

The Scottish Rock Garden Club

Forrest Medal Stirling [Kincardine] 2015

Trillium rivale 'Purple Heart'

Shown by Cyril Lafong



For many years Cyril has entered his *Trillium rivale* 'Purple Heart' as part of his 3 pan entry in Class 1. It is usually accompanied by *Dionysia aretioides* and *Tecophilaea cyanocrocus*. This year in Class 1, the *Trillium* had been replaced by a fine pan of *Pulsatilla vernalis*. [this is the same species but not the same plant which was a consistent Forrest winner at Edinburgh shows]. Where was the 'Purple Heart'?

I looked around and then I spied a big splash of colour over by a bright *Lewisia cotyledon* [yes! *L. cotyledon* flowering in Scotland March!] and a pan of *Erythronium tuolumnense*. I think it must have been put away over there so that the table could get extra support from the hall wall and if it did collapse no one would be injured. What more can be said about this plant that I have not written in previous years? One or two things perhaps. The plant is getting bigger. That's arguable because trilliums are a mass of rhizomes, each one of which could be a separate plant. It is now more difficult to lift and carry. It has probably won more Forrest medals than any other single plant. It is fabulous. Well done Cyril, our SRGC Standard Bearer!

