expensive if you are lucky enough to find a copy for sale!

Until now, I should say. Filbert Press, a UK publisher, has just released *A Field Guide to the Plants of Armenia*, a very slick, chubby little tome (about 6 x 9”) with a durable soft cover that is good for taking into the field. Each of the well over a thousand taxa in the book is beautifully illustrated—many with multiple images (closeup and longer view). The plants are grouped alphabetically by genus, then alphabetically by species. Each taxon also has a dot map showing in which provinces in Armenia it has been recorded. There is a concise description of each taxon, and clear notes on elevational range, habitat and range beyond Armenia. As I parse this book, I was surprised how few circumboreal plants like *Achillea millefolium* are in it. There is some overlap with the Alps (*Gentiana pyreneica* and *G. verna* pop out at you!) What impressed me most was how many truly local endemics are shown throughout—particularly among Apiaceae, Asteraceae, Boraginaceae, Brassicaceae, Fabaceae and Lamiaceae—plant families that dominate throughout Northern and Southern hemisphere steppe climates. And, of course, the petaloid monocots (bulbous plants) are numerous—e.g. *Iris reticulata* but also its cousin *I. sisianica*, which I'd never heard of! And the stunning *Iris iberica* ssp. *elegantissima* on the cover!



It is the wealth of endemic taxa which make this book invaluable to armchair botanists. There's some overlap with *Caucasus and its Flowers* by Holubec and Krivka but far less than I'd imagined. But what other field guide includes *Acantholimon glumaceum*, *Draba brunifolia*, and *Gentiana gelida*?

The plants from this region are so diverse, so widespread and important to gardens, this seemingly localized book is far more important to have in hand than you might think—particularly if you're lucky enough to go to the Caucasus in person one day! Hopefully soon!

## My Latest Trough

*John Gilrein, ACNARGS Chair*

In spite of me enjoying making a new trough, it seems that I don't get to it often enough. So one afternoon recently I decided to make a trough. I had all the supplies on hand, which is critical to get a trough made in a few hours. For a form I used a sturdy cardboard box that I bought with cat litter (this box was small enough that the sides didn't bow out too much; I lined the box with plastic film. I know many of us have made troughs, still I hope you might learn something new about trough making. As a reference, I recommend *Creating and Planting Garden Troughs*, Fingerhut and Murfitt, which is an excellent source of information. I generally like to know why I should do something a certain way, and I often want to experiment, so this book is most helpful understanding the process, and knowing when it's safe to deviate.

Hypertufa is a modified concrete that is basically an artificial stone designed to be easy to work with and age more quickly than concrete. It's also very much lighter than concrete. Concrete is Portland cement (the "glue") and aggregate, normally sand and gravel. For hypertufa, normally sand and gravel are omitted from the mix and instead perlite (or vermiculite) and peat moss are utilized instead of the aggregate.

*Some tips for trough making:*

Portland cement (Portland) is very hygroscopic, i.e. it readily absorbs moisture, even from the air, so it needs to be stored in a sealed container. Never use Portland cement that has absorbed moisture, which you can tell as it will have hard lumps or could be solid rather than powdery. Lumps which are soft and easy to break up are fine. Using moisture damaged Portland will result in a weak trough that may break up easily and will be a waste of your effort, which I learned the hard way. If your Portland has soft lumps, break them up when mixing the ingredients. Peat moss needs to be sieved to remove the larger pieces, sticks and the like. Wear a mask when mixing, as it's not beneficial to breathe in the ingredients. I



I prefer the look of vermiculite in a trough, and one can choose to use vermiculite in finer or coarser grade. Perlite works equally well. Portland is somewhat caustic, so you'll need gloves to work with the hypertufa mix. I used Thickster latex gloves, which are sturdy disposable gloves. I like that they are thin and flexible enough for sensitivity, but sturdy enough for me to just use one pair to complete the trough without tearing.

The recipe I reviewed called for 1 part Portland, to 1 ½ parts peat, and 1 ½ parts perlite. I deviated from the recipe and used 1 part each Portland, peat, vermiculite, and sand. Using sand in the mix makes a heavier trough – so omit sand if you want the trough to be light. I also omitted the synthetic reinforcement fibers; I did add some liquid acrylic bonding agent. The fibers are meant to deter cracks in the trough from expanding, but I

find that I don't need them, and they are annoying to separate and spread through the dry ingredients. You can use more Portland to make a more durable trough, but be aware that this is a heavy ingredient. I did sieve the Portland I used to help break up the soft lumps (there were a few hard lumps I didn't add to the mix).

