



PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

Volume 50 Number 9

September 2019



Donna's summer flowering *Sinningia* 'Towering Inferno'

***Sinningia* 'Towering Inferno'**

Plant Delights Nursery introduction started its life when gesneriad expert John Farina crossed two sinningia hybrids, *Sinningia* 'Krezdorn Yellow' x *Sinningia* 'Apricot Bouquet' and subsequently sent us a packet of seed. After 3 years of garden trials, we christened *Sinningia* 'Towering Inferno' as the first introduction from the seedlings.

Sinningia 'Towering Inferno' emerges from a dormant tuber in spring, producing huge 4' tall flowering spikes adorned with thick, fuzzy green leaves and topped with bright red, dangling, tubular flowers. For us, *Sinningia* 'Towering Inferno' starts flowering in mid-June and continues well into October. A site in bright full sun for at least half a day is necessary...even in hot climates. www.plantdelights.com

MEETING LOCATION:

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

We gather at 10:00am to get set up, with the meeting beginning at 10:30am. Meet the second Saturday of the month. Calendar yearly dues of \$10 are due in January or whenever joining. Renew by March to keep your Petal Tones subscription.

Attention: The Church is a "NUT FREE ZONE" Please do not bring any foods containing nuts

Don't forget the raffle table!

September 14th – Rare & Unusual Gesneriads webinar. Community Outreach discussion

October 12th – Plant problem IDs including pests & cultural issues.

November 9th – Webinar : Growing Show Plants

December - Holiday Party – **need host**

Presenters needed for October & November

2020: January 11th:

2020: February 8th: Propagation: Donna & Barb

2020: March 14th : Mini Show

President's Message

I didn't make it to the convention this year, but I am always looking for and acquiring new gesneriads I haven't grown before. This month we have a webinar in which Bill Price gives us his expert advice on how to grow some of the rare and unusual gesneriads. For our plant-of-the-month, we would love to see and hear about something you have that is one of the lesser known gesneriads. It doesn't have to be show quality. Also, since we are making plans for a show next year, you can bring in a nicely grown plant or a potential show plant to get some judging advice.

Hope to see you there!

Barb



Wishfully Seeking to Grow

Kitty Hedgepeth..... *Episcias* 'War Paint' and 'Black Mamba'
 Donna Beverin..... *Liebigia speciosa* & *Achimenes pedunculata* Has *S. tubiflora* to share.
 Janet Carlton.....*Streptocarpus* 'Harlequin Damsel' leaf, cutting, plant
 Sharon Long.....*Streptocarpus cyanandrus*

2020 Show Updates

There are still several Chairman positions vacant for our 2020 show including: Judges, Classification and Inspection, and Hospitality. If you have never had any experience with these roles, but are interested in participating in the show as a Chairman, contact Bill for more information. E-mail Schmidt.wc@verizon.net or 804-266-6157.

Please circle the genera and intergenerics that you are currently growing. These tallies will help us with designing the schedule for our 2020 show. If you have already completed this, no need to do it again. There will be another copy sent with the issue of Petal Tones. You can bring the marked list to the meeting or mail it to Bill Schmidt, Show Chairman, schmidt.wc@verizon.net , 500 Danray Drive, Richmond, VA 23227.

Genera Currently Accepted in Gesneriaceae

Achimenes Aeschynanthus Agaimyia Allocheilos
 Alloplectus Allostigma Alsobia Amalophyllon
 Anetanthus Anna Asteranthera Beccarinda Bellonia
 Besleria Biilolivia Boea Boeica Briggsiopsis
 Cathyanthe Centrosolenia Championia Chautemsia
 Chayamaritia Christopheria Chrysothemis
 Cobananthus Codonanthe Codonanthopsis
 Codonoboea Columnnea Conandron Corallodiscus
 Coronanthera Corytoplectus Crantzia Cremersia
 Cremosperma Cremospermopsis Cyrtandra
 (Cyrtandromoea) * Damrongia Deinostigma
 Depanthus Diastema Diddisandra Didymocarpus
 Didymostigma Dorcoceras Drymonia Emarhendia
 Episcia Epithema Eucodonia Fieldia Gasteranthus
 Gesneria Glabrella Glossoloma Gloxinella Gloxinia
 Gloxiniopsis Goyazia Gyrocheilos
 Gyrogyne Haberlea Hemiboea Henckelia Heppiella
 Hexatheca Jancaea Jerdonia Kaisupeea Kohleria
 Lampadaria Lembocarpus Leptoboea Lesia Liebigia
 Litostigma Loxonia Loxocarpus Loxostigma Lysionotus
 Mandirola Metapetrocosmea Microchirita Middletonia
 Mitraria Monophyllaea Monopyle Moussonia
 Napeanthus Nautiocalyx Negria Nematanthus
 Neomoriania Niphaea Nomopyle Oerstedina
 Orchadocarpa Oreocharis Ornithoboea Pachycauios
 Pagothyra Paliavana Paraboea Paradrymonia
 Pearcea
 (Peltanthera) * Petrocodon Petrocosmea
 Pheidonocarpa Phinaea Phylloboea Platystemma
 Primulina Pseudochinita

