



The Trillium

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Piedmont Chapter
North American Rock Garden Society
Chapel Hill, Durham, Raleigh, NC
<https://www.piedmontnargs.org>
www.facebook.com/piedmontNARGS

Passing the Torch: A Private Tour of Czechia's Rock Gardens

by Paul Spriggs

In case you hadn't noticed, Czechophilia is running rampant in western rock gardening circles, and for good reason. Over recent decades in Czechia (formerly referred to as the Czech Republic), one of the most accomplished rock garden cultures in the world has been evolving. This evolution is due to the efforts of some of the best plant hunters, seed collectors, hybridizers, and innovative rock garden builders of our time.

I am fortunate to call one of these Czech pioneers my friend. His name is Zdeněk Zvolánek, famously known as ZZ. In the early 1980s, while still under Communist rule, he was allowed to travel to the West by special permit. He went to the United Kingdom where he learned from the likes of Jim Archibald, Ron McBeath, Alan Furness, and Ron Beeston. He then traveled to America in 1983 where he was influenced by Panayoti Kelaidis, Baldassare Mineo, and Lincoln and Laura Louise Foster. I started benefiting from his associations with these great gardeners and his own spark of genius when I met him through the Vancouver Island Rock and Alpine Garden Society (VIRAGS), back when he used to live in my town, Victoria, B.C. He saw my passion for rock gardening and as time went by, he cultivated my skills as I worked as his humble apprentice building several local crevice gardens. His goal was to disseminate his artistic and theoretical ideas to the New World. Since he moved back to Czechia, we've not lost touch. Whenever the Czech Rock Gardeners Society holds a conference, I'm always warmly invited to stay in the guest room upstairs in his cottage next to his garden in Karlík, which he calls the "Beauty Slope." But in 2017, ZZ had more in store for me than just a place to crash and some subversive rock-garden conversation.

Passing the torch of rock gardening to the next generation is important and ZZ knows this. He proposed a private, three-day, post-conference tour to visit the crème de la crème of Czech rock gardens, meet their owners, gain experience and learn from the best. I immediately asked if my partner-in-crime, Kenton Seth could join us. For me, it was imperative that Kenton come, as the two of us are currently co-authoring a book on the subject, and Kenton and I had shared a common passion for crevice gardening for years. ZZ already knew of Kenton's achievements in America and showed no hesitation when I asked if he could join us. The three of us touring together would be a dream come true!

A number of factors are responsible for the expansion of Czech rock gardening. Most notably, the Czechs benefit from a continental climate that favors the growing of alpine and a long history of rock gardening in the country. The gardens at Průhonice, outside of Prague, featured rock gardens way back in 1886, and Czech author Karel Čapek discussed the rock garden at length in his charming work, *The Gardeners Year*, published in 1929. It wasn't until 1971, however, that the Prague Rock Garden Club was formed, as regional interest in the style blossomed. At its peak in 1986, the club



boasted over 1000 members, giving a whole new meaning to the term Prague-rock!

Even before the Velvet Revolution of 1987, Czech seed collectors were giving western rock gardeners a sneak peak of their discoveries through participation in seed exchanges. Before the former Czechoslovakia was freed from Soviet rule, Czechs were forbidden to travel to the West. Learning Russian in school, rather than English, made for easier travel in the former Soviet republics, where communication was not as much of a barrier. This gave the Czechs a headstart for botanizing in places like Georgia's Caucasus Mountains, and Kyrgyzstan's Pamirs, where some of the richest mountain floras were just waiting to be discovered. On top of all this is the seemingly natural ability of the Czech people to excel in many art forms where attention to creative detail is concerned.

The Czech rock garden aesthetic is to build high and dramatic, yet stick to only the smallest and slowest growing plants. Bonus points added if you travel to some exotic land and collect the seeds yourself. Although the crevice style made popular by Josef Halda, Zdeněk Zvolánek, and others is predominant, it can have many interpretations depending on the artist and the rock available, ranging from geometric accuracy, using a compass for perfectly oriented straight lines, to reproductions of tilted or folded strata, to the most random free-form placement you can imagine. As long as it's big, bold and it grows plants well, it's acceptable. Imitation of nature is also a dominant theme in Czech rock gardens. It is evident that the builders have spent a considerable amount of time on the mountaintops studying the rocks and the plants that ornament them.



