



PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

Volume 52 Number 9

September 2021



743 W. Central Avenue, Davidsonville, MD 21035

Thank you to Homestead Gardens for hosting the 2021 NCAC Show and Sale. Homestead can supply your horticultural needs: potting soil, pots and other nursery items.

STORE HOURS: MONDAY- FRIDAY 9am-6pm

SATURDAY 8am-6pm SUNDAY 9am-6pm

<https://homesteadgardens.com/>

Special Pre-Show Edition

Gesneriads Dance!

September 10th, 11th, 12th: NCAC Show/Sale at Homestead Gardens

Show Schedule will be attached to this email for your last minute reference.

September 25th: Plant Sale at Green Spring Gardens, Family Fall Festival, 9am to 3pm. More details page 6

2021 National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society's Show & Plant Sale

'Gesneriads Dance'

Friday, September 10th:
Saturday, September 11th:
Sunday, September 12th:

Sale (only) open 1:00pm – 6:00pm
Show open 1:00pm – 6:00pm Sale open 9:00am – 6:00pm
Show & Sale open 10:00am – 2:00pm

Many thanks to the Show Committee Members

Show Chairman: Bill Schmidt

Schedule Chairman: Bill Schmidt

Judges Chairmen: Barbara Borleske & Mary Schaeffer

Entries Chairman: Kitty Hedgepeth

Classification and Inspection Chairman: Brian Connor

Staging Chairman: Peggy MacDonald

Awards Chairman: Minh Bui Educational

Exhibits Chairman: Barbara Stewart

Hospitality Chairman: Carol Hamelink

Publicity Chairman: Sharon Long

Plant Sale Chairman: Donna Beverin

Treasurer: Andy Meier



Our members will be selling many hard to find gesneriads. Info on selling your plants on page 6: *Kohleria*, *Gloxinia*, *Sinningia*, *African Violet*, *Streptocarpus*, *Episcia*, *Primulina*, *Achimenes*, *Sinningia bullata* 'Fortaleza', *Sinningia concinna* 'Seropedica', *Chrysothemis*, *Eucodonia*, *Palivana*, other gesneriads and unusual indoor houseplants for sale.

Schedule for the show is:

Friday--Sept 10th, set-up 10 AM to 1 PM, **entries 1 PM to 6 PM**

Saturday—Sept 11th, **entries 8 AM to 9:30 AM**, judging 10 AM to 1 PM, show open 1 PM to 6 PM

Sunday—Sept 12th, show open 10 AM to 2 PM, break down 2 PM to 3 PM.

Sales Table Open:

Friday 9/10: 1:00-6:00pm

Saturday 9/11: 9:00-6pm

Sunday 9/12: 10:00-3:00pm

Entries will be accepted only on Friday, Sept 10th from 1 PM to 6 PM and Saturday, Sept 11th 8 AM to 9:30 AM. Each exhibitor must prepare a list of plants or other entries with the appropriate section and class numbers. Exhibitors must make reservations for the Artistic classes with Peggy MacDonald by September 7th and set up the exhibit themselves for classes 52—59, and 60. Exhibits in these classes must be in place by 9:30 AM on Saturday. Entries for exhibit only will be placed in a separate area of the showroom and will not be judged.

