

# PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

Volume 55 Number 12

December 2024



Bill's *Gloximannia lindeniana*



Bill's *Smithiantha zebrina*

Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> our Holiday Party and Meeting will be held at Johanna Zinn's home at 11:00 am. Details will accompany the email delivering this issue of Petal Tones.

December 14<sup>th</sup>: Holiday luncheon and meeting hosted by Johanna Zinn

January 11<sup>th</sup>: Program to be announced

National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society (NCAC)

Emmanuel United Methodist Church  
10755 Scaggsville Road, Laurel, MD 20723  
Attention: The Church is a "NUT FREE ZONE"

## President's message:

Happy holidays! We skipped the November meeting in favor of encouraging member to visit or participate in the MAAVS convention in York, Pa. It was a beautiful show with lots of entries. I was one of the judges of the gesneriad section, which was quite well represented. Shows are great for exhibiting well grown plants as well as new species and cultivars. Congratulations to our members who exhibited plants and designs and won awards.

This month marks the last meeting of this year. We will need to elect new officers and plan for meetings in 2025. Your input is very important, especially regarding programs you would like to have. I have included a listing of programs we have had in the past going back to 2016, to give you some ideas. (An attachment to the email with Petal Tones December 2024)

As you can see, we had some great programs this year with a good variety of topics as well as our mini show. We will also be open to suggestions about how we can improve our meetings and club operations.

Just a reminder that dues are due. Hope to see you there with your favorite dish and a plant related gift for the optional gift exchange. Thanks to Johanna and her family for hosting again this year.

Barbara





Barb S. *Sinningia harleyi* 483 plant in bloom!



Mauro Peixoto's photo of *S. harleyi* in situ.

## **Sinningia harleyi 483**

This plant was grown from seed from the Brazil seed fund. I have had it for several years. It has proven to be resilient, coming out of dormancy when I thought it was history.

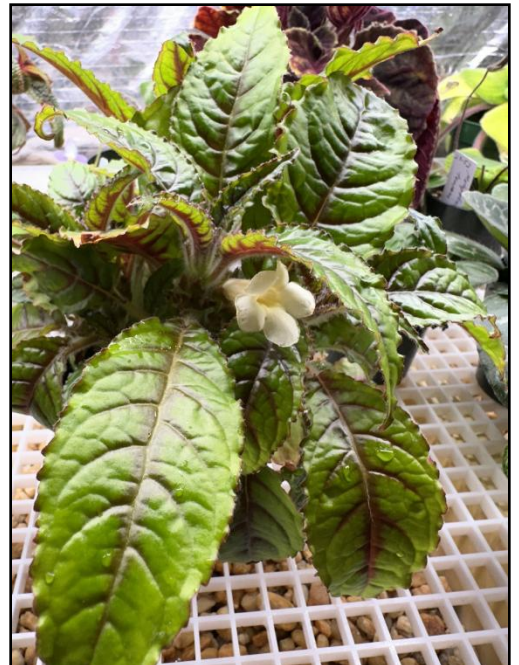
After being neglected in a medicine cup pot for who knows how long, I repotted it last June. It has now rewarded me with this beautiful mass of blooms.

According to Sinningia and Friends ([www.burwur.net](http://www.burwur.net)), this species is most closely related to *S. nordestina* and recently discovered species *S. sp. 'Catoles'*. It is indeterminate, as evidenced by the rambling 46" stem, even under LED lights. It has been grown on a wick to survive my erratic watering habit. *S. harleyi* is native to Brazil, growing among rocks in semi-shaded areas. It comes in red and pink forms. Mine appears to be the pink form. If still alive in the spring, I will see how it does outside with my other summer sinningias.

Barbara Stewart



Bill's *xSmithicodonia* 'Heartland's Joy'



David Turley's *Nautilocalyx forgetii*



# Bloomin' Now



Barb Borleke: "This is a recent photo of on of my hybrid *Primulina*, as yet unnamed. It stays small And is a heavy bloomer."



Barb Borleske: "A recent photo of *Primulina petrocosmeoides*. A great plant for those who love tiny plants. Free bloomer that won't outgrow its 2.5" pot".



Barb Borleske: *Nematanthus* 'Magnot', part of the plant I exhibited at the MAAVS convention in November 2024.