Four Crevice gardeners: Spriggs, Seth, Halda, and ZZ

Getting to see the fruits of this rock garden culture is not easy. Though Prague and environs host a multitude of fine gardens, such as ZZ's "Beauty Slope" in Karlík, Jiří Papoušek's garden in Rotosky or Vojtěch Holubec's boulder garden just north of central Prague, many are located out of the capital, in family cottages, small towns and farming villages quite distant from the city. In addition to the geographical hurdles to overcome, the language also poses a problem as most English speakers find Czech a difficult language, and many of the older garden owners in Czechia do not speak English. Fortunately, the three Czech rock garden conferences to date have exposed western rock garden enthusiasts to some of



the best they have to offer. Nine gardens located closer to Prague were on display as part of the 2017 conference which, in addition to the gardens of the three mentioned above, also featured the incredible gardens of Martin Brejník, Petr Diviš, Stanislav Čepička, Jiří Pospíšil, and Jiří Sládek. The Prague Club's magnificent show garden in Charles Square rounded out the gardens visited during the conference.

Every garden we visited on our post-conference tour offered us food and drink. It was obvious that this hospitality was part of the culture. Beer was a staple offering (ah, the beer!!) but sadly, as the driver, I had to abide by the strict Czech drinking and driving policies, probably for the better. Fortunately, a non-alcoholic substitute was always available for those of us who could not partake of the

Pilsner. We were made to feel at home in their spaces and, with ZZ as a translator, were able to ask the questions we needed of the garden owners. Here we were in the presence of the Czech masters and we came away from every new garden feeling energized and empowered.



Zdeněk Zvolánek in Josef Halda garden

Josef Halda Garden

Josef Halda's garden is located in the mountains which form the northeastern border between Poland and Czechia. At 2200 feet (700 m) elevation, it is a very different climate than the hot, baking

gardens of Prague. There are some years that the garden is still covered in snow until mid-April! The house, built by Mr. Halda, is nestled among conifers in an open, park-like setting. A natural mountain stream, crossed by a bridge to the front door, rushes past the house, and the sound of birdsong filled the air. The cool, moist climate of this mountain garden allows him to grow so many of the plants from his trips



Photo by Kenton Seth

Josef Halda

to the monsoon regions of the Chinese mountains, including many of the plants he is famous for discovering and introducing to cultivation.

Dwarf conifers also feature prominently in this garden. An amazing 2000+ specimens adorn his rocks, mainly selections from mugo pine witches' brooms. Many of these are displayed in the huge



Josef Halda's collection of witches brooms conifers

sandstone troughs that Mr. Halda himself hews. "It takes me all day" he explained when I asked how long they take to make. They look like they should have taken a lot longer than that! The sheer volume of rock in this garden was overwhelming. The crevice garden, hundreds of square feet (tens of square meters) in size, resembles a virtual ocean of rocks, placed in the most sublime and dramatic ways imaginable.

We asked a lot of questions and got a lot of answers. My last question for Mr. Halda was: "Who taught you how to build rock

gardens?" He delivered his answer with a straight face and without hesitation..."God." Then, with his thumb pointed at his chest pronounced with a laugh "and I... am Jesus." For someone who has spent as much time studying mountain landscapes, I feel his response, in a metaphorical sense, was as legitimate as it could get. Good answer Mr. Halda, good answer.

