

PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

Volume 54 Number 23

March 2023



Donna's *Sinningia speciosa regina* 'Serra da Vista'
"I grew this plant from Mauro's seed about 3 or 4 years ago. I have self pollinated a few blooms and crossed one bloom with S. Anne Crowley seedling's bloom. I have propped 3 bottom leaves to have a few baby plants for a meeting or convention. Time will tell!"

Barbara Stewart's President's Message:

Well, it's that time of year again when lots of gesneriads come out of dormancy and seedlings are ready for their own pots. That means...the propagation workshop! This is a meeting you will want to attend in person. Zoom will be an available option, Wi-Fi permitting.
If you read PT closely last month you might have seen the wrong meeting date for this month. Hopefully you remembered that we meet the second Saturday, but I apologized if you were confused and made other plans. Otherwise, I hope to see you at our first in-person meeting of the year. Many of us have not seen each other since the mini show last September. I look forward to getting together again.

Propagation workshop:

There will be some soil, tools, and supplies at the workshop; however, you may want to bring your own soil mix, wicking material, and tools if you want to pot up some plants.

March 11, 2023: 10:30am
Propagation meeting in person
Please bring cuttings, seeds, seedlings, young plants, leaves and any plant material to share. Some soil and supplies will be available at this working meeting.

Join Zoom for those who cannot attend in person:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82869667740?pwd=RmRtZVhCWURNNnR4NG5YR3lMbJzZz09>

Meeting ID: 828 6966 7740

Passcode: 007553

Location:

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



Attention: The Church is a "NUT FREE ZONE" due to children with allergies so do not bring any food items that include nuts or peanuts. The area is a day care.

Meetings for 2023: June 10th September 9th
October 14th December 9th

Attention Members:

- Change to the Proposed bylaws amendment, add: Section 12: Show Committee: This committee shall make decisions and implement the planning, set up, and running of the flower show. The show chairman shall appoint the chairmen of the show subcommittees and coordinate their work, develop a budget for the show, and act as a liaison with the representatives of the show site.**
- Regarding Mauro Peixoto's Brazil Plants seed orders: Our group can request 12 packets of Gesneriad seeds, three times a year as members. Donna is and shall continue to send out Mauro's entire seed list and if anyone wants to buy seeds from other plant families they can do so at their own cost including 8% for shipping. Packets are \$3.00 each and you can reimburse Donna by check or PayPal. You can also join Brazil Plants as an individual member through the "Sustaining Membership" and order seeds on your own. Contact Donna with details when you send your requests to her. See more information on page 9.

Bloomin' Now



Barb Borleske's *Kohleria* 'Selby' "I received from Karyn Cichocky last spring. It did amazingly well under a dome in my cold basement!"



Bill's *Achimenes* 'Glory'



Janet's *Streptocarpus* 'Scarlet'



Streptocarpus 'Janet's Wino' is one of her hybrids!

Bloomin' Now



Donna's *Saintpaulia* 'Owlsee Strength' "is constantly in bloom. I better put some leaves down to share this little gem! "



Donna's *Episcia* 'Jim's Canadian Sunset' in a terrarium. "I think it is a cutting from the December meeting.



Donna's *Saintpaulia* 'Pixie Runaround sport' and species *Saintpaulia punta diplotricha* # 7, also non-stop bloomers since purchase November 2022. I am using the fertilizer sticks that David Dick recommend at our February 2021 meeting.



Donna's *Sinningia bullata x conspicua*

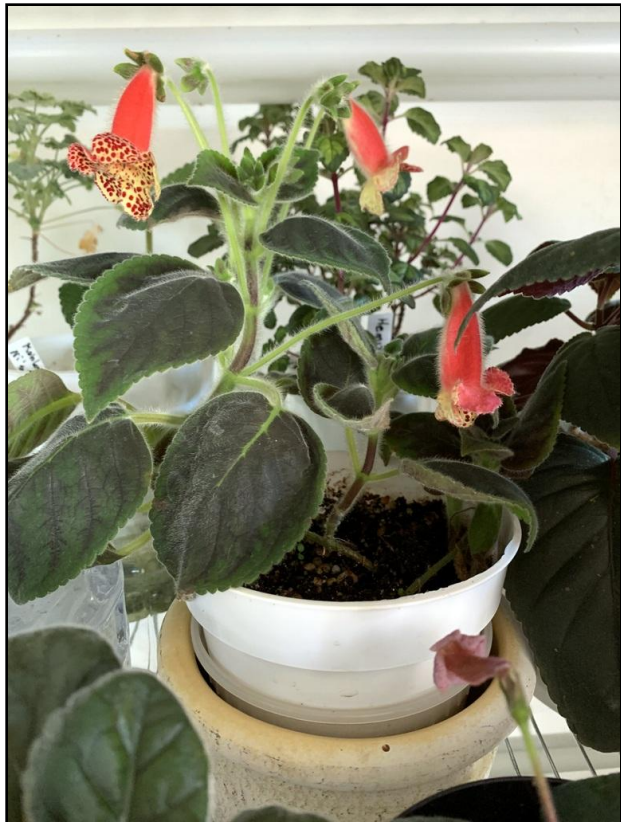
Bloomin' Now



Doug Bolt's *Streptocarpus* shelf. Doug said he needs to repot many!



