

PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

June 2022

Volume 53 Number 6



Johanna's *Henckleia certoscyhus* in bloom!

IN PERSON MEETINGS

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!**

June 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.

NCAC Member Meeting in Person
Saturday, June 11, 2022 10:30am
Emmanuel United Methodist Church
10755 Scaggsville Road, Laurel, MD 20723

Zoom Meeting for those who cannot attend in person:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84990123085?pwd=dWp4RVJqUFEyeEkrCnZYakwrS3p4QT09>

Meeting ID: 849 9012 3085
Passcode: 889706

- June 11th IN PERSON Propagation workshop
Zoom simultaneously
- July NO MEETING
- Aug 13th Mini Show Preparation
- Sept 10th Mini Show (Raffle no sales)
- Oct 8th Jim Roberts "Grow Gesneriads in Florida"
- Nov 12th Webinar or field trip to MAAVS
- Dec 10th Holiday Celebration

Saturday, June 11, 2022 10:30am

Our first in person meeting in 2 years will be the long overdue and ever popular propagation workshop. Everyone is invited to bring cuttings, leaves, tubers, rhizomes, seedlings, seeds, and/or overgrown plants in need of trimming (all pest free, of course!). Alcie Maxwell is mailing some of his seedlings from LA to share with us all! Thanks Alcie.

There will not be a formal program, but participants are encouraged to give some culture information about what they have brought to share. If a plant is not in bloom, it would help to bring a picture of the blossom, if possible.

The propagation committee will bring supplies, including pots and seed containers, soil, wicks, baggies, markers, labels, and some tools; however, you may want to bring your own soil mix and pots. We will have several tables set up with supplies and space to pot up things. There may not be time to pot up everything you want, but there will be baggies available to take things home. The more, the merrier, so hope to see you there. Snacks welcome!

Barb Stewart, Vice President

BLOOMIN' NOW

The First Page in Second page! Jim's stunning, eye catching plant!



Jim's *Sinningia* 'Owsee Red Hot' growing in Florida. The intense red just pops out at you! Such a stunner!

GRW: "This fine hybrid created by Alcie Maxwell has what is known as "calyx double" features. The calyx, rather than being the usual small leafy green structure, has morphed into a "tube" enveloping the corolla tube. The prominent calyx lobes then have the appearance of extra petals. This phenomenon is sometimes referred to as "tube-in-tube" or "hose-in-hose", the latter implying pulling on two pairs of socks or nylons.

As seen in the feature photo below, this hybrid typically produces a very prominent tuber, most often allowed to grow above the soil level and become part of the display."



***Sinningia* 'Owsee Red Hot'**, 2015, IR151314, hybridized by Alcie Maxwell, LA (*S. bullata* x *S. Kevin Garnett*'). Cross made 10/13, planted 11/13, first flowered 06/21/14. Fertile but reproducible only vegetatively. Erect growth habit, 12-18 inches. Leaves dark olive green with red back when mature, light green when young, 5-7 inches long x 3.5 inches wide with 1 inch petiole, elliptical with crenate margin, cordate base and acute tip, bullate, hairy. Calyx fused, red, 1 inch. Pedicel 2.5 inches, 2 flowers per axil. Corolla salverform, 1-1.5 inches long x 0.25 inches wide, red. Fire engine red double calyx blossoms complement the dark green fuzzy foliage with red reverse. Slow to bloom but once blooming, it will bloom continuously with good culture. (Gesneriad Society website)

[The Gesneriad Society, Inc. \(Facebook Page\) 2019](#)



Sinningia 'Owsee Red Hot'. This plant is grown in a 10 inch azalea pot and was started from a tip cutting. Brandon Erikson is both the grower and photographer. Although just at the beginning of its bloom cycle - there are nearly 50 buds and open blooms. He grows this plant on his light shelves in his basement in Omaha, Nebraska and only brought it upstairs to get the photo. Alcie Maxwell is the hybridizer of this cultivar.