Jaromír Greulich Garden

Our next garden was that of the late Jaromír Greulich. One reason for visiting this garden was historical. The other was that it is located right next door to the Halda garden. This is no coincidence and I'm certain that each garden has mutually benefited from the other. Jaromír Greulich died in 2009, but in the four decades that preceded his death, he turned a massive natural cliff face into a thriving rock garden. He was also an important member of the Czech rock gardening community. The garden, which is



Jaromir Greulich garden

open to the public for a small admission charge, is run and maintained by Mr. Greulich's widow. She greeted us from the balcony of her chalet, and was thrilled to see that it was ZZ who was dropping in

unannounced. Kenton and I climbed the goat trails while the elder of our group stayed below. We climbed hundreds of feet in elevation, past planted clumps of mugo pines brought down from nearby higher mountains, and a multitude of alpiners growing from the natural crevices. From the top, the view of the open, park-like countryside was incredible! Here we sat and meditated to the soundtrack of the spring songbirds.

Vlastimil Braun Garden

Next was the garden of Vlastimil Braun who was the youngest of the rock gardeners we visited, and also an English speaker which made communication easier. His garden, located in a residential setting in Žďár nad Sázavou, was (as usual) almost entirely devoted to rock and alpine gardens and featured an extensive self-sown *Levisia* bed which was in full bloom, troughs, and an impressive vertical tufa wall. A younger garden, it was not as mature as those of the older masters, but it was clear that Mr. Braun had years of experience behind him, and was showing no signs of slowing down. After refreshments, and conversations, we exchanged emails, and I couldn't help but wonder if the connections we were making would last our rock gardening lifetimes.

Oldřich Maxiner Garden

Next on the tour was retired dentist Dr. Oldřich Maxiner of Sedlec. Although this was probably the smallest garden we visited, it was by far the most packed and efficient on this tour of packed and efficient gardens. This well-planned garden, a getaway cottage property, seemed to have a little bit of everything. The garden is organized into “rooms” that feature a seemingly endless array of troughs, rock gardens, cold frames, alpine houses, propagation and holding areas. Dr. Maxiner is a saxifrage specialist and I was amazed when he showed me his collection of 30 different forms of *Saxifraga oppositifolia*! Sitting on

the porch of the one room cottage, the view is directed over a small lawn, backed by a selection of long stone troughs, packed with nothing but the choicest plants. Continuing along the path, an older sloping rock garden is revealed containing many gems. At the top of the back slope there is yet another plant holding area filled to the brim with selections of the rarest and best grown plants that would make even the most seasoned experts drool! It was in this garden that I realized just how far ahead the Czechs are in this world. I was also starting to question the sanity of the garden owners as clearly, these collections are held by the fanatical and obsessed!



Oldřich Maxiner's sunken greenhouse

Vladimír Staněk Garden

By now we were getting close to the end of the three days and were wondering just how much more of this we could take! I could feel a certain exhaustion coming over me after this marathon and noticed that Kenton was dozing in the back seat of the Renault. We perked up immediately however on hearing who we were visiting next. Another celebrity in the Czech rock gardening world, Vladimír Staněk of Sedlčany is renowned for his annual seed list which he amasses from numerous yearly trips. His 2017 list features an amazing 714 species collected from Spain to Szechuan and much in between including the Tian Shan, Pamir, Altai, and Himalaya. This guy really gets around!

The drive from Mr. Staněk's to ZZ's in Karlík is not far, and we were back at the "Beauty Slope" by dinner. We were exhausted but also invigorated. Having visited some of the old masters, many of whom have been actively rock gardening for 40+ years, the realization that we are babies in this world and that there is still



Erinaea anthyllis in garden of Vladimír Staněk



Saxifraga pubescens in garden of Vladimír Staněk

much to learn really hit home. Fortunately, time is on our side in this regard. Now is when the need to pass information from the older generation to the younger is even more important than ever. This is what our journey was all about.

The morning we left Karlík I had the luxury to spend an hour alone up in the garden while Kenton and ZZ drank coffee in the cottage far below. It seemed fitting that we should end our journey here. Zdeněk Zvolánek is currently the main link between East and West, but also between old and young. When we first met, he used to joke "We have very big problem...I am too old, and he is too young," referring to his aging body and my lack of knowledge! In subsequent years, we have worked on closing this gap, and this journey was a big part of doing that. The torch had been passed. During that meditative hour, I tried to process everything I had seen and learned, and concluded that doing so was going to take quite a while ...perhaps even a lifetime. 🍷

[This is an abbreviated version of a longer article by Paul Spriggs that originally appeared in The Rock Garden Quarterly, spring 2018, vol. 76, no. 2, pages 118 – 136. Used by permission of Paul Spriggs. The complete article is available on the NARGS web site, www.nargs.org, under "Back Issues."]

