

PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

Volume 55 Number 10

October 2024



Sharon's stunning *Primulina linearcalyx*

Saturday, October 12, 2024 at 10:30 am is an In-person meeting at the Emmanuel United Methodist Church. Andy is running the meeting for Barb S. who has a funeral to attend. Andy is going to try to set up a Zoom and you will be notified by email with a link if it is possible.

October 12th Barb Borleske's *Primulina Culture*

November 9th No meeting due to MAAVS show
December 14th Holiday luncheon and meeting at the home of Johanna Zinn

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"

Presidents message:

Happy fall! We had a great mini-show last month with good participation and beautiful exhibits. Special thanks to Bill and Jill who did most of the work organizing the show and to everyone else who made it a success. This month will be our last formal program of the year. In addition to getting a new slate of officers, we need to use this meeting to start planning for next year, as we will not have another meeting until December. We already have a number of programs planned, but more suggestions are welcome. While we are still looking for a new meeting location, the church has welcomed us to continue meeting there for the next year. We shall need to reflect on how this past year went and decide how we want to proceed next year in terms of meetings and dates. Meanwhile, enjoy a great program on Primulinas by the talented grower and hybridizer, Barbara Borleske. Sorry I cannot attend due to a family funeral. Andy shall be running the meeting for me. Thanks Andy!

Barbara



Kitty's *Streptocarpus* 'Jaco's Midnight Frost'

Bloomin' Now



Barb Stewart's *Chrysothemis friedrichsthaliana*

This plant was grown from seed. It originally had another set of leaves, twice as big as the ones it has now. However, this plant does not tolerate too much drying out. At the time, it was under potted, although on a wicking container, and basically it collapsed when it dried out. The big lower leaves had to be removed. The other leaves sustained some damage, but recovered, and the plant has since been potted up. This is a fast growing plant and eager to bloom. Barbara



Johanna's *Titanotrichum oldhamii* growing in her garden.

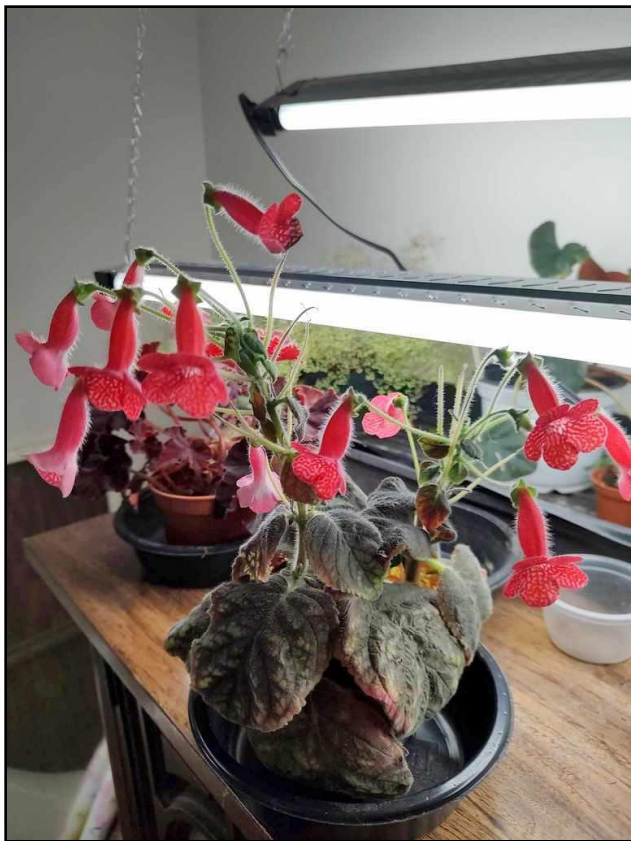
"Several people have asked what the forming propagules on *Titanotrichum oldhamii* look like.

The propagules may grow like the above photo. When mature, the propagules dry and turn brown. It might take until the end of October or early November for them to dry on the flower stalk.

The bundles of propagules can be removed and dried before separating them. Many growers have found that the viability of the propagules is fairly short.

I have kept them in the refrigerator and had good germination after 6 months."

