

Saturday, September 12, 2009 Fall Meeting and Plant Sale: The meeting will be at Bev & Bob Walters, We apologize that this is a football Saturday in Ann Arbor. But we hope that by starting the meeting at 11:30 we can avoid much of the traffic. If you have a route into Ann Arbor that avoids the main highways, that might also help. Bring a bag lunch. We will have the Plant Sale about 1:30. See the notes below for preparations for the sale of you are not familiar with our plant sales.

Saturday, October 17, 2009 Fall Meeting: Hamburg Senior Community Center, 10:30 AM. Come to hear about the diversity of Primulas, and also the rich alpine flora of southeast Tibet. See Pam's website for information about her: www.primulaworld.com. And also come for the free lunch, provided by the Chapter!

PLANT SALE PREPARATIONS for September 12th: If you are a newcomer to our group, you will be surprised at the diversity, number of rarities, and size of our two yearly plant sales. They are one of the best things about being a chapter member, and offer the opportunity to get wonderful and unusual plants at very reasonable prices. Also, the sale is very important to the chapter, as it raises the funds for our excellent speaker program. But because of the size of the sale, we do need to have people try to follow certain rules to make the sale run smoothly and quickly.

At home:

- 1). Please pot or repot plants at least ten days before the sale. Otherwise, the plants may look ragged.
- 2). Please select appropriate plants for the sale. Interesting and unusual alpiners, woodland plants, and small woody plants are ideal. No large, common woody plants, annuals, common perennials, and tropicals, please.
- 3). Before you bring the plants, label each pot, with the name of the plant [scientific name, if known, and cultivar or variety, if known]. On the back of the label put your name and the year. This allows people both at the sale or later to ask you about the plant. It also helps us when setting up the sale to talk to you if, for example, you have missed putting a price on the plant.
- 4). We ask people to price their own plants. You can price your plants at home, if you like, but please use a separate price label. The price labels are pulled out of the pots by the cashier to expedite adding up the total.

At the sale:

- 1) If you have not priced your plants at home, please use the chapter price labels provided to price each pot. Prices range from \$2 to \$6.50, but mostly are within the \$2 to \$4 range. Set your plants as close together as possible on the selling tables. You should try to get your plants to the sale a half-hour or so before the sale starts to get them set up and priced, if necessary.
- 2) Ask Jacques Thompson to look at your plants. For every 10 plants you bring, you are given one Red Label. Each Red Label entitles you to one "First Pick." This means that those who did not bring plants must stand back and wait for those with Red Labels to make their First Picks. The time for First Pickers to make their choices is limited to 3-5 minutes depending upon the number of First Pick labels given out. Keep in mind that you still have to pay for the plants.
- 3) Tell Jacques if you think you might have brought a plant or plants that you think might be of "Auction Quality." These are normally either exceptionally rare and desirable plants not available commercially, plants available only at a very high cost, or large, well-grown specimens of highly desirable plants. We try our best to keep the auctions highly selective, and if you have plants selected for auction, you will get an additional Red Label for each plant.