SHOW RULES

1. Entries shall be in accordance with the schedule.
2. Exhibitors need not be members of The Gesneriad Society, but must be members of either the National Capitol Area Chapter of The Gesneriad Society or the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society.
3. Entries will be accepted only during hours specified, unless approved by the Show Chair.
4. An exhibitor is limited to one specimen of the same plant per class in the Horticulture Division. An exhibitor may submit more than one entry per class, provided each entry is a different species, cultivar or hybrid, unless otherwise prohibited.
5. Each exhibitor must prepare a list of plants and other entries with the appropriate Section and Class numbers to facilitate the work of the Entries Committee.
6. Classes may be subdivided or consolidated by Show Chair after entries close.
7. No exhibits may be removed from the showroom until the show closes except with permission of the Show Chairman.
8. An exhibitor may request that an entry be accepted for exhibit only. These will be placed in a separate area of the showroom and will not be judged.
9. All plants in the Horticultural classes must be grown by the exhibitor and have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least three months prior to the show. This rule does not apply to plant material used in arrangement classes of Division II or Educational exhibits in Division IV.
10. No particular type of container is specified; however, all containers used should be clean. Foil covering should be avoided. A protective container or cover made of transparent material to shield delicate plant material from dry air or cold drafts may be used for any exhibit requiring it. Such plants may be judged uncovered.
11. All plants must be free of insects and disease. All will be inspected, including educational exhibits as well as entries for exhibit only.
12. The Gesneriad Society standard competitive judging will be used. Awards will be made according to the following point scores: 1. 1st, blue ribbon, 90-100 points; 2. 2nd, red ribbon, at least 80 points; 3. 3rd, yellow ribbon, at least 70 points.
13. Honorable Mention may also be awarded.
14. Awards for Best in Section may be awarded to exhibits scoring 90 points or over.
15. There will be a Sweepstakes Award for the Horticulture Division and a Sweepstakes award for the Artistic Division. An exhibitor must win a minimum of 3 blue ribbons in that division to be eligible for the award.
16. The award for Best Gesneriad in Show in the Horticulture Division is given for horticultural perfection. A plant must score 95 points or over to be considered for this award. Winner must be a member of The Gesneriad Society or a chapter member.
17. The Chapter will endeavor to protect all exhibits but assumes no responsibility for loss or damage. All entries must be removed between 3 and 4 p.m. on Sunday.
18. An exhibitor may provide educational information on a white 3" x 5" card for any entry, if desired.
19. All exhibits in flowering classes must have at least one open flower.
20. Seedpods or fruit (not spent blossoms) are permitted on all gesneriads exhibited.

Volunteers are needed for show set-up, break down and helping at sales table

Editor's Note to NCAC members from Show Chairman, Bill Schmidt

Bill: "I have attached a file that discusses the following: Show, sale, presentation sites; Unloading and parking; Breaks, food, perks; Show size & content; Information for the public; Volunteer scheduling; Health & safety. I will send out a proposed volunteer schedule today or tomorrow.

It looks like the weather is going to be favorable, settled with no dangerous heat. Hurricane Larry is far enough out to sea to provide only some rain on Thursday.

After all the work we have put into this, I can only imagine it being a success. It will be great and a fun time getting together this weekend.

Warm regards,"

Bill

File:

•HG has cleared the classroom so the sales, presentations, and the break area will be moved there. The HG Board room in the house is still available on Saturday morning for the judges' orientation. The show will remain in the greenhouse.

•The sales area will now consist of a plant selection area and a separate cashiers' table. There will be a limited number of customers allowed in the sales area at one time. The line to enter will form in the greenhouse outside of the classroom. Any members present on Friday morning will be allowed to pull the plants they wish to purchase before the public sale begins. During the busiest time six members will be needed to operate the sale: A doorman, two plant selection volunteers, and three cashiers.

•Classification/Inspection, and Entries will have a dedicated space at the lower end of the show area. This will include tables for preparation of plants. Following entries, some of the tables in this area will be dedicated to an information display, a display of non-judged exhibits, and a place to lay out the ribbons and rosettes for the convenience of the clerks. The show area will be roped off until the scheduled opening on Saturday at 1:00 PM.

•Two hosts will be on duty while the show is in session. One of their duties will be to facilitate the sale of show plants offered for sale by the exhibitors.

• From 9:30 AM to 12 Noon on Friday, unloading will be at the garage door to the left of the front of the store. After that, all sales and show items must be brought through the front door. HG will have carts available for moving your items from the unloading area to the show/sale area. If the weather is inclement, you may have to come inside the store to request that the garage door be opened.

Following unloading, you must park your vehicle further down by the pick-up dock.

•Members can use the break area at any time. Drinks and snacks will be in this area. On Saturday, a lunch will be provided consisting of pre-ordered deli sandwiches or salads for all judges, clerks, and volunteers. You might want to pack a lunch for Friday. Things may be slow enough on Sunday for volunteers to leave the grounds for a lunch break or a good breakfast might get you through until we leave at 4:00 PM. Members are encouraged to bring snacks or desserts to share with others throughout the weekend. There will be an ice chest and perishable items can be stored in HG's cooler overnight. You can store purchased plants, store purchases, or materials needed for artistic designs there. The cashiers will always be there so this would be the safest place for personal items.