Bloomin' Now



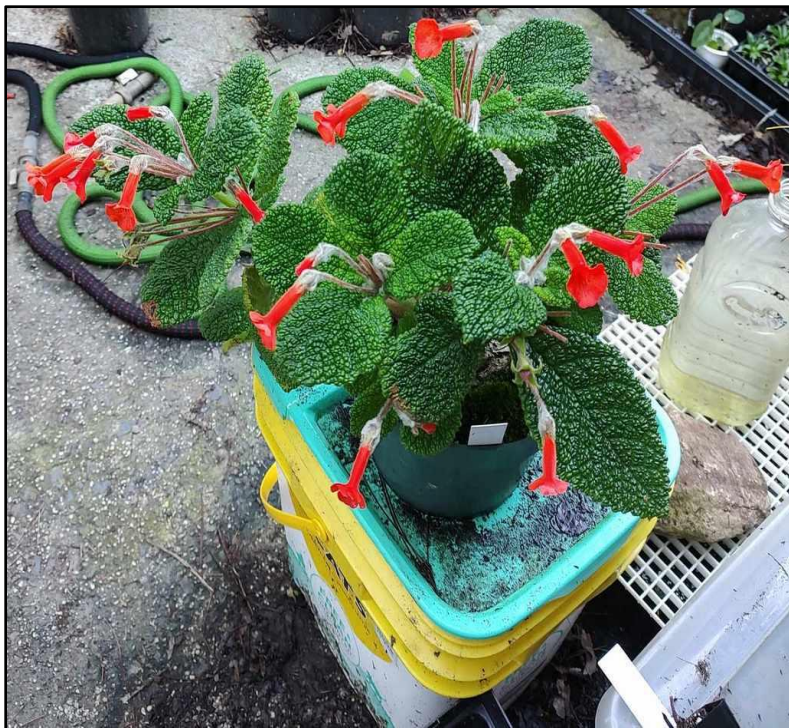
Dave's: *Kohleria* Strawberry Fields - this is the one I had that won a Blue ribbon in our show and is still blooming!



Daves's *Achimenes* NOID



Dave's mini *Sinningia* possibly Laura, lost label.



Dave Anderson's *Sinningia bullata*

Bloomin' Now



David Turley: My *Corytopectus cutucuensis* is striking with dark green, silver-veined foliage and bright orange calyxes and corolla tubes. I haven't quite got the culture down for this one. The leaves turned to mush in the terrarium, but are getting crisp edges in the open. I recently have moved all my gesneriads to over gravel beds for better humidity and individual watering, so we'll see if the *Corytopectus* improve. (I've fully abandoned wick watering.)



Dave A.'s *Titanotrichum oldhamii* in bloom, which he plans to overwinter in his coldframe.



David T.'s *Sinningia gesneriifolia* seedling from the spring raffle lost most the silver veining in the juvenile leaves, but the blossoms are sure nice. Barb Stewart grew this from seeds for the raffle.

This mini-show was sanctioned by the The Gesneriad Society. The theme of the show was “Gesneriads of a Feather”. The show was held in the fellowship hall of the Emmanuel United Methodist Church. It was not open for public viewing.

Jill Fischer was the show chairman. Judges were Jill Fischer, Barbara Stewart, Bill Schmidt, and Maria Waleuff. The schedule was prepared by Jill Fischer, Barbara Stewart, and Bill Schmidt. Bill Schmidt was in charge of staging, awards, and entries. Kitty Hedgepeth did classification and inspection.

The show had 38 exhibits with 28 in horticulture, 6 in artistic, 3 in photography, and 1 in education with 9 members exhibiting.

Jill Fischer won Best-in-Show with her *Aeschynanthus humilis* as well as a \$10 award for Best-in-Section D (Old World Gesneriads in Flower).

Jill also won this award for Section B (New World Gesneriads in Flower—Rhizomatous) with *Achimenes* ‘Sauline’. Jill also won Section L (Container Gardens) with her Terrarium; and Section N for her photo of *Sinningia leucotricha*.

Barbara Stewart won the award for Section A (New World Gesneriads in Flower-Tuberous) with *Sinningia* ‘Spanish Skirts’ and Section O (Educational) with her educational display on mealy bugs.

Dena Horton won the award for Section E (Gesneriads Grown for Ornamental Qualities other than Flowers) with *Sinningia leucotricha*.

Johanna Zinn won Section G (Lesser-Known Gesneriads Seldom Seen in Shows) with *Centrosolenia densa*.

