

# PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

Volume 51 Number 3

March 2020



Janet's *Streptocarpus 'Janet's Petticoat'*, a sister-seedling to *Streptocarpus 'Janet's Cloudburst'*, hybridized by Dale Martens. It has bright white double blooms with soft purple guidelines and a hint of yellow in the throat. The scalloped edges add a feminine touch.

## Editor's Message

This Saturday, March 14th our meeting will be a practice 'Mini' show at the Emmanuel United Methodist Church; however, the show will be on the second floor in their larger room. (Elevator available) Thanks to Harold and Peggy for donating so we have use of this room. This 'Practice Run' will give members who have not had the chance to participate in a show the experience to see the process, in preparation for our September show at Homestead Gardens. Here is the schedule for the day:

9:00	Set up (Peggy and other volunteers)
9:30-10:30	Entries
10:30-11 (or so)	Judging (Bill, Minh, Barb)
11-12	Show/judging review

Please bring your entries based on the classes. I shall attach the schedule of classes again when emailing this edition of Petal Tones. Don't think your entry needs to be perfect! It does not! This is the time to bring in plants to get tips, ask questions and learn to prepare your plants for the September Show and Sale.

Bill asks you to email him with your entries so Peggy can organize the room ahead of time. Best wishes for a fantastic & educational meeting! Donna

### MEETING LOCATION:

Emmanuel United Methodist Church  
10755 Scaggsville Road, Laurel, MD 20723

Please No peanut products permitted in the meeting room since the area is a child care room of the church.

**March 14th** : Mini Show Bill

**April 11th**: Underwater Designs with Kitty

**May 9th**: No Meeting. Field trip to BAVS

**June 13th**: Propagation for Show plants

**July** No Meeting. National Convention

**August 8th**: Meeting on Show/Sale Prep

**Sept 11, 12 13th**: NCAC's Show and Sale

**October 10th**:

**November 21th**:

**December 12th**: Holiday Party TBA

**Reminder! Time to pay the NACA \$10 yearly dues**

**Our Show!** *National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society's Show and Sale*

*Homestead Gardens*

*743 W. Central Avenue*

*Davidsonville, MD 21035*

**Show:** *Saturday, September 12: 1-6 PM*

*Sunday, September 13: 9 AM-3 PM*

**Sale:** *Friday, September 11: 1-6 PM*

*Saturday, September 12: 9 AM – 6 PM*

*Sunday, September 13: 9 AM – 4 PM*

*Bill Schmidt: 804-266-6157*

[Danraybill@gmail.com](mailto:Danraybill@gmail.com)

[www.nationalcapitalgesneriads.org](http://www.nationalcapitalgesneriads.org)

### Show News

I hope that you will be coming Saturday, March 14th for our mini-show. It would be helpful if you could send me the number of entries for each of these three Divisions-- Horticulture, Artistic, and The Arts-- so Peggy can make sure she has sufficient tables for each in the staging. Thank you,  
Bill Schmidt [schmidt.ws@verizon.net](mailto:schmidt.ws@verizon.net)

# BLOOMIN' NOW



Bill's *Episcia* 'Pink Acajou'



Bill's *Kohleria* 'Bud's Little Pig'

Mr. Gesneriad: This is my sprouting *Sinningia conspicua* tuber. It rested for a really long time. Maybe a year. Would you recommend just putting in larger pot? I plan on that. Should I leave all the shoots and just see what happens? If it ends with with too many stems I can cut some off to prop when they grow taller. Maybe bloom for September show? Just so glad I was able to keep it from rotting. Donna Beverin



Mr. G: I would let it grow a little more but then pluck off all but three or four stems. Choose strong stems evenly spread around the tuber. One in the center for straight up growth and three others to make sure you don't see any bare stem on the others. Plenty of time for the extra shoots to root between now and September. They'll sell well if your plant is blooming in the show. Unfortunately, if it's up now it'll likely be blooming in June. Very possible for it to blooming again by September. Two years ago, Drew won Paul Susi's plant of *Sinningia* 'Party Dress' at the live auction at July's Convention. It was Paul's show plant full of bloom. Drew cut all the stems off and let them all be auctioned off too. So he went home with a naked tuber. By fall it was full of bloom again!