Janet's *Streptocarpus* 'Salmon Sunset'



Donna's *Kohleria* 'Ingrid'



Barb's tray of gesneriads to share at our Propagation meeting in March



Donna's leaves rooting from *S. speciosa regina* 'Serra Da Vista'.



Donna's *Sinningia concinna* 'Seropedica'



Bill's *Kohleria* 'Beltane'



Bill's *Primulina tobacum*



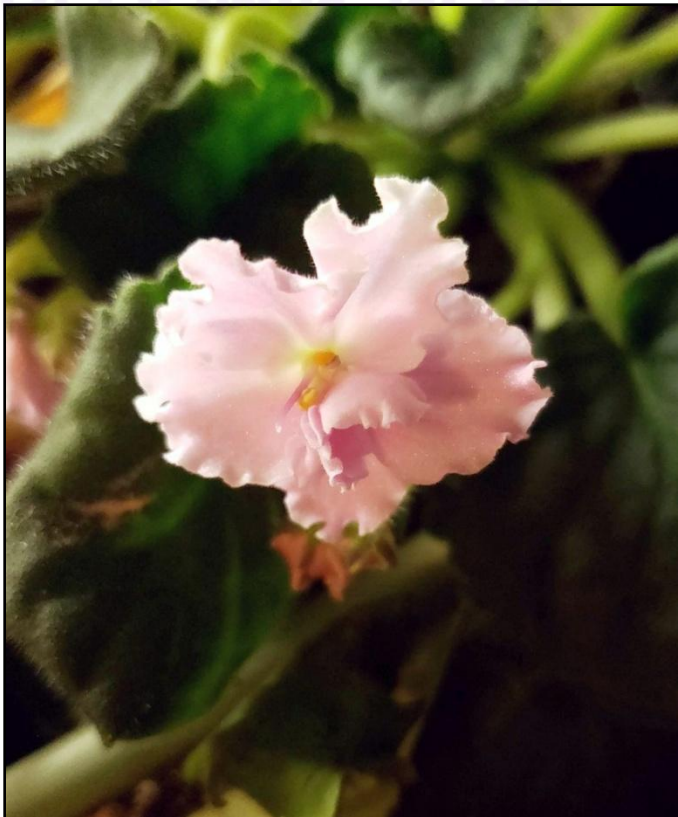
Bill's *Saintpaulia* 'Shirl's Hawaiian Lei' & *Saintpaulia* 'Morgan's Declan Duff'



***Mousoonia septentrionalis* G1202**

Karyn Cichocky : " I received some old seed back in 2017 of this species. The seed was between 15-20 years old and I got a few plants to come up. I was happy to see that the remaining plant was finally going to bloom for the first time. The flowers are paler than *Mousoonia elegans* and have fringe on the petal edges. I've made cuttings and hope to have plants for the convention plant sales tables."

BLOOMIN' NOW



Barb's *Saintpaulia* 'LE - Little Flirt'



Barb's *Saintpaulia* 'RS-Operetta'

Johanna's Trip to Atlanta Botanical Garden



Gesneriad NOID, maybe a *S. reitzii*?



Primulina sinensis



The rare *Nautilocalyx erytranthus*

A New Hybrid

Wallace Wells: "Ever since *Primulina* was enlarged by Weber in 2011 to include most of the genus *Chirita*, people been trying to find out if the species formally label as *Chirita* would hybridize with *Primulina tabaccum* . Most of the attempts ere not successful; however, a member of the Long Island, Gesneriad Society, Leve Hajdu was successful in crossing, *Primulina tabaccum* and *P. petrocosomeoides*. This (picture below) is the resulting hybrid. It is a rosette which has small format, much smaller than *P. tabacuum* the flowers are borne in profusion very dainty and appealing with open-faced corolla tubes with a central line down the middle, which is reminiscent of the *P. tabaccum* parent."



Karyn Cichocki: "Leve distributed pots full of seedlings from this cross to several people. I kept one that I really like, but so far the one you showed is the best one yet with a great combination of both parents."

Leve: "My cross doesn't have a scent as far as I can tell. The trick is you need to take a spent flower cut it in half and take the pollen from the wall, there is also sap in there so it may take a few tries. *P. petrocosomeoides* was the mother it accepts pollen better than most primulina which tend to be picky. I said I wasn't going to register it, but if people really start propagating it, then maybe I should."