Dave Anderson won Section I (Gesneriads Grown by a Novice) with *Kohleria* ‘Strawberry Shortcake’.

Sharon Long won Section K (Birds of the Mid-Atlantic) with her 8” design.



Jill's *Aeschynanthus humilis*, Best in Show



Barb Stewart's *Sinningia* 'Spanish Skirts' Blue



Dena Horton's *Primulina* 'Kazu' – Blue



Jill's Terrarium from the top - Blue



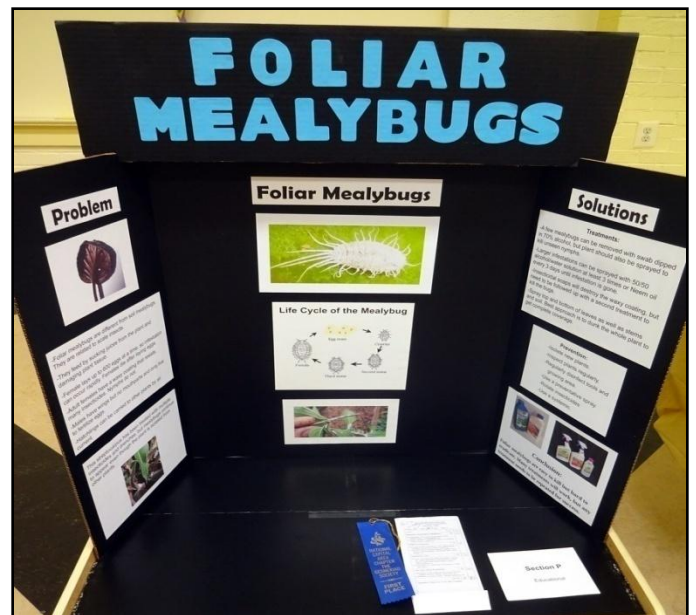
Bill's *Saintpaulia confusa* 5b clone - Blue



Jill's *Achimenes* 'Sauline' -Blue.



Dave's *Kohleria* 'Strawberry Shortcake' - Blue



Barb S. Educational Display on Mealy Bugs - Blue.



Sharon's 'Blue Bird' design Class 17-Blue



Bill's 'Catbird' design Class 19-Blue



Show table from both ends. Beginning with Maria's stunning *Gloximannia* 'She's Dancing'

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 with your requests.

Barb Stewart seeking:

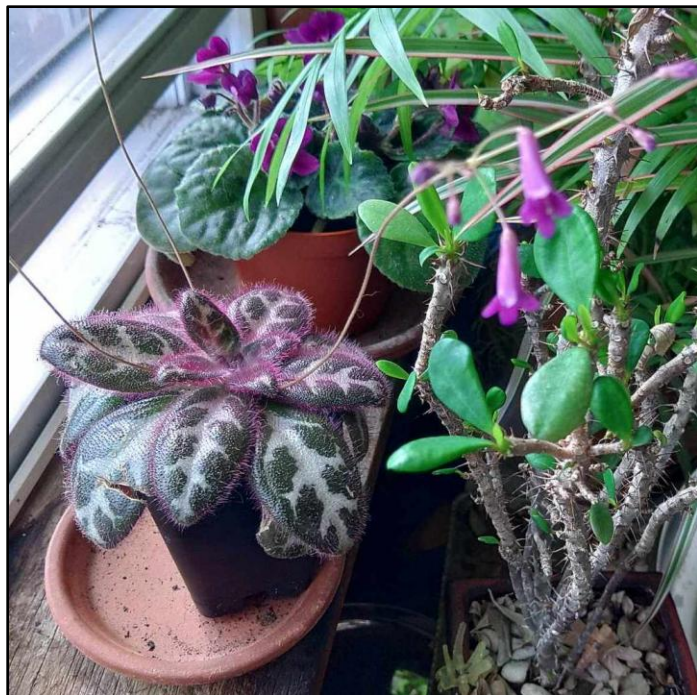
Chrysothemis pulchella 'Black Flamingo'
Petrocosmea (any)

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)



Donna : "*Primulina sinovietnamica* being grown on windowsill of my sister who only grows a few plants. She fell in love with a picture of it so I got it for her as a gift. So proud of her getting it to flower!"

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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.

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/>