# BLOOMIN' NOW



Janet's *Streptocarpus* 'Ladyslipper Red Rose'



Janet's *Streptocarpus* 'Janet's Cloudburst'



Janet's *Streptocarpus* seedling she hybridized. She loves the deep violet bloom with dark red-orange in the lower center.



Donna's *Sinningia* 'High Voltage'

# BLOOMIN' NOW

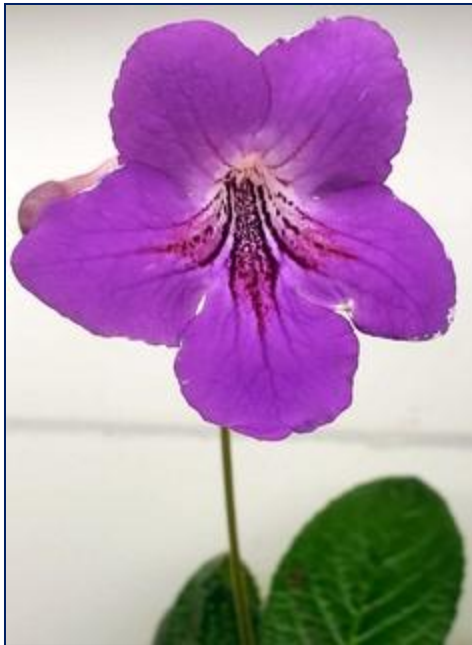


Two photos of Barb Koski's *Sinningia guttata* at Richmond's Violet Club meeting

More photos from the last meeting of the Richmond African Violet Society.



Barb Koski's *Streptocarpus* 'Angolina Joli' x 'Radars Molly'



Barb S. *Streptocarpus* 'Hot Rod' x 'Lilac Lace' from GHA seeds.



Barb S. Design: Luck of the Irish

# BLOOMIN' NOW



Barb's *Niphaea oblonga* Lindl.



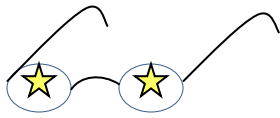
Barb's *Niphaea oblonga* Lindl. close up



Barb's *Sinningia ramboi*



Barb's *Streptocarpus* 'DEM The Gypsy Baron'



## Wishfully Seeking to Grow

Donna Beverin.....*Liebigia speciosa, Primulina leprosa, Achimenes pedunculata.*  
 Janet Carlton.....*Streptocarpus* 'Harlequin Damsel' leaf, cutting, plant  
 Sharon Long.....*Streptocarpus cyanandrus*  
 Johanna Zinn.....*Pearcea sprucei.*  
 Nadya.....fresh pollen from a fantasy type and/or green edged (DEM hybrids come to mind)  
*Streptocarpus.*  
 Barb Koski ,,,,,,,,,,,,,, *Drymonia variegata*

## Bloomin' Now



Doug's *Streptocarpus* 'Nioble' and 'Nightshades'  
 The orchids are pixie Phalanopsis, Paphiopedilum  
 and *Ludisia discolor.* The Streps are getting the attention!



Donna's *Sinningia bullata x conspicua*

### **Baltimore African Violet Club's 65th Annual African Violet Show & Sale. Field Trip for NCAC's May meeting**

Friday, May 8th: 9am - 6pm

Plant sale opens at 9 a.m.

The actual show opens at 1 p.m.

Some show plants may be available for sale after the judging and picked up at 3pm on Saturday

Saturday, May 9th: 8am - 3pm

Show and Sale will continue throughout these hours.

