

PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

Volume 53 Number 1

January 2022



Sharon's *Microchirita micromusa* from the seedling plants Donna gave out at the Show that she grew from seeds Barb collected from her plant. Congrats, Sharon!

Join Zoom Meeting
Saturday, January 9th at 10:30am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89266757013?pwd=MzNQ2NPNjN4UDJWUXhhM0pxa1AxQT09>

Meeting ID: 892 6675 7013
Passcode: 568767

- Zoom: January 8, 2022 at 10:30am Growing in Terrariums by Johanna
- Zoom: February 13, 2022 Thrips & other pests by Barb
- Zoom: March 13, 2022 Propagating African Violets by Dale Martens
- April NO MEETING: Road trip to RAVS's Show
- May 8, 2022 Growing Gesneriads Outdoors in Summer
- June 12, 2022 Design Workshop
- July NO MEETING
- August 14, 2022 Mini Show Preparation
- Sept 11, 2022 Mini Show
- October 9 2022 Mycorrhiza Explained by a Novice
- November 13, 2022 TBS
- December 13, 2022 Holiday Celebration

President's Message:

Happy New Year Gesneriphiles!
 Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and spent some time with their plants these last several hectic weeks.
 Though the pandemic continues to impact our plans, we have shown that we can still hold club meetings online and shows with proper social distancing, masking, and at outdoor venues. Last year, we worked hard to put on a great show and sale. This year, we can focus on education and membership. We will have a mini show later this fall and Bill, our show chair, will discuss those details during our club meetings.
 Barb has a series of programs lined up including propagation (one of our most popular programs). I look forward to seeing many of your pretty faces at our monthly meetings, either remotely or in person.

Cheers, Minh

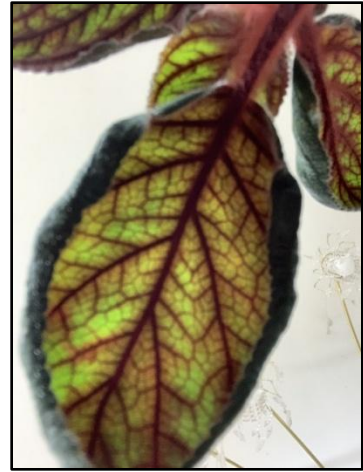
Microchirita micromusa, a small gesneriad from tropical Southeast Asia has an extremely unusual anatomy growing on limestone hills. The big heart shaped leaf is one of the two cotyledons. The second cotyledon is reduced and only recognizable as a small appendage. What looks like the petiole is actually the seedling axis (hypocotyl) of the plant. The big cotyledon, also called a macrocotyledon, takes over the bulk of photosynthesis. The true leaves, which are formed later (often only after the first flowering!) remain much smaller and are ovate to pointed.

<https://www.jungle-leaves.de/produkt/microchirita-micromusa/?lang=en>

Barb's plant



Bloomin' Now

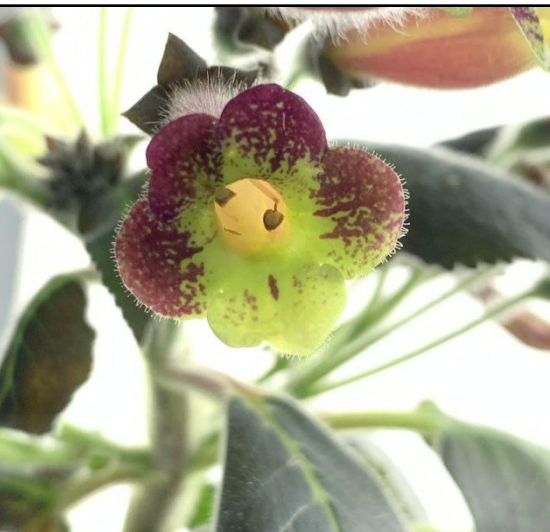


Donna's *Kohleria* 'Blizzard's Bing Cherries' first bloom in the prop box. Cutting from our Show/Sale. No information on Google yet. May be a hybrid of the species *K. equalis*. Just a guess from the red color of the leaves and hairs. Did any of our members donate this plant's cutting to the Show's sale in September 2021?