Have a good container to measure the dry ingredients; a one quart yogurt container works well for the size trough I made: 11" x 11" x 7" high with walls almost 2 inches thick (this trough will be sturdier than necessary, hopefully more durable). It's helpful to save some of the mixed dry ingredients to add to the hypertufa mix as you are adding the water. If you have added too much water, add some of the mixed dry ingredients to stiffen the mix and absorb water. It's impossible to specify the quantity of water to add, so it is judicious to add water conservatively until the mix is right. The hypertufa mix should be moist enough for all the dry ingredients to be moistened and hold its shape fairly well when formed into a ball; the correct amount of water is critically important. If the mix weeps water or seems like a slurry, it's too wet and will not work. Excessively wet hypertufa will have liquid water still in the hypertufa trough which can expand when it freezes and break the trough. The goal is to have all the Portland moistened to allow the hardening/curing without having excess water. During the curing process, the Portland absorbs water and bonds with the aggregate. The strongest hypertufa will be one with the properly moistened mix and this will be easier to work with molding the trough walls. Pack the trough base and walls firmly, pressing handfuls of the mix into the mix that's already in the form to ensure good contact. One the trough mold is full, finish the top and sides to level and smooth them. Cover the trough with plastic wrap to cure.

During the curing process, Portland absorbs water, which is critical for the hardening of the trough. Once the trough is sufficiently hardened (about a day at 70 degrees F. and 2-3 days at 50 degrees F.), the trough is ready for some shaping and finishing. It should be hard enough to feel partially set (you shouldn't be able to dent it with a finger) but can be easily scratched with a nail or tool. Carefully remove the trough from the mold without putting stress on the trough. Generally, the idea is that the trough should look aged/weathered. Using a tool with a flat edge (I use a square nail, you could use a trowel, a knife retired from the kitchen, an asparagus fork, etc.) round the trough corners and smooth any spots you see that need to be leveled. I like to scratch the sides of the trough with roughly (but not perfectly) parallel grooves to imitate sedimentary rock, and I make the depth of the grooves somewhat variable. Imperfections from the plastic liner or other minor defects add to the weathered look. I have never chipped chisel marks into the sides of aa trough, but that's another way to add the look of an old stone trough. After scratching grooves, I scrape the trough sides with a stiff wire brush to enhance the weathered look. You can also let the trough harden a day or 2 longer before brushing with a wire brush.

Once the trough is sufficiently cured to shape and finish, it's good to spray it with water at least daily and recover it. After about a week, you can finish curing the trough partially or fully under water. At this point most of the Portland has absorbed water, but any Portland that still needs to be hydrated can absorb water, and this is beneficial. I don't have a deep enough basin indoors to soak the trough, so I'm soaking it one side at a time, and moving it daily to soak another side. Soaking the trough outside in freezing weather is contraindicated – you want it to be thoroughly cured before exposing it to freezing temperatures. But soaking it outside in the summer is fine.

After about a month, or 2 if you want to be conservative, the trough can be put outside to weather. I'll wait at least a month to put the trough out in a bathtub filled with spring water (it won't freeze there). After its soak there, I'll let it dry and rinse the inside of the trough with vinegar. After a trough is thoroughly cured, it should be able to withstand freezing weather. What I've found is the greatest challenge for a trough is when it contains a very moisture retentive potting mix and then freezes (some troughs could withstand that, others cannot). Troughs with a gritty rock garden type mix don't hold nearly as much water, so they're not subject to the same stress when frozen.

## Membership

*Mary Stauble, Membership Coordinator*

Please welcome new members **Karma and Michael Glos** of Kingbird Farm in Berkshire, NY! Many of you will remember their great open house in June 2021. They have wonderful gardens and lots of plants for sale including rock garden plants. For more info, see their website [kingbirdfarm.com](http://kingbirdfarm.com) and the writeup at <http://www.acnargs.org/newsletter/202006.pdf>

If you have not yet renewed for 2022 you can still renew by mail. The renewal form is at <http://www.acnargs.org/join.pdf>. Your membership status is reported to you in the email with the newsletter link. Contact Mary Stauble at [mes2@cornell.edu](mailto:mes2@cornell.edu) if you have any questions.

## Upcoming 2022 ACNARGS Programs

**NOTE:** Due to COVID we will hold live meetings online via Zoom. Terry Humphries, [terryehumphres@gmail.com](mailto:terryehumphres@gmail.com), will invite members by email with a link to the meeting.