Joppatown Flea Market,

1000 Joppa Farm Road, Joppa, MD 21085

# BLOOMIN' NOW



Donna's *Streptocarpus* 'Zlotko' which needs repotting but she has not had the courage to perform this procedure, even with excellent advice from experts. Lots of blooms. She just has to refill the reservoir very day. Close up to the right > She put down leaves and has babies to share.



Nadys's "Strep after 70 blooming seedlings from 3 different crosses (100% purple), my Streptocarpus baby did a thing! This is a bigger deal in this household than it should be!"



Donna's first *Diastema vexans*' bloom. Baby plant received from Barb who grew from seed. "*Diastema vexans* is a low-growing herbaceous plant with pretty white and lavender flowers and softly hair leaves. It needs fairly warm temperatures and good humidity to thrive, but prefers lower light levels". Gesneriad Reference Web

# BLOOMIN' NOW & HYBRIDIZING!

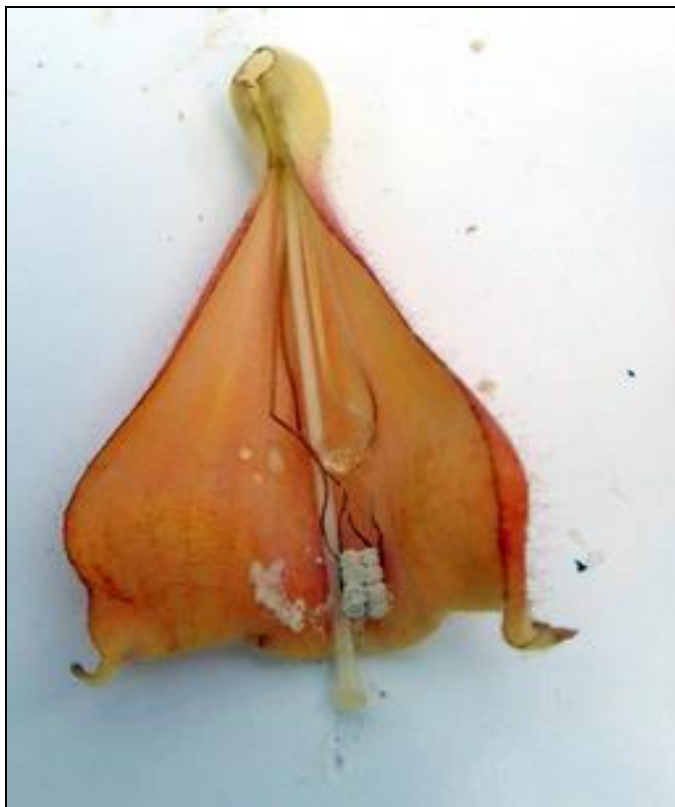
So far, the *Nematanthus crassifolius* 'Bijou' blooms do not appear to have produced any seed pods on their own. So I decide to attempt to encourage the process. The first photo shows blooms that had fallen on the floor and a tiny make-up brush. The second, one of several blooms that I would use for pollen. The opened bloom in the third photo shows filled pollen sacs, the fourth, the empty pollen sacs after I brushed the pollen from them with the brush. I used several blooms worth of pollen on multiple blooms. I think this is the first time I've tried to pollinate a gesneriad. We'll see what happens. Johanna Zinn