Ramonda Raphiocarpus Reidia Resia
 Rhabdothamnopsis Rhabdothamnus Rhoogeton
 Rhynchoglossum Rhynchotechum Rhytidophyllum
 Ridleyandra Rufodorsia
 Saintpaulia * Sanango Sarmienta Seemannia
 Senyumia Sepikaea Shuarua Sinningia Smithiantha
 Solenophora Somrania Spelaeanthus Sphaerorrhiza
 Stauranthera Streptocarpus Tetraphyllum
 Titanotrichum Tribounea
 Trichodrymonia Trichosporum Trisepaium Tylopsacas
 Vanhouttea Whytockia

Gesneriaceae Intgeneric Names
 (Accepted and/or Un-Official)
 *Seemakohleria *Seemannia *Sinvana
 *Smithicodonia *Vanvana
 xAchicodonia xAchimenantia *Agalnanthus
 xCodonatanthus *Glocodonia
 Glokohleria xGloximannia *Gloxinantha *Gloxinistema
 Gioxistema Gloxinopyle
 *Heppiantha xHeppimannia *Heppimenes
 *Jancaeamonda xKohleriella *Mitramienta
 xMoussogloxinia *Moussokohleria Moussomannia
 Moussoniantha *Moussonophora
 xNautiothemis
 *Nematanthopsis *Niphadonia
 Niphaphyion xNiphiania
 *Niphimenes xPaleria
 *Pearceria xPhinastema *Ramberlea *Rhyüdoneria

Bloomin' Now



Dave's *Achimenes* 'Purple King'



Dave's *Sinningia* 'Mark Twain' x self



Dave's *Sinningia* 'Laura' x self



Dave's *Sinningia* 'April Snow' x self



It is a miracle ! Donna has several *Saintpaulia* NOIDs growing to second bloom! I had been growing them too close to the lights.

Bloomin' Now



Dave's *Sinningia* 'Maiden's Blush' x self



Dave's *Sinningia* 'Mother of Pearl' x self



Dave's *Sinningia* macropoda x self



Dave's *Kohleria* 'Strawberry Fields'

Bloomin' Now



Jim's *Sinningia* 'Arkansas Empress'



Close up



Dave's *Seemannia sylvatica*



Doug's *Kohleria* 'Red Ryder'

Bloomin' Now



Doug's *Streptocarpus* grown from seed from the British Streptocarpus Society



Doug's *Streptocarpella*



Doug's *Streptocarpus* 'Midnight Poison'



Jim's *Sinningia guttata*

Donna: Minature *Sinningia* 'SimSim Salaviem' with its intense red flowers. I made a cutting of the tip of the original tuber that dried up. Thanks goodness! What a wonderful surprise! Thought I lost it. Thanks Mary Schaeffer for sharing this little gem with me last year.

Bloomin' Now



Doug's Strep from seed: This one has a very deep red color. The background is an 18% gray card, so the color is pretty accurate. Seed was from BSS-Mr. Leach.



Donna's *Achimenes misera*, grown from rhizomes Dave shared last year.



Alcie Maxwell, our member in LA sent two pictures of his *Achimenes admiralis* he grew from seed obtained from the Gesneriad Society. What an outstanding little plant !



Mr. Gesneriad:

Remember how we put lower light plants at the end of our florescent tubes in the "old " days? The tubes gave off lower light at the ends. Does this hold true for the new LED tubes? Donna

Mr. G: There is still a little difference between the end of LED tubes and the middle, but probably not as much as fluorescent.

Mr. Gesneriad: Is there a difference in *Primulina cordata* and this other *Primulina*? Donna

Mr. G: Yes, the edges of *P. cordata* leaves are not quite as lobed. The photo shows them side by side with *P. cordata* on the right. The plant on the left is *Primulina glandulosa* var. *yangshuoensis*. →



Donna's starter plant of *Primulina glandulosa* var. *yangshuoensis*, grown by Barb Stewart & donated to the NCAC raffle table. Barb received her mother plant from Jim.



Mary Schaeffer's beautifully grown *Primulina cordata* at 2019 Delaware African Violet & Gesneriad Show. She now thinks it is *P. glandulosa* var. *yangshuoensis*!



Gesneriad Society Facebook photo from 2015
Primulina cordata by Winston Goretsky

Paul Susi on GS Facebook 2016: "*Primulina cordata* x *glandulosa* v. *yangshuoensis*. This a naturally occurring hybrid from China." Will the real *P. cordata* please stand up? 😊 →



Bloomin' Now



Donna's *Eucodonia*. This is a *Eucodonia* I started from seed from the Gesneriad Hybridizers' Association July 2018. Leong Tuck Lock from Malaysia made the cross : LTL 06-03 'Eucodonia hybrids'.