A Revisit to Bristol Briar — home garden of Jeremy Schmidt and Meghan Fidler

On October 3rd, Piedmont Chapter members gathered for a picnic and tour of the home garden of Jeremy Schmidt and Meghan Fidler in Raleigh. For those lucky enough to be there, members who attended have offered their impressions and photos of the experience. It is amazing to see what they have created in a space slightly less than half an acre. The diversity and design are awesome. Have you seen a purple cotton plant in bloom or even seen one at all?

“For those of us who are looking down a great deal to insure secure footing the garden gives a great deal to peruse. I loved the side entrance into the main back garden. On the left and right tantalizing tastes of what we would find in the main back garden. A crescent crevice edging and a low gently curving split rail fence both begging for closer inspections as a tiny rock garden and a most inventive insertion of a rain garden. There are lovely curves in the paths and unusual surfaces and edges to stimulate the senses.”

Suzanne Edney



Photo by Suzanne Edney



Photo by Suzanne Edney



Photo by Suzanne Edney



Photo by Suzanne Edney

“Meghan and Jeremy are workhorses in their garden; there’s not a lazy bone between them.”
Bobby Ward



Photo by Kirtley Cox



Photo by Suzanne Edney

“There is a brilliant use of a circular theme in the spaces articulated in this garden. I have never experienced walking through and under a curtain of *Cercidiphyllum* rising above a turf stage. Bowing my head to enter the main garden was a very appropriate gesture. The circle form and perfectly rounded plant specimens repeated throughout the gardens in several iterations. The circle is a difficult garden element that Jeremy and Meghan have mastered in stunning splendor.”
Suzanne Edney



Photo by Suzanne Edney



Photo by Kirtley Cox



Two golden shore juniper allowed to do their thing!

Photos by Marian Stephenson



Meghan provides food for all creatures.

Photo by Kirtley Cox



Red cotton plant



A delightful and durable woodlander: Himalayan Mayapple

By Panayoti Kelaidis

Believe it or not, these two images of Himalayan mayapple* were taken a few days apart of the same species (albeit two different plants) in my garden. I think these pictures speak volumes about the enormous impact of light, and especially shade not just on our photography, but on the plants in our garden. The intense sunlight and dry air of Colorado (where I garden) amplifies these contrasts: there are canyons in our foothills where you can find yellow ladyslippers, wood lilies and oak fern** on cool north slopes, and on the sunny slopes opposite there may be ball cacti (*Pediocactus simpsonii*) and yucas!

I have grown Himalayan mayapple for thirty years or more: few plants are so varied in their form from the time they emerge (often blooming) out of the ground to their bat-like phase unfurling their wing like leaves, and expanding them like an umbrella until the large, oblong red fruit ripens in early summer: more like a ballet than a mere flowering process!

It is a plant that has accrued a lot of lore: it is widely used in Traditional Chinese Medicine and possesses alkaloids utilized in Western Medicine to combat breast cancer. It seems to thrive most anywhere in a garden where you might grow classic woodlanders like wild ginger, dutchman's britches*** or most ferns.

We have found its many East Asian cousins (*P. pleianthum*, *P. versipelle*, *P. delavayi*: all of them also split into microgenera by busy body botanists!) less dependable—often succumbing to our late spring frosts.

I've found this pretty easily grown from seed—which is almost always available on the N.A.R.G.S. seed exchange (it will be this year for sure—I'm donating lots of seed from my plants!). It's also sold by better rare plant nurseries on the two coasts (my plants came from Far Reaches Farm, for instance).

This is but one of innumerable woodland treasures that are enriching our shady rock gardens: do keep a lookout on the NARGS website for three Webinars this winter: the first will focus on shade loving plants-- organized by Bridget Wosczyzna-Briddes (who gardens in eastern Pennsylvania). It will feature cutting edge gardeners from across North America.