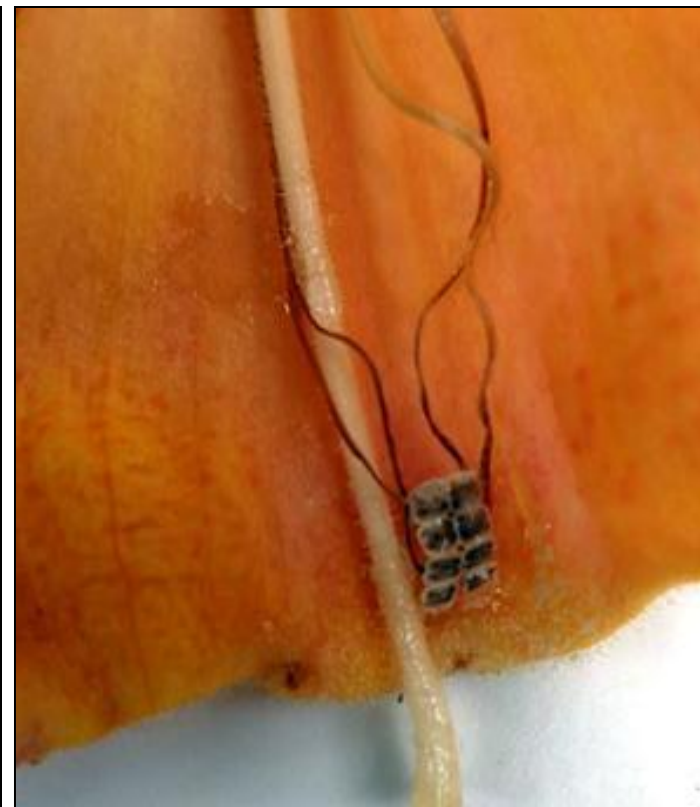
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2



3



4



Dave will bring some plants (below photos) for sale: \$4.00 each



## Raffle Table

At every meeting our members bring items to share on the raffle table. Tickets for the raffle are only 2 for a dollar and everyone who attends the meeting gets one ticket just for showing up. Each person puts their free ticket into the "pot" and everyone gets a chance to select one item from the raffle table. Then the raffle continues by pulling the purchased tickets. Here's what you'll see on the table at a meeting: Gesneriad plants, rhizomes, tubers, cuttings, seeds, magazines, pamphlets, containers, lights, gardening supplies and other plants we love to grow like begonias, orchids and other companion plants. We get a great selection of items for the raffle table from our generous members. Please remember to label your plants and check for pests. Also, it is a good practice to isolate your new plants when you get home before adding them to your collection.

**The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society  
will hold their plant sale at Boscov's  
Saturday, April 4, 2020, from 10am - 4pm  
Boscov's : 361 W Main St, Christiana, DE 19702**

### **Richmond African Violet Society (Includes all Gesneriads) Judged Show and Sale:**

**April 4th 1:00pm – 5:00pm and April 5th 9:00am– 3:00pm  
Sale:**

**April 3rd 1:00pm – 5:00pm and April 4th 9:00am – 5:00pm  
April 5th 9:00am– 4:00pm**

**Venue: Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, 1800 Lakeside Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23228 United States**

**Free Admission to show and sale**

**Adults \$13/Seniors \$11 to enter the Garden's venue**

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Publications: Donna Beverin

Propagation: Barb Stewart/Donna Beverin

Membership: Peggy MacDonald

Ways and Means: Brian Connor

Show Chairman: Bill Schmidt

Directors:

Kitty Hedgepeth

Brian Connor

Ki Imai

NCAC website: [www.nationalcapitalgesneriads.org](http://www.nationalcapitalgesneriads.org)  
[web@nationalcapitalgesneriads.org](http://web@nationalcapitalgesneriads.org)

NCAC Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/174442276299173/?ref=bookmarks>

The National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society welcomes all interested Gesneriad growers. The most familiar Gesneriad is Saintpaulia, more commonly known as the African Violet.

Dues are \$10 per year

Back issues from previous years available on website. Membership runs the calendar year and can be pro-rated.

The international Gesneriad Society is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the study, growing and enjoyment of the gesneriaceae. Membership dues are \$25 /year for individuals and \$26 for a family. Benefits include seed fund of hard-to-find plants, reference materials, yearly convention & cultural webinars.

Membership requests should be sent to Bob Clark, 1122 E Pike Street, PMB 637, Seattle, WA 98122-3916.

Membership includes a subscription to the society journal, Gesneriads.

<http://www.gesneriadsociety.org/>

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