Kohlerias cheerful blooms during winter!

(Above) *Kohleria* 'Ni's Ingrid' next to asparagus ferns & *Ceropegia woodii* in bathroom window with supplemental light. Swedish hybrid by Gunilla Svensson



(Left) *Kohleria* 'An's Nagging Macaw' hybridized by Vivian Liu, is very tall.

Bloomin' Now



Donna's *Sinningia concinna* 'Seropedica'



Donna's *Saintpaulia rupicola* is a constant bloomer and may have self seeded.



Donna's *Sinningia hirsuta* growing in a salad bowl terrarium



Donna's *Kohleria* 'Yf's Leah'

Bloomin' Now

Johanna's *Aeschynanthus fulgens*: "(formerly distributed a *A. ervetii*) *Aeschynanthus fulgens* has upright, stiff stems with thick, waxy green leaves. The seller said that it needs bright indirect light and should be allowed to dry between watering. The blooms are a bright red-orange with yellow stripes."



President: Minh Bui
Minhbui82@hotmail.com

Vice-President: Barbara Stewart
Bstew771@verizon.net

Treasurer: vacant
Treasurer's Assistant: Andy Meier
Orchids00001@yahoo.com

Secretary: Position Open 9/14/2021

Newsletter Editor: Donna Beverin
Petaltones@gmail.com or
Donnabeverin@gmail.com

Committees:

Hospitality: Peggy MacDonald
Publications: Donna Beverin
Propagation: Barb Stewart/Donna Beverin
Membership: Peggy MacDonald
Ways and Means: Brian Connor
Show Chairman: Bill Schmidt

Directors:

Donna Beverin
Bill Schmidt
Peggy MacDonald

NCAC website: www.nationalcapitalgesneriads.org
web@nationalcapitalgesneriads.org

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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 Assistant Treasurer, Andy Meier via PayPal using the email address: ncacotgs-gesneriads@yahoo.com.

Please include a note with your Name, Address, Phone number & email address.

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.

National 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/>

The Toronto African Violet and Gesneriad Society and Lakeshore African Violet societies are planning on having their spring shows in 2022. Here is the information:

The Lakeshore African Violet Society of Toronto will be holding their Annual Show & Sale Saturday, April 23, 2022 from 9:00am to 4:00pm St. Philip's Lutheran Church, 61 West Deane Park Drive, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9B 2S1 Free Admission and parking Theme: "Let's Celebrate" Website: <https://lakeshoreavs.com/>

For more information please contact Beverley Williams Show Chairman at beverleyandbrucewilliams@rogers.com or T.905-620-1149 Or contact Doris Brownlie at T. 905-270-6776

[Toronto African Violet and Gesneriad Society-Annual show & sale](#)

April 10, 2022 @ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
777 Lawrence Avenue, East, North York, Ontario, M3C1P2

Toronto African Violet & Gesneriad Society annual show & sale Theme: "Flowers Coast to Coast" Sunday: April 10, 2022 from 9:00am to 4:00pm Admission is \$2 For more information please contact Julie Thompson via e-mail or Brett Flewelling via e-mail or phone (289) 239-8023

FOR IN PERSON MEETINGS ONCE THEY BEGIN:

National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society
Emmanuel United Methodist Church
10755 Scaggsville Road, Laurel, MD 20723

Room 3 on the lower level. To protect the preschool from COVID issues, please follow all CDC guidelines, including wearing of masks and wiping down all surfaces at the end of each meeting. We would also ask you to enter the building via the upstairs back Narthex entrance, use the upstairs bathrooms, and not venture into the preschool area. **NO PEANUT PRODUCT ALLOWED!**

January 2022 is our first 'In Person' meeting. The meeting will also be available via Zoom to our members who prefer to stay home and join the meeting.