

A couple of plants which I want to bring into the P.G. are *Phlox paniculata* (summer phlox) and *Physostegia virginiana* (false dragonhead or obedient plant). Both plants are of east/central North American origin and, for me, somewhat nostalgic.

The *Phlox* I intend to plant comes from my parent's backyard in Illinois, transplanted to my backyard many years ago. It is a vigorous grower, spreading to make a good clump in a couple of years. It has some mildew problems in late summer but survives any siege. It makes a good cut flower, with a domed head of one inch, flat-faced flowers -- mostly pink to pale lavender.

*Physostegia* grew in my grandmother's garden in Illinois, with great vigor and very little care. I obtained my backyard start of this plant 30+ years ago from a perennial plant nursery (now, long gone) in Menlo Park just off El Camino Real. It sends up 3 to 4 foot stalks topped by lavender, tubular, one inch blooms on each side of the rather square shaped stem. This also makes a good cut flower and gives height to any arrangement in which it is placed.

Iris rhizomes - both bearded and spuria - are in abundance for the taking at the Pastoral Garden. There are also plenty of scilla bulbs (blue bells) for the taking. They have been given away in the past and still multiply rapidly in the garden. Come and get some!!

*Arlen*