**March 19:** ACNARGS speaker program bringing you [Christopher Gardener](#), English writer and botanical tour guide, "Flora of the Silk Road"

**April 16:** [Jim Jermyn](#), Head Gardener, Branklyn Garden in Perth, Scotland

**May 14:** ACNARGS Members' Plant Sale

**June 14-16:** [NARGS Annual General Meeting](#) hosted by ACNARGS

**Dates TBD 2023:** NARGS Annual General Meeting hosted by Nova Scotia Chapter

## Calendar of Select Events & Programs

[Chrys Gardener Tour of Ireland, June 19–29, 2022](#)

[Cornell Botanic Gardens](#) events

[Cornell Cooperative Extension](#) gardening resources and information

[Finger Lakes Native Plant Society](#) monthly meetings

[Hardy Plant Society](#) monthly meetings

[Liberty Hyde Bailey Garden Club](#)

To have a garden event in your area listed send all pertinent information to David Mitchell at [david\\_mitchell\\_14850@yahoo.com](mailto:david_mitchell_14850@yahoo.com)

## About ACNARGS

We are an all-volunteer organization and one of thirty-eight NARGS affiliated chapters active in North America. Our annual Chapter activities include 5 program-speaker meetings, the *Green Dragon* newsletter, web and Facebook pages, garden visits, overnight garden trips, hands-on workshops, two plant sales a year, and frequent plant giveaways. Our meetings are informal, friendly gatherings that provide a wealth of information and offer a source for unusual plants, plus the opportunity to be inspired by other gardeners. The public is always welcome.

Chapter membership starts at \$15 a year based on the calendar year. Membership includes these benefits: newsletter sent to you electronically (or option by mail for an extra fee), opportunity to travel on our planned overnight garden trips, annual membership directory, and plant sale discounts and member only sales, including Plant-of-the-Month sales. Download a membership form at [www.acnargs.org/join.pdf](http://www.acnargs.org/join.pdf).

Members are welcome to join our Google Group email "ACNARGS\_Member\_Forum". Find out how to join at <https://support.google.com/groups/answer/1067205?hl=en>

## About NARGS National

NARGS National is our parent organization: We encourage you to join (online at [www.nargs.org](http://www.nargs.org)) for only \$40 a year. Benefits include a seed exchange, a quarterly publication focused on rock gardening, and an online website featuring an archive of past publications, a chat forum and a horticultural encyclopedia. NARGS National also conducts winter study weekends and holds its Annual Meeting in interesting places where attendees have the opportunity to visit gardens and take field trips, often to alpine areas, as well as hear talks by outstanding plants people from around the world. More recently, NARGS is offering botanical tours each year, both within the US and abroad.

## 2022 ACNARGS Board Members and Contacts

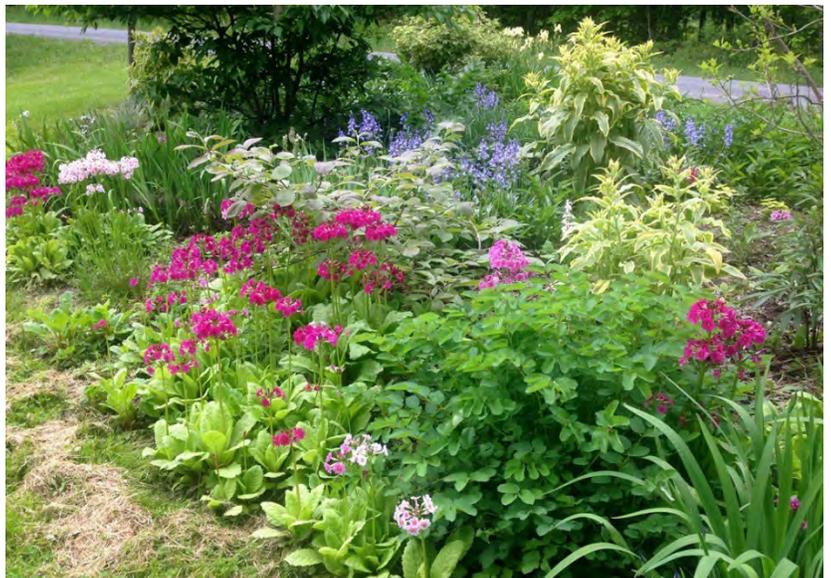
*If you want to **volunteer**, we'd love to hear from you!*

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 Secretary: Currently rotating amongst "Responsible People"  
 Treasurer: **BZ Marranca**, [mmm10@cornell.edu](mailto:mmm10@cornell.edu)  
 Plant Sales Chair: **Carol Eichler** [carolithaca@gmail.com](mailto:carolithaca@gmail.com)  
 Plant Sales Committee Members: **Michael Loos**, **BZ Marranca**, **David Mitchell**  
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The newsletter is always posted and printable each month on our website <http://www.acnargs.org>



*Deborah Banks's garden*



*Primula elatior*



*Primula denticulata*



*Primula veris*



*Primula vulgaris*



*Primula cowichan*



*Primula kiosana*



*Primula sieboldii*



*Primula japonica*



*Primula bulleyana*



*Primula vulgaris*



*Primula veris*