Do check out this blog, which features a photo gallery of Himalayan mayapples in the wild and in cultivation: <http://prairiebreak.blogspot.com/2020/09/sinopodophyllum-hexandrum-var-yunnanense.html>

I have annotated some of the Latin names for plants I've referred to with common names above. I find cluttering text with too many scientific names distracting, especially when there are charming and widely recognized common names we can use. One can be too pedantic, you know!

* I prefer to stick to *Podophyllum hexandrum* to the "*Sinopodophyllum hexandrum*". I'm sure the botanist who split the genus had good reasons. Around 300 B.C. the Chinese Philosopher Gongsun Lung observed 白馬非馬: can one legitimately assert "a white horse is not a horse": I believe white horses ARE horses, and mayapples are mayapples, even if one grows in China and one in Ohio.

** *Cypripedium pubescens*, *Lilium philadelphicum* var. *andinum* and *Gymnocarpium disjunctum* for the rock gardeners who eschew common names.

*** *Asarum* spp., *Dicentra cucullaria*

Piedmont Chapter, NARGS Speakers & Events —Spring 2022

Saturday, January 15, 2022 (in person)

Tim Alderton

Raleigh, N.C.

“Native Plants - Durango, Colorado Area

Saturday, February 12, 2022 (in person)

Scott McMahan

Atlanta, Georgia

“Plant Exploration with a Purpose”

Saturday, March 19, 2022 (in person)

Elisabeth Zander

Goshen, Connecticut

“The Spectacular Gardens of the Czech Republic”

Saturday, April 16, 2022 (in person)

Scott Zona

Hillsborough, N.C.

“Salvia: A Natural History”

SAVE THE DATE!!!

May 2022

Spring Picnic TBA

**Give a gift of membership
in the Piedmont Chapter—North American
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Membership year is from July 1 to June 30

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about the Piedmont Chapter**

October Plant Sale A Big Success

The October Plant Sale at the JCRA added \$1300 to the coffers which will provide a big boost to our speakers program.

A big thanks to all who brought plants and bulbs, did the set-up and tear-down and to the folks who staffed the event—answering questions and making sales. Especially we thank Tony Avent who donated 2 pickup trucks full of his beautiful Plant Delights selections.

Many people walked away with some great bargains.

We were carrying on JC Raulston's mission to get great plants into the hands of gardeners, as we got hundreds of plants to folks—gardeners young and old.

A very successful day. ✂





Buried Treasures

by Judy Glattstein

Presented to the Piedmont Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society,
October 18, 2014

Bulbs are a plant's way to get through hard times. They might *hibernate* through winter's cold or *estivate* to avoid a summer drought. Crocus, snowdrops, daffodils, hyacinths, tulips all fall into the first group, while Mediterranean climate bulbs from the South African Cape – amaryllis, for example (and here I do **not** refer to the hippeastrum mistakenly called amaryllis by the general public.) Note that I am using “bulb” in its generic sense, including all those lumpy underground packages that contain a rainbow of flowers with their plain brown cover. Correctly, we should call them *geophytes*, earth plants. That allows the use of bulb (for *Galanthus*) while others are categorized as corms (*Crocus*) or tuber (*Anemone*.)

True bulbs are like those kitchen lilies, onions. They have an internal structure, vertical orientation, basal plate at the bottom, and may or may not have a papery covering called a tunic. True bulbs persist from year to year. Corms also have a vertical orientation and a basal plate. They always have a tunic. The food stored within the corm is consumed each growing season and a new corm arises to replace it. Tubers have no tunic, no basal plate, no internal structure. They do know which way is up but this is often difficult to determine when planting newly purchased tubers. If in doubt, plant sideways – they'll figure it out.

