

PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society October 2020

Volume 51 Number 10



Johanna's *Henckelia* 'Moon Walker' Photo: Johanna Zinn

This hybrid of *Henchelia moonii* and *Henchelia walkerae* was made by M. Yamagata. It is a free-ranging plant, and can grow quite large. The flowers are huge and attractive, but not produced in great profusion.

H. 'Moon Walker' is an excellent plant for a sunny window (where the plant in the photo above was grown) if room allows, or for a greenhouse. While it grows well under lights, it will soon crowd out everything else on the shelf. If the growing points are pinched out from time to time it will branch from the stems and from the base.

[Gesneriad reference web.](#)

Pre-Pandemic MEETING LOCATION:
Emmanuel United Methodist Church
10755 Scaggsville Road, Laurel, MD 20723

October 10th : Zoom Meeting 10:30am
Webinar : Growing the Small Ones (Saintpaulias)
Host Andrea Worrell

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86505928387?pwd=dWJ4dHgwNkV2bURZbzdrRWo4c2c2cwZ09>

Meeting ID: 865 0592 8387
Passcode: 377967

November 21th: Program host & subject needed
December 12th: Holiday Party TBA

To Join or renew your membership to NCAC please send a check to our Treasurer, Andy Meier. His address is located on our Membership list or you can send the editor an email at petaltones@gmail.com. Dues are \$10 per calendar year. Alternatively you can send your payment via PayPal using the email address: ncacotgs-gesneriads@yahoo.com

President's Message:

I have participated in two successful plant sharing events recently and added a lot of new plants to my collection. Both were held outside with everyone using the recommended safety measures. It was great to meet once again in person.

Our program this month is a short webinar on growing miniature African violets. There is a lot of good information in this webinar, even for experienced violet growers. Saintpaulias are gesneriads that often take a back seat to other gesneriads. Although many of us are members of an African violet group (or groups), there are gesneriad growers who are not.

Also, African violet growers may have questions about how the Gesneriad Society scores saintpaulias compared to the way AVSA scores them and what judges look for in a show plant. Hopefully there will be a lot of good discussion about these lovely small gesneriads. Barb Stewart

The Importance of Bylaws

Barbara Stewart

We have spent a lot of time recently on amending our chapter bylaws, and some people may be wondering why this is so important.

The bylaws are the rules and principles of our chapter. They provide a framework for guiding the operations of our club.

Our club is affiliated with The Gesneriad Society, Inc. which also has bylaws. In order to be a chapter, the GS bylaws state the following requirements: "Chapter Requirements - Each Chapter shall have a Constitution and Bylaws. Its Charter shall be its Constitution. Its bylaws shall be approved by The Gesneriad Society Board of Directors. It must include among its officers a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, each being a different person. The President of the chapter and at least one of the other officers listed above must be members in good standing of The Gesneriad Society."

Beyond that, we are permitted to develop our own bylaws. The bylaws generally state the purpose of the club, how it is to be governed, how meetings are conducted, and how money is managed.

Anything not specifically addressed in the bylaws defaults to Robert's Rules of Order. What are Robert's Rules?

Robert's Rules are generally accepted guidelines for groups to conduct meetings and make decisions.

Our bylaws are a working document which should meet the needs and purpose of the club. Therefore, although amendments can be made at any time, we have a provision to review the bylaws every two years to make sure they are still relevant.

Every member has access to the bylaws through our chapter website, and officers and committee chairmen should refer to them for a description of their duties. Bylaws are very important to keep order in our meetings and to help our chapter run smoothly and fairly. I encourage every member to look over the bylaws and become familiar with the articles that guide our chapter's operations.

Bloomin' Now



Jim Robert's *Aeschynanthus longicaulis* 'Kew'

→ Close up



Jim's *Gesneria celsioides*, a species originally thought to be *G. humilis*, but in 2019 Clark recognized it as a separate species

Bloomin' Now



Jim's x*Glokohleria* 'Goblin' is a John Boggan's hybrid of *Gloxinia erinoides* 'Red Satin' and *Kohleria rugata*.



Jim's *Sinningia* 'Owsee's Red Hot'



One of the many Anoles that helps keep the lanai bug free, taking a ride on Drew's arm.

Bloomin' Now



Jim's *Eucodonia* hybrid (Tuck Lock)



Jim's *Eucodonia* bloom close up



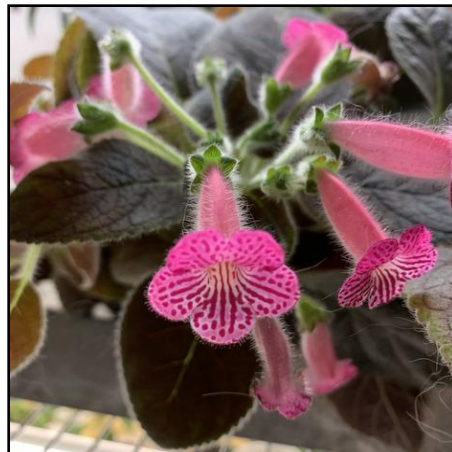
Jim's *Gesneria* 'Lemon Drop'



Jim's *Gesneria cuneifolia* 'Quebradillas'



Donna's *Amalophyllum macrophyllum*



Donna's *Kohleria* 'Peridots Rolo'



Donna's *Achimenes dulcis* close-up

BLOOMIN' NOW



Johanna's *Seemannia sylvatica*



Johanna's *Titanotrichum Oldhamii* growing in front of *Begonia grandis*, two of her favorite plants.