Mel Grice: "I will be bringing lots of starter plants of this cross to The Gesneriad Society Convention in Richmond, VA this July for convention plant sales."

Michael Riley: "To the end that "people will be propagating it" - it sure would be nice to have a hybrid name or temporary number to make certain that the material in cultivation is the same plant and not one of the other siblings in the cross?"

Irina Nicholson: "Michael is so right. Choosing one superior out of the batch or more if they are distinct ones and naming them - even with a temporary name as LH22-01 and LV22-02 will help with a confusion in future... until the further inspiration. "

Donna Beverin: "Karyn, does this plant have a tuber, rhizome or fibrous roots? I could not find anything on Google. "

Karyn C: "It is considered a rhizomatous plant, however as far as I know none of them have been known to form rhizomes. Attached is a picture of the bulbous root structure, which looks like a tuber that my *Moussoniea elegans* had. I felt under the soil like of *M. septentrionalis* and although I felt a grouping of roots, it doesn't feel like the same type of structure has developed.

In my conditions, *M. elegans* would go dormant and then sprout from the top of tuber like structure, elongating it each year as some *Sinningia* do. Pretty interesting."



"Another hybrid of *Primulina tabaccum* with former *Chirita*. This is *Primulina flavimaculata* x *Primulina tabaccum* I made in 2014. There is a scent on the leaves."

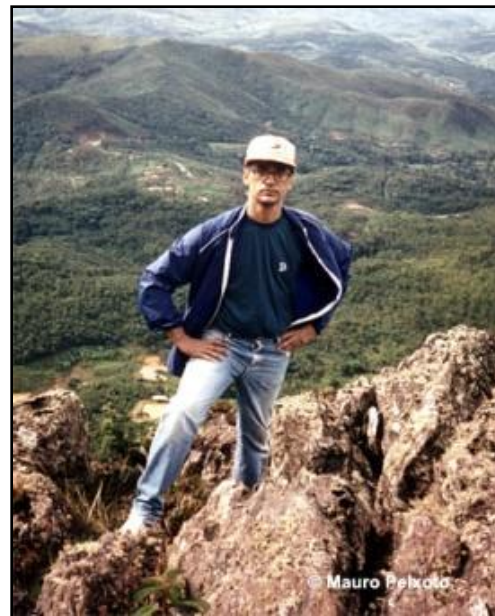
Toshi Okuto



Mauro Peixoto's Brazil Plant Club

CLUB PROPOSAL - (2022 Version)

Since the late 1980's I've been cultivating and distributing seed of many new and rare Brazilian plant species. Single-handedly I have managed all aspects of this process - from maintaining the collections in a 10 m x 30 m covered lath to labeling and keeping records on locality and hand pollinating those requested for seed. In addition to all of this, I travel yearly through southern Brazil to upgrade and expand the collections. Presently, the collection focuses upon *Alstroemeriaceae*, *Aristolochiaceae*, *Amaryllidaceae*, *Iridaceae*, *Passifloraceae*, *Gesneriaceae*, *Orchidaceae* and *Velloziaceae*; but also extends to others related to these. Over the years my personal collection has grown to about 10,000 plants. A complete list of available seed will be available every 4 months and listed in BrazilClub's Facebook page. The seed will be sent on a first come, first serve basis. Seed is not cumulative and must be received within the current subscription period.



a- Sustaining Membership - US\$ 64.00 /year a - Sustaining Membership = 18 seed packets/year (6 packets, 3 times/year)

b- Preservationist Membership - US\$ 132.00 /year Preservationist Membership = 36 seed packets/year (12 packets, 3 times/year)

c- Visionary Membership / Garden Clubs / Institutional -US\$ 264.00 /year Visionary Membership / Garden Clubs / Institutional = 72 seed packets/year (24 pkg, 3 times/year)

Paypal address for payment: plumerioides@gmail.com

IMPORTANT NOTES:

a - Free seeds are limited to **one packet** from each species per order.

b - There will be **only three free shipping** within the current period; the others should pay the regular postage fee.

c - Quantity of seeds in each package may vary according to availability.

d - Extremely rare seeds like *Worsleya raineri* and others that have a very high market price (up to \$10 each seed) will be rated accordingly to its rarity.

e - Discount is not cumulative to Wholesalers, Botanical Gardens or Garden Clubs that already have discounts on large orders.

f - Priority in obtaining new and/or rare species. Members will be the first ones to know every time that I have seeds from rare or new species.

g - The members would get a discount on additional seed from the site seed-list. Additional seed packets: US\$ 3.00 or Euro 3.00 each. Price changed in 2022.

h - Satisfaction for helping to keep alive one of the biggest collection of *Gesneriaceae*, *Passifloraceae*, *Amaryllidaceae* and *Aristolochiaceae*, in Brazil - a unique way of actively conserving a part of Brazil's Atlantic rainforest biodiversity.