•Any member who volunteers, brings sales items, or enters the show will receive a 10% discount coupon for a single purchase of HG goods.

•From reports I received, the show will probably have 50 Horticulture exhibits, 12 Artistic exhibits, and 10 Art exhibits. However, there will be plenty of table space if more show up. It would be especially great if someone can do a collection or an educational exhibit. I know of none so far.

•Continued on next page

Bill's message continued:

•I will be printing 100+ show brochures/guides to be handed out to our visitors. In addition, there are a few things that would be nice for our information table: Copies of the Gesneriad Magazine, a copy of Gleanings, and each newsletter from DAVGS and RAVS since these publications are mentioned in the show brochure. We also need a few copies of applications for the Gesneriad Society and DAVGS and RAVS. Please let Barb Stewart know if you can supply any of these.

•The show/sale will need a lot of volunteer hours from the set-up at 10:00 AM on Friday to the clean-up at 3:00 PM on Sunday. A separate file will be sent with a general schedule for volunteers based on what I have heard so far. The actual division of times for on duty/breaks within this schedule will depend on who is in charge of each area: Sale—Donna & Andy, Show—Peggy or Carol.

•HG's internet postings indicate face coverings are required in store, and this will be our policy. Barb B. will have N-95 masks available for \$3.50 each if you need one. If you are not fully vaccinated we would love to have you visit the show/sale, but we do not want you to volunteer for your own safety.

NCAC Show Communication Members Final 20210906

	Set-Up	Entries	Sale	Judging	Show	Presentations
Friday						
9:00 AM	Set-Up					
10:00 AM	Peggy Kitty Andy					
11:00 AM	Bill Sharon Donna					
12:00 PM	Barb B. Barb S.					
1:00 PM		Entries	Sale			
2:00 PM		Peggy Bill	Andy Donna			
3:00 PM		Minh	Mary Hal Barb B.			
4:00 PM		Brian	Sharon Carol H.			
5:00 PM		Kitty	Carol A. Barb S.			
6:00 PM						
Saturday		Entries				
8:00 AM		Kitty Brian Bill				
9:00 AM		Peggy Minh	Sale	Judging		
10:00 AM		Show Talley	Andy	Liz Stephen M. & Friend		
11:00 AM		Kitty	Sharon	Barb B. Minh Barb S.		
12:00 PM			Carol A.	Bill Mary Tom F. Carol H.		
1:00 PM			Donna		Show Hosts	Presentations
3:00 PM			Hal Schaeffer		Minh Barb B.	Barbara Stewart
4:00 PM			Carol H.		Bill Peggy	Brian Connor
5:00 PM			Kitty		Liz	
6:00 PM						
Sunday						
10:00 AM			Sale		Show Hosts	Presentations
11:00 AM			Andy Donna		Bill Barb B.	Brian Connor
12:00 PM			Sharon Kitty		Minh	Barbara Stewart
1:00 PM			Carol A.		Peggy	
2:00 PM			Mary Hal			
3:00 PM	Clean-up					
4:00 PM	Departure					



Best Wishes for a fabulous Show
and Sale! Mr. Gesneriad

NCAC SALES

Members Selling Their Plants at the Show

Member 75% of sale NCAC 25% of sale on each item.

Each plant you sell should be in pots with stick labels.

One label with name of the plant will stay in the plant for the customer, or you can put a label taped to the pot. Many of our members use this method with electrical tape which means the label won't accidentally get removed. Some write on the pot with a permanent marker.

A stick label with the price you are selling the plant for and your initials or another ID code, as this label will be pulled during the sale of your plant and kept with the cash box to calculate the amount sold by that particular member.

If you want to donate your plants you need not put your initials or another ID code on the pricing stick label.

Same procedure for those selling cuttings, rhizomes, tubers, leaves etc in plastic baggies. The baggies can be labeled by writing on the bag but a price and ID stick label will be needed to be taped on or placed inside each baggie.

Sunday: Last 2 hours of show the plants on the sale table will go for ½ price. If you do not want your plants sold at ½ price they must be removed from the table by 1:00pm by the seller.