BLOOMIN' NOW



Alcie's *Saintpaulia* 'Rob's Boolaroo'



Alcie's *Sinningia defoliata*

Artistic Division Info:

In September NCAC has a Mini Show at the Church and so Bill would like our artists to have this schedule ahead of time so our artists can plan ahead. More information for the show will become available in August. Editor

DIVISION II ARTISTIC

Gesneriads must predominate. No artificial plant material allowed. Other live and dried material permitted as indicated. Accessories are optional. *Saintpaulia* permitted in all classes. Gesneriads used must be identified on an accompanying card. Only one entry per exhibitor per class. Reservations for entries in the Artistic Sections must be made with Peggy MacDonald, 240-461-6556, bobpeggymac@gmail.com by September 7, 2022. Limit of 3 entries per class per person.

SECTION K—Arrangement of Fresh Cut, and/or Dried Gesneriad Material with additional natural cut material permitted.
Class 52 "Green Heroes"...of lanterns, hornets, hulks and turtles, use one or more comic book characters to create a POWERful statement of gesneriads !!! (supply your hero's name) An arrangement of fresh cut, and/or dried gesneriad material. Staged in an 8"H x 8"W x 6"D niche.

Class 53 "Going Green" - A foliage only arrangement that emphasizes the variety (colors, textures, patterns) of gesneriad leaves, and uses a recyclable container and/or materials. An arrangement of fresh cut gesneriad material. Staged in a 12"H x 12"W x 10"D niche.

Class 54 "Salsa Verde" - Spice up your kitchen with a South-of-the-Border arrangement. An arrangement of growing gesneriad material with additional natural cut material permitted. Staged in a 14"H x 11"W x 11"D niche.

SECTION L--Container Planting of Growing Material

Class 55 Terrarium

Class 56 Tray/dish landscape

Class 57 Natural Garden—a planting in any natural occurring material (e.g. rock, wood, shell).

SECTION M--Artistic Entry by a Novice

A Novice is anyone who has never won a blue ribbon in the artistic division of a gesneriad show (including AVSA). Only one entry per exhibitor allowed.

Class 58 Artistic entry suitable for any of the classes in Sections K, or L. Exhibitor must identify, on a 3" x 5" card, the name of the class chosen and the plant material used. Exhibitors wishing novice status in Division II may not enter any other Division II classes.

BLOOMIN' NOW



Johanna : "A bloom of *Henckelia ceratoscyhus* about to bloom in front of what I hope is a maturing seed pod."



Johanna's *Sinningia hirsute* (above and below)



Johanna: "*Gloxinopsis racemosa* dark has been in bloom for months. At first, the main inflorescence opened one or two blossoms at a time for a total of 32 blooms. Then side shoots began to form which had intermittent blooms. Now shoots are coming up from the soil." (Inset)



Johanna's two jackpot finds at her local nurseries: *Episcia* not labeled but Steve's Leaves lists this *Episcia* as 'Costa Rico Pink' and the always stunning *Sinningia* 'Prudence Risley' grown and sold by Gary Hunter's Greenhouses.

BLOOMIN' NOW



Alcie's *Sinningia cardinalis* seedlings



Alcie's *Sinningia bullata* seedlings



Alcie's *Sinningia laeae*, a species not often seen.



Alcie's *Sinningia micans*



Alcie's *Sinningia* tubers sprouting



Sinningia micans flowers also a species not often seen!

Transporting Your Precious Blooming Gesneriads to a Show:

Dale Marten's advice from Facebook, May 2022

Some are going to conventions, driving to enter precious plants. I cut holes the size of the pots in cereal boxes, then tape those cereal boxes to a larger carrying container. Not too close to the box's walls because you don't want bouncing leaves and flowers to rub against the cardboard walls. I put a non-slip rubber drawer liner on the floor of the car to help prevent boxes sliding. I also tape the box on top to the box under it to prevent the top layer of boxes from sliding. When you get to the hotel, you need to acclimate the entries to room air. Open the boxes, but then turn the lids 90 degrees and keep lids on the top of the boxes to hold some humidity until the next day...otherwise you'll have shocked plants. Also don't have hotel's air conditioning blowing on the plants.



All packed up safely in Dale's vehicle!

If your room has sun blazing in it, then keep the sheer curtains closed. I use a food bag clip to hold the sheers together. You can see my yellow potato chip bag closure holding back curtains on the left side of the last photo. That's a northern window, so plants never were hit by sun.