I'm a Brazilian, living in Mogi das Cruzes, Sao Paulo State.

My passion for plants started in early childhood and by age 12, I started to grow orchids. Later, my interests expanded to include the study and cultivation of other families: *Gesneriaceae*, *Amaryllidaceae*, *Passifloraceae*, *Aristolochiaceae*, and other families native to Brazil, especially in the Atlantic Rainforest in Southeast Brazil. My desire to study and photograph them in their habitat led me to travel around Brazil, alone or with other plant enthusiasts interested in specific families. At the present I work as a guide to groups or individuals interested in observing native Brazilian plants in the wild before they go extinct. In my travels I have discovered several species previously unknown to science and I have worked extensively with Dr. Alain Chautems at the Geneva Botanical Garden, which houses an extensive *Gesneriaceae* collection. For the past few years I also worked setting up and organizing an herbaceous plants collection at the Instituto Plantarum de Estudos da Flora (Plantarum Institute for Botanical Studies), in Nova Odessa, São Paulo State. Mauro Peixoto

African Violet and Gesneriad Society of New Jersey
(formerly the African Violet Club of Morris County and the Frelinghuysen Arboretum Gesneriad Society)



Show & Plant Sale
Haggerty Education Building
Frelinghuysen Arboretum (a facility of the Morris County Parks Commission)
353 E. Hanover Ave.
Morristown, NJ 07960

Saturday, April 15, 2023 9:30am - 3:00pm

Show - featuring African Violets and their exotic cousins in the Gesneriad family.
Sale : Featuring plants from Lyndon Lyons Greenhouses & a wide variety of member grown plants.

Richmond African Violet Society

**“African Violets
Our Precious
Gems”**



Judged show and sale
Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden
1800 Lakeside Avenue
Richmond, Virginia 23228

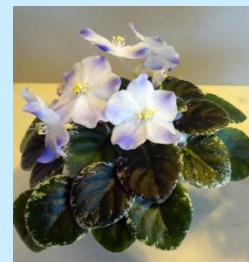
Show

April 1, 2023 1:00-5:00pm
April 2, 2023 9:00 A.M. - 3:00pm

Sale

March 31st 1:00 - 5:00pm
April 1st: 9:00 - 5:00pm
April 2nd: 9:00-4:00pm

Free Admission to show and sale
Info: Sharon Long, 804-740-5322
Email: slong15781@aol.com



**The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society
Plant Sale & Exhibition**



Saturday, April 1, 2023 10:00AM to 4:00PM
Bosco's Department Store, Christiana Town Center, Newark, Delaware
Delaware I-95 Exit 3

At the sale: Fancy Bloomers African Violets and Streptocarpus
Primulina and rare gesneriads grown by DAVS members.

Cash or Checks Only
Buy 5 Plants at Full Price
And Get One of Equal or Lesser Value FREE



President: Barbara Stewart
Bstew771@verizon.net

Vice-President: Minh Bui
Minhbui82@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Andy Meier
Orchids00001@yahoo.com

Secretary: Dena Horton

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

Committees:

Hospitality:

Publications: Donna Beverin

Propagation: Barb Stewart/Donna Beverin

Membership: Dena Horton

Ways and Means:

Show Chairman:

Directors:

Donna Beverin

Peggy MacDonald

Bill Schmidt

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

Permission to reprint from Petal Tones is granted to other Gesneriad Society editors, provided that credit is given to the author and the publication.

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/>



Virginia is for Gesneriad Lovers July 3 to July 8, 2023

The Richmond area convention team invites you to attend The Gesneriad Society's 66th Annual Convention

"VIRGINIA IS FOR GESNERIAD LOVERS"

Venue: The Westin Richmond

<https://gesneriadsociety.org/conventions/2023-convention-richmond-va/>

One of the topics that will be discussed at the 2023 Convention in Richmond, Virginia, in July is growing gesneriads outdoors. The plants in the photos below were grown outdoors in mid-New York State. Our convention speaker will discuss the challenges and rewards of growing gesneriads outdoors. From Margaret Califano the grower: "I put some 'extra' Gesneriads outdoors this summer and got interesting results. The New York weather was very hot and lacked rain in my area, and the porch area was a bit shadier than in the past. Some did better than others. *Chrysosthemis adenosiphon* got huge but didn't bloom. The basket of mostly Sinningia 'Prudence Risley' did well. The Streptocarpus window box took awhile to grow, but improved with time. Sinningia 'Rock Loves Paul' bloomed a lot early, but now wants to restart a crown."