Bloomin' Now



Johanna's *Sinningia* 'Pink Pockets' has three more buds coming on. The foliage is a bit shredded from the last storm, but it will grow out. I wonder if it will need a period of dormancy?



Johanna's *Sinningia helleri*'s first bloom for her!



Johanna's *Aeschynanthus lobbianus variegata*



Bill Schmidt's *Seemannia* 'Chic'

Bloomin' Now



Janet's Streptocarpus: *Streptocarpus* 'Catherine'. A friend drew her a copy of her plant. A good rendition!



Dale Marten's *Primulina yungfuensis*



Primulina yungfuensis courtesy Violet Barn

Dale Martens via Gesneriphiles

"I also struggled with this species. (*Primulina yungfuensis*) I have great success now and have had dozens of flowers over the past 2 years doing 4 things. First is to pot it in a rather shallow pot. Secondly reduce the light by putting it under T12 fluorescent tubes rather than LED. If you don't have the fluorescent tubes, then my guess is natural light would be best. Another is to wick water with a very light soil (50% to 60% perlite) so it is consistently moist and never dries out. Finally, it prefers higher humidity than all my other species. I cover it with clear plastic food wrap...all the time. 2nd photo shows the shallow pot on a wick reservoir and I took off the food wrap so you could see it better. I only use non-urea orchid fertilizers at the rate of 1/8 teaspoon per gallon of water (either balanced or higher nitrogen). I leach out fertilizer salts by pouring 2 cups of tap water through the pot every 9 or 10 weeks."

Bloomin' Now



Barb's Kohleria 'Strawberry Fields'



Barb's Streptocarpus 'Bristol's Peppermint'



Barb's Streptocarpus 'Vmee's Mimosa'



Barb's Streptocarpus 'Vmee's Tom Yum'



Barb's S. 'Bristol's Lollipop'



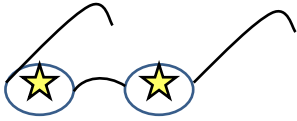
Donna's Kohleria hybrid, a nice pink



Dave's Sinningia 'April Star' x self



Dave's Seemannia species



Wishfully Seeking to Grow

- Donna Beverin..... *Liebigia speciosa*, *Primulina leprosa*, *Kohleria* 'Emily Roberts'
- Janet Carlton..... *Streptocarpus* 'Harlequin Damsel' leaf, cutting, plant
- Barry Woolf..... *Sinningia cardinalis* 'Innocent' & *Sinningia* 'Gabriel's Horn'
- Johanna Zinn..... *Pearcea sprucei* and *Nautilocalyx x pictus* 'Jade'
- Nadya Warther-Gibson *Streptocarpus* :fresh pollen from a fantasy type and/or green edged (DEM hybrids)
- Barb Koski *Drymonia variegata*

BLOOMIN'NOW



Johanna's *Sinningia nordestina*. "There were two snails on the plant label, so I put some Sluggo in a bottle cap. I don't put the Sluggo on the soil because it gets disgusting after a few weeks. The bottle cap can be removed and replaced without disturbing anything in the terrarium."



Johanna's cuttings: "I didn't put out these cuttings of *Sinningia* 'Owlsee's Red Hot' at the cuttings/plant exchange because I didn't see any new leaves starting. When I pulled the moss away, I saw well-formed tubers, so I've potted them up."



Johanna's *Primulina* NOID



Johanna's *Eucodonia* 'Adelel' from Bill at the Swap

Bloomin' Now



Dave Anderson's *xSmithicodonia* 'Heartland's Joy'



Dave's *Sinningia pusilla*



Dave's *Sinningia* 'Freckles'



Bill's *Phinaea multifolia* 'Tracery'

"Bill Schmidt's rarely seen *Phinaea multifolia* 'Tracery' but he said Jim thinks it is 'Caligula.'" Mistake in last month's issue. This plant is *Phinaea multifolia* 'Tracery'. The other information was about an *Achimenes* ID. Apologies.



Donna's *Achimenes dulcis*

Bloomin' Now



Donna's *Sinningia* 'Prudence Risley'. Everblooming!



Barb's *Sinningia leucotricha*



Close-up of Johanna's *Eucodonia* 'Adele'



Donna's *Sinningia bullata* meandering over a nearby brown begonia stem



Donna's *Sinningia* 'Bananas Foster'



Donna's *Sinningia speciosa* seedling in its second year cycle, from GHA seed hybridized by Jay Sespico.

Raffle Table: just a reminder of fun waiting for us when we can meet again!

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.

Note from Editor: Hello members. We are all missing our NCAC meetings, especially now in spring when we usually share our cuttings and seedlings all year at meetings. Please share pictures of your blooming plants on our Facebook Page. That is a fun way to stay in touch!

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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
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 You can send your payment to NCAC into our Treasurer via PayPal using the email address: ncacotgs-gesneriads@yahoo.com

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. You can subscribe on line also.

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

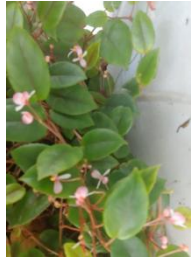
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Plants for Sale



Diastema vexans, *Sinningia* 'Mother of Pearl', *Episica* 'Blue Nile', *Paradymonia campostyla*, *Sinningia* 'Freckles', *Sinningia* 'Maiden's Blush'

Dave Anderson's plants for sale. \$5.00 each with \$9.00 Shipping. Contact Dave: Davidanderson1952@yahoo.com



Begonia eleagnifolia, *Nematanthus* 'Cheerio', *Pteris cretica* (fern)



Send me a question about your gesneriads! Hope you are all growing well ! Mr. Gesneriad