Donna's *Achimenes dulcis* is a species for which she purchased rhizomes on Ebay from a grower in Florida. She had never seen these rhizomes available before and was excited to grow them. She finds *Achimenes* a challenge. She planted the rhizomes and after the babies appeared, potted up to a larger pot, pruned the tips and wicked the container so it would never go dry. There is another large pot of more blooms to come from all the tips that were pruned that rooted and are growing well.

Bloomin' Now

Janet's *Streptocarpus*: "Catherine", Best Plant, Dales NOID, 'Imperfection'



Several of my own seedlings have done well over the summer, producing multiple blooms. The first two are being watched for growth characteristics and potential naming. The third, another sister to the first two, is an example of a plant that probably "should" go on the mulch pile due to floppy, oddly shaped flowers. But the plant is strong and has earned a place in my kitchen window (and heart) because the blooms have a peachy inner glow when sunlight shines through them. I find the contrast with the lavender captivating and have "named" it Janet's Imperfection. Not every plant has to be fabulous to be well loved. The final plant is a Dale Martens seedling that did not produce the intended bi-colored double. But of the 9 that grew from that batch, this is my favorite because it makes me happy every time I look at it. And that's the point of growing Streps, right? Janet Carlton

Bloomin' Now



Bill's *Eucodonia* 'Adele'. This 1983 P. Worley hybrid is a cross of the South American *Eucodonia verticillata* 'Frances' x *E. ehrenbergii*.



Bill's *Saintpaulia* 'Cirelda'



Bill's *Kohleria* 'Strawberry Fields'



Barry's *Streptocarpella* 'Concord Blue' has been grown in full sun all summer...Much to his amazement as most growers say part sun.

At our last meeting, we (Peggy MacDonald and Janet Carlton) were asked to look into researching methods for educating the public about Gesneriads and our NCACGS community. When we chatted, we realized that before we can develop outreach *events*, we need to clarify the purpose and target audience of our outreach because that will inform the methods used and events planned. At our next meeting, we shall hold a short discussion to cover the following:

- What **outcomes** do we want to achieve through our outreach? What are our **priorities**?
- Who is our **target** audience?
- Methods** used? (elicit suggestions)
- Venues**? Appropriate venues depend on intended outcomes, target audience, and willingness of NCACGS members to prepare materials and devote time to events. For each venue, multiple methods could be used (brochures, displays, classes).
- Who** will create materials and/or lead events? (No workers means no events)
- Your input is sought and welcome!

Bloomin' Now



Barb S. *Eucodonia* seedling



Barb S. "Who needs a pot?" *Microchirita micromusa*



Barb S. *Primulina* 'New York'



Barb S. *Primulina* 'Stardust'

Bloomin' Now



Barb S. *Streptocarpus* 'Gold'



Donna's *Streptocarpus* 'Bristol's Goose Egg'



Donna's S. 'Towering Inferno' purchased from Pepper's Greenhouses where staff said they purchased stock plant from Plants Delight. Approximately 4 years old. 2.5 - 3 foot stalks.



Plants Delight's *Sinningia* 'Towering Inferno' from their website

2019 Delaware AV & Gesneriad Show



Barb Borleski's Best in Show *Streptocarpus* 'Iced Pink Flamingo'



Tom Finnigan's Best Tuberous Gesneriad *Sinningia tubiflora* hybrid



Mary Schaeffer's Runner Up Best in Show *Diastema* JLC 9587 and Mary's Best Fibrous *Episcia* 'Cleopatra'



2019 Delaware AV & Gesneriad Show



Mixed genera: *Sinningia bullata*, *Saintpaulia* and *Kohleria* 'HYC's Jardin de Monet' demonstrate various root structures in gesneriads. Photo Donna



Ray Ruger's *Sinningia* 'Stone's Yulia' Photo Donna



Mary Schaeffer's *Sinningia* 'Isa's Gorgeous' Photo Donna



Kohleria 'Upsalla' has beautiful foliage as well as flowers. Sorry growers not announced on Friday evening before judging. Photo Donna

2019 Delaware AV & Gesneriad Show



Barb Borleski's *Gloximannia* 'She's Dancing' Photo Donna



Gloximannia 'She's Dancing' Close up Photo Donna



Streptocarpus 'Grape Ice' Photo Donna



Primulina 'Kitaguni'

Photo Donna



Mary Schaeffer's *Primulina ophiopogoides* with unique white bloom! Photo Donna

Dave will have a variety of plants for sale at next meeting: \$4.00



B. Amphioxus



B. burkillii



B. eleagnifolia



B. Rajah



B. U566



Sinningia pusilla

Barb Koski has *Sinningia helleri* for sale at our next meeting. They are 6-9 inches high and are \$5.00. She will bring them to the meeting on September 14th.



Barb Stewart's award winning plants at her local County Fair! Congratulations Barb!

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

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 (email copy of current year's newsletter).

Back issues from previous years available on website. Membership runs the calendar year and can be prorated.

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.

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.

<http://www.gesneriadsociety.org/>

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