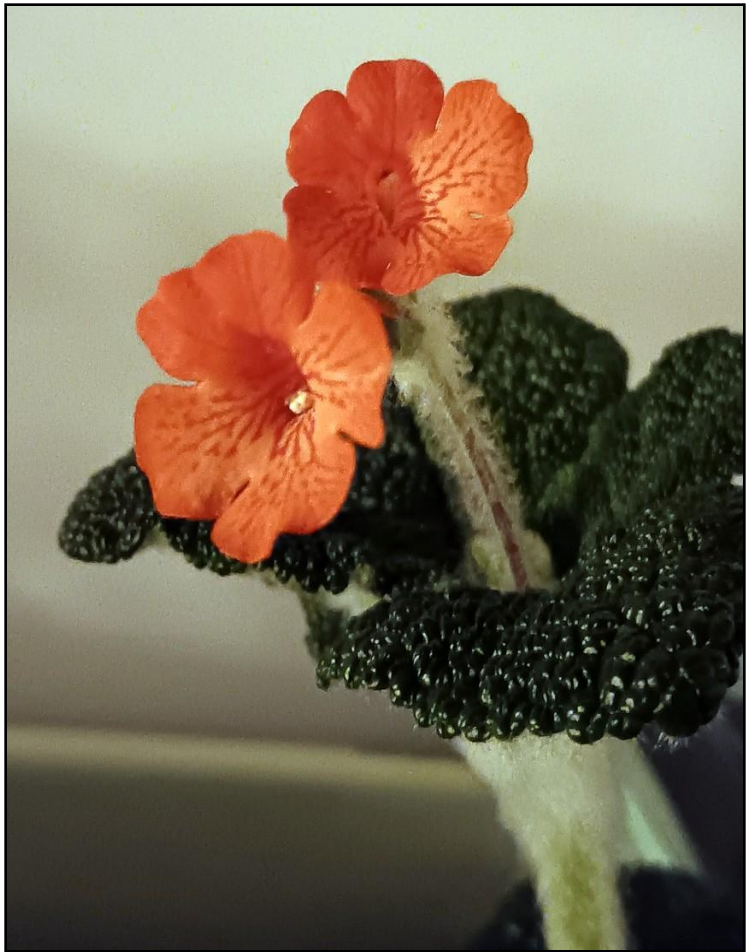
Bill's *Primulina linearifolia*



# Bloomin' Now



Barb S. *Microchirita sericea*



Barb S. *Sinningia bullata*



Donna's mini *Sinningia* seedling NOID



Donna's *Sinningia* 'Anne Crowley'





Bill's: Best of Class Design



Barb Stewart: Dish Garden, Award of Merit

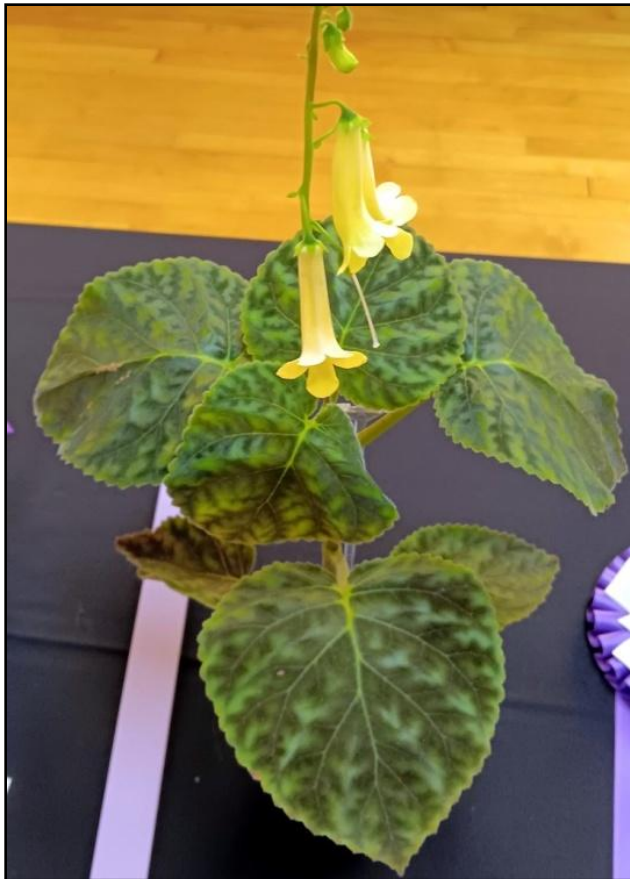


Bill's



Barb Borleske's: Sinningia 'Bewitched'





Bill's : *Smithiantha* 'Stone's Lemon Tea



Jill Fischer: Best in Design, Natural Garden



Barb Borleske's *Saintpaulia* 'Dresden Doll'



Barb Borleske's : *Primulina petrocosmeoides*

## Wishfully Seeking:

Members can ask for gesneriads they would like to grow and share gesneriad plants they have to share with others, as cutting, rhizomes, seeds, etc. So please email [Donnabeverin@gmail.com](mailto:Donnabeverin@gmail.com) with your requests.

### **Barb Stewart seeking:**

*Chrysothemis pulchella* 'Black Flamingo'  
*Petrocosmea* (any)

### **Andy Meier seeking:**

*Sinningia speciosa* (Florist Gloxinia) 'Periodots Darth Vader'  
*Streptocarpus* 'Samantha'  
Variegated *Streptocarpus* leaf.

### **David Turley seeking:**

*Paradrymonia*  
*Christopheria xantha* (was *Episcia*)  
*Primulina lutea* (was *Chirita eburnea*, yellow form)



Bill Schmidt at MAAVS 2024 working on his beautiful designs!

President: Barbara Stewart  
[Bstew771@verizon.net](mailto:Bstew771@verizon.net)

Vice-President: Minh Bui  
[Minhbui82@hotmail.com](mailto:Minhbui82@hotmail.com)

Treasurer: Andy Meier  
[Orchids00001@yahoo.com](mailto:Orchids00001@yahoo.com)

Secretary: Dena Horton

Newsletter Editor: Donna Beverin  
[Petaltones@gmail.com](mailto:Petaltones@gmail.com)

#### Committees:

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

Send content to Donna Beverin

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

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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 \$15 per year. You can send your payment to NCAC Treasurer, Andy Meier via PayPal using the email address: [ncacotgs-gesneriads@yahoo.com](mailto: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/>