Green Spring Fall Festival & Sale on Saturday, September 25th

The sale runs from 9am to 3pm, please no early sales before 9am. Vendors may set up Friday, September 24, from 7am to 7pm, or Saturday, September 25th from 6am to 8:30 am. One truck may remain on the field. Vendor's employees and vendor volunteers with cars MUST park at the Pinecrest Office Park directly south of the park.

Vendors must provide their own tables, chairs and tents (with weights). You must pack up your items and leave the park Saturday after the sale.

Green Spring Gardens will collect 15% of your gross income, or a minimum of a \$60.00 fee as a donation to Green Spring Gardens. A final update and map of with your location will be sent out the week of the sale.

Masks will no longer be required for those who have been fully vaccinated against Covid-19. Vendors and visitors who have not been fully vaccinated are asked to continue wearing a mask for everyone's safety.

Preparing Plants for Show: Your Efforts to Condition Your Plant Could Result in a Blue Ribbon!

By Jim Roberts

Editor's Note: Jim gave a very informative demonstration to five members about how to check your gesneriad plants for 'Condition' during our September 12, 2015 meeting at Behnkes. When preparing your gesneriad plant for a show, condition is a scoring point which accounts for 30- 40% of the 100% point system. These timeless tips are relevant even in 2021 as we prepare for our NCAC September Show! Thank you Jim for updating this timely information.

- You don't want to have a dirty pot (no salt or other stains), spent flower stems, pet hair, weeds in the pot, spots on the leaves or plants hanging out over the pot (unless it's part of the plants growth habit).
- Remove any yellowed leaves and brush off any dirt on the leaves.
- The soil surface under the plant should be cleaned up and spent stems removed.
- Too much perlite showing in the soil will cause points to be deducted from the score. The soil may be covered with small stones or long fibered sphagnum as a dressing but be careful that the covering doesn't detract from the plant or the design.
- You can also use a spray bottle of water to wash off the leaves and adding a drop of Murphy's Oil Soap in the spray bottle will take off any spots on the leaves.
- When showing *Petrocosmea* remove the outer leaves and suckers (unless doing so will compromise the symmetry of the plant). You can replant those suckers for more plants in the future. *Petrocosmea* will readily sucker. You can leave suckers on, especially on *Primulina*. Fortunately, because of their growth habit, *Primulina* don't have to be quite as perfect as in other categories. You can mix flowering and non-flowering *Primulina* in the same display, since variety is good and helps to show diversity in the family.
- If your pot isn't in great shape, slip it inside another pot (often done for support). While gesneriads shows allow slip pots, begonia shows do not allow slip pots.
- Gesneriad shows don't have restrictions on pot size or color, but when using a slip pot, be mindful of both size and color to be sure they are appropriate and don't detract from the plant.
- Jim also demonstrated how to trim the leaves of a plant to remove any imperfections in an inconspicuous way. Jim had an interesting container of scissors that he obtained from a craft shop. The package contained 12 pairs of scissors all of which had different serrated blades for making different patterned cuts. The scissors were used to make cuts which most closely mimicked the leaf's edge growth patterns. Trimming helps to improve symmetry and remove slight blemishes and make the plant look cleaner. Very ingenious!
- If you lose a flower on your show plant, for example while packing, transporting and unpacking it for the show, you can use an egg white paste to glue it back onto the plant.
- A few no no's:
 - Name tags in or on the pot
 - Pet hairs
 - Dust or soil particles on leaves
 - Discolored or brown leaves
 - Old flowers or seed pods
 - Seed pods that were hybridized and labeled are acceptable
 - Perlite showing in soil Condition is a big part of the points score but it is easy to correct prior to the show. Perlite history: Frances Batchelor used to allow the perlite to show up during a show because it demonstrated how the plant was 'really' grown. But then Ben Paternoster took over and did not like the appearance of the perlite in the soil and said it needed to be covered up or top dressed. Current rules are a bit more relaxed. Perlite is a necessary component of our soil mixes. As long as it is clean you should not be penalized. That's not to say covering the top of the soil mix with a neutral gravel won't enhance the overall appearance, just be sure the perlite looks fresh and not brown and crusty with fertilizer buildup or green with algae. This is a good general tip for any soil surface, even those without white perlite.

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Treasurer's Assistant: Andy Meier
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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
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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/>