I buy too many geophytes, don't you? There are those I order, then impulse purchases, maybe some you raised from seed that – *mirabile dictu* – are now large enough to plant out into the garden. Some system of triage is necessary to deal with all of them in a timely manner. First, sort by size. The square / cube law means that, proportionally, a small roundish object has more surface than a larger one. So little geophytes skip to the head of the planting queue. Next, any that have no tunic get in line ahead of those that do – *Fritillaria meleagris* before a crocus. Some geophytes, really, really dislike being out of the ground. It was never intended that they emerge into the light of day, hang around for weeks and weeks before delving back down underground. *Eranthis hyemalis*, for example. Expect perhaps 25% (or less) of purchased tubers to emerge next spring. Purchase them early, soak in damp peat moss overnight, and plant the next morning. Once in the garden they will multiply from seed, prodigiously. And dug “in the green” will transplant with close to 100% success. Nothing succeeds like excess. Constraints of budget and space do impose restrictions. When planting small, affordable, geophytes, I like minimums of 25 but not less than 10.

As a general rule, plant geophytes 2 to 3 times as deep as one is thick – an inch from basal plate to top would be planted two to three inches deep. You can adjust and plant more deeply in light, sandy soils, more shallowly in heavy, clayey ones. The geophyte will tend to adjust itself, over time. Otherwise how could seeds fall to the ground yet the sturdy, food-storage structure end up below surface. If, like me, you have agonizing mishaps when digging in the garden and discover you have accidentally chopped apart some treasured rarity (for this never seems to happen to common, prolific geophytes.) Here is an easy, early warning system. Dig the hole as deep as need be and plant the geophytes. Barely cover with soil and add a layer of yel-



low sand. Finish filling the hole. Next time you dig, the yellow sand will act as a visual reminder that in order to avoid that “Oops!” moment you should slow down and dig more carefully.

Fertilizing can be a perplexing matter. Geophytes have their needs nicely packed, at least the first season, with newly purchased bulbs. And it is easy to add some fertilizer beneath the geophytes at planting time. Do be sure, especially in the case with granular fertilizers which are chemical salts, to add a thin layer of unamended soil between fertilizer layer and the geophyte's basal plate. But the spring flowering kind are making their growth in cool soil, when the microorganisms that assist with nutrient availability are not yet active. Any granular fertilizer added to the surface of the soil, even lightly cultivated in, is unlikely to get down, down, down to the roots in any useful manner, before the geophytes are dormant. If you have decided that fertilization is needed – seedlings, small divisions, newly transplanted gifts from a garden friend – liquid fertilizer that can be absorbed through foliage is a quicker pick-me-up for tired geophytes. My preference is for Jack's Classic Blossom Booster, which has a 10-30-20 analysis. Half strength when the foliage is made a good appearance, again two to three weeks later, and perhaps a third feeding after the flowers fade. Calendars are a terrific aid memoir for busy gardeners. Just write down when you did what for the first feeding, and pencil in the second, and the third.

Geophytes are clearly plants that intend to return year after year. Otherwise why put so much effort into developing their underground food reserves. However as gardeners know, not all geophytes grow in all places. Some want sun, others shade. Different sites from average to well drained, a few even accept moist situations.

There is so much to enjoy with geophytes. The confidence that winter, too, will pass and the lumpy things tucked away into the ground in fall will sleep through the winter only to emerge and flower in the spring.