Thank you Dale, for the tips! Your plants always look great!



BLOOMIN' NOW



Bill's *Saintpaulia* 'Vince's Emerald Sapphire'



Johanna's *Primulina yungfuensis*



Johanna: " *Streptocarpus* 'Hara No Mizu', a mini-strep cultivar. The Primulina and the Strep both fit on my kitchen windowsill! Gary Hunter's selling lots of gesneriads locally."



Bill's *Saintpaulia* 'Vince's Emerald Sapphire', *S. tongwensis* and *S. 'Buckeye Sketch Artist'*



Barb's *Episcia fimbriata* 'Blue Heaven'



Editor's Note: I have heard about this species of *Kohleria* but have only seen its hybrid pictures. A joy to find 艾米林 (Amy Lin's) picture on Facebook.

BLOOMIN' NOW



Barb Koski's *Saintpaulia* 'Tina's April Fantasy'



Barb's *Sinningia* 'YMA'



Barb's *Sinningia* *Ambayensis*



Barry's amazing *Sinningia leucotricha*



Barry's *Kohleria bogotensis*



Bill's *Kohleria* 'Beltane'



Nadya's *Streptocarpus* seedlings she grew from her crosses. Congratulations on such beauties!

BLOOMIN' NOW



Bill's *Saintpaulia* 'Buckeye Sketch Artist'



Bill's *Saintpaulia tongwensis*

Copy and paste this link into your search engine for the article on *Gasteranthus extinctus*. that was in the Washington Post. <https://phytokeys.pensoft.net/article/79638/>

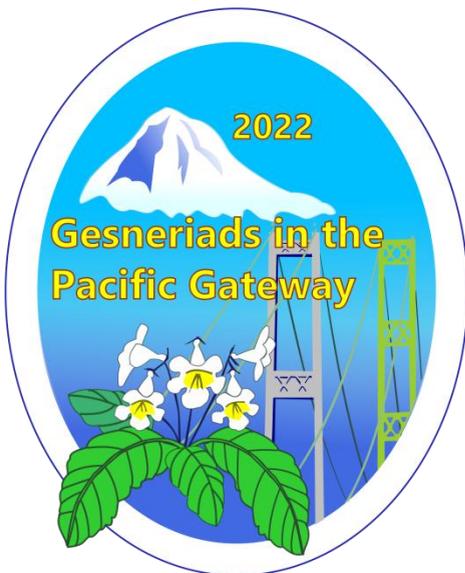
Gesneriads in the Pacific Gateway

July 4 to July 9, 2022

The Puget Sound Gesneriad Society is pleased to announce The Gesneriad Society's 65th Annual Convention "**Gesneriads in the Pacific Gateway**" to be held from July 4 to July 9, 2022 in Tacoma, Washington.

We will be able to catch up with many old friends as well as make many new friends. Some folks will be enjoying their first convention and some will be seeing the Northwest for the first time. Once again there will be a LIVE plant show, plant sales, auctions, judging school, a variety of speakers, and trips for all.

Hotel Murano is in the middle of Tacoma's vibrant downtown with many excellent restaurants, a world-class arts scene, parks, shops, theaters and museums. The hotel itself is fascinating, featuring examples of glass art and glass artists with many styles and techniques. You can make it a base to enjoy many regional attractions such as Mt. Rainier, Olympic National Park, and Mount St. Helens National Park, all two hours or less of a road trip from our hotel.



Numerous gardens and nurseries can also be found nearby. With ocean beaches in one direction and the Cascades in the other, there is much to explore in the wider area. Plan to come early and stay late in the (usually) dry and mild summer weather.

Convention registration is now open and we suggest you register ASAP! Early entry to plant sales on Thursday night from 9:00 to 10:30 pm is for convention registrants only and is based upon your registration number. Plant sales are open to the public on Friday and Saturday, but the best selection is on Thursday night.

<https://gesneriadsociety.org/conventions/2022-convention-tacoma-washington/>

Ed note: Check the website for more information. Only mail in registration for 2022 Convention.

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NCAC website: www.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/>



Please claim your spoon if you left it at Johanna Zinn's home during on of our meetings or swaps.