Bulbs for the Rock Garden

Colchicum vernum (previously named *Bulbocodium vernum*) * deer resistant

Crocus species and cultivars

C. biflorus and cultivars

C. chrysanthus and cultivars

Iris species and cultivars

I. danfordiae * splits into little rice-grain size bulbs after flowering

I. histrioides

I. reticulata

Narcissus species and cultivars * deer resistant

N. asturiensis (previously named *N. minimus*)

N. bulbocodium

Tulips - *T. kaufmanniana* cultivars

T. greigii cultivars

other tulip species such as *T. aucheriana*

T. bakeri

T. pulchella



Bulbs for the Spring Woodland Garden

- Anemone blanda* – Grecian windflower * light shade, * deer resistant
- Arisaema* - Asian species such as *A. ringens*, *A. sikokianum*, *A. thunbergii* * deer resistant
- Chionodoxa* species - glory of the snow * deer resistant
- Corydalis solida* * multiplies generously, * deer resistant
- Crocus tomasinnianus*
- Cyclamen coum* * easy from fresh seed
- Eranthis hyemalis* - winter aconite * once established, rapid spreading, * deer resistant
- Erythronium* species - dogtooth violet
- Fritillaria meleagris* - Guinea hen flower * accepts damp soil, * deer resistant
- Galanthus* species * deer resistant
 - G. elwesii* - giant snowdrop
 - G. nivalis* - common snowdrop
 - G. woronowii*
- Hyacinthoides hispanicus* - wood hyacinth * invasive
- Leucojum vernum* - spring snowflake * accepts damp soil, * deer resistant
 - L. aestivum* * accepts damp soil, * deer resistant
- Muscari armeniacum* - grape hyacinth * rapid spreading, * deer resistant
- Narcissus* species and cultivars - daffodils
 - N. cyclamineus* and cultivars
- Pushkinia scillioides* * easily mistaken for *S. mitschenkoana*, * deer resistant
- Scilla* species * deer resistant
 - S. bifolia*
 - S. mitschenkoana* (formerly *S. tubergeniana*)
 - S. sibirica*

Native Woodland Bulbs

- Arisaema triphyllum* * deer resistant
- Erythronium americanum*
- Sanguinaria canadensis* * deer resistant
- Trillium* -diversity of sessile
 - T. cuneatum*
 - T. luteum*
- and pedunculate
 - T. erectum*
 - T. grandiflorum*

Bulbs for Autumn Bloom

- Allium thunbergii* * deer resistant
- Begonia grandis* (previously named *B. evansiana*) – hardy begonia, * good for woodland garden
- Autumn flowering crocus



C. kotschyanus (previously *C. zonalatus*) * corms generally multiply freely, flower poorly

C. laevigatus fontenayi * winter flowering

C. longiflorus

C. ochroleucus

C. speciosus

Colchicum species and cultivars - naked ladies, colchicum * deer resistant, good cut flower

C. autumnale

C. speciosum

Cyclamen hederifolium – hardy fall cyclamen, * easy from fresh seed

Suggested Reading

Anderson, E.B., Dwarf Bulbs for the Rock Garden. Thomas Nelson and Sons Ltd, 1959

Elliott, Jack, Bulbs for the Rock Garden. Timber Press, Portland, OR, 1996

Glattstein, Judy, Bulbs for Garden Habitats. Timber Press, Portland, OR, 2005

Leeds, Rod, The Plantfinders Guide to Early Bulbs. Timber Press, Portland, OR, 2000

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Photo by Bobby Ward



NARGS Piedmont Chapter Meeting

**Saturday, November 20, 2021
(via Zoom)**

Paul Spriggs
Victoria, British Columbia

**“A History Of
Crevice Rock Gardening”**

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Message from the Chair

Cyndy Cromwell

It's a cool sunny morning as I write this, perfect weather to do a little seed collecting - some for friends and some for the NARGS Seed Exchange. If you missed the November 1 deadline to submit seeds, you can still participate at the beginning of December by helping our chapter package seeds. We'll be working individually from home, like last year.

You can also order from NARGS Seedex in January – it's a fun, inexpensive way to try garden and wild collected seed from all over the world.

With fall weather finally here, it's time to walk the garden, looking for the perfect location for the Piedmont chapter bulbs and special plant sale plants purchased in October.

Amelia Lane came up with another super bulb collection this year, keeping the price under \$1 per bulb – I can't wait to see my 'Orange Monarch' crocuses popping up next spring!

Jim Hollister managed a wonderful twilight plant sale at the JC Raulston Evening Stroll, rounding up a fantastic variety for our customers and selling a ton of plants in just a few hours.

We don't meet in December of this year, but I'm very excited to think about returning to in person meetings in January! If you live at a distance or feel more comfortable attending via Zoom, that option will be available, thanks to the technical wizardry of JCRA's Chris Glenn.

Wishing you all happy fall gardening days, and best wishes for a joyful holiday season! 