

The Journal for Gesneriad Growers Gesneriads

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FEATURES

- 5 A Designer's Perspective on the Convention**
Steve Kerr
- 9 Convention Board Review 2016**
- 10 Gesneriads in the First State**
Jeremy Keene
- 16 Convention Auctions**
Tom Bruning
- 17 2016 Convention Flower Show Awards**
Paul Susi
- 31 Awards of Appreciation**
Molly Schneider
- 34 Donations**
Paul Susi
- 35 New Features Starting Next Issue**
Drew Norris
- 42 Streptocarpus 'Rose Scentsation'—winner, Best in Horticulture, Gesneriad Society 2016 Convention Flower Show**
Ron Myhr

Cover

Streptocarpus 'Rose Scentsation', grown by Ron Myhr. Best in Horticulture, 2016 Gesneriad Society Convention. Photo: Winston Goretsky

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DEPARTMENTS

- 3 Message from the President**
Julie Mavity-Hudson
- 4 From the Editor**
Peter Shalit
- 36 Gesneriad Registrations**
Irina Nicholson
- 44 Coming Events**
Mary Schaeffer
- 45 Botanical Review No. 43**
Bob Stewart
- 50 Changes to Species Seed List 3Q16**
Carolyn Ripps
- 53 Back to Basics: Wintering Gesneriads**
Dale Martens
- 57 Seed Fund – Hybrids**
Gussie Farrice
- 61 The Gesneriad Society, Inc.**

Back Cover

"Dover Speedway" design by Steve Kerr, awarded Best in Artistic, 2016 Gesneriad Society Convention Flower Show. Photo: Dale Martens

The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

The objects of The Gesneriad Society are to afford a convenient and beneficial association of persons interested in the Gesneriad Plant Family (Gesneriaceae); to stimulate a wide-spread interest in; to gather and publish reliable information about the identification, correct nomenclature, culture, propagation, and conservation of gesneriads; and to encourage the origination, introduction, and conservation of species and cultivars.

The Gesneriad Society, Inc. is the International Registration Authority for the names and cultivars of gesneriads excepting the genus *Saintpaulia*. Any person desiring to register a cultivar should contact Irina Nicholson, 2512 South Balsam Way, Lakewood, CO 80227 USA
hybridregistrar@gesneriads.org.

Message from the President



I AM WRITING THIS SHORTLY AFTER OUR WONDERFUL 2016 Convention in Wilmington, Delaware. This year was one for the books. Not only was it our 60th convention, but in addition, 2016 marks the 500th anniversary of the birth of Conrad Gessner, and the 200th anniversary of the naming of our plant family, the Gesneriaceae. We celebrated all these events in good style, including a wonderful presentation on Gessner prepared by Anton Weber and presented by Ron Myhr in Anton's absence. The entire convention was really great, including the food, the hotel, the speakers, and the good friends we see just once a year. The show was really a beautiful one that I wish you all could have seen. You will find images from the show on our website on the convention page <<http://www.gesneriadsociety.org/conventions/2016-convention-wilmington-delaware>>. There were many spectacular plants, and in particular the Best in Show, Ron Myhr's outstanding *Streptocarpus* 'Rose Scentsation', was an amazing specimen. Congratulations to all the winners, and indeed, thanks to all who exhibited. The show was an educational experience as well as a delightful one. If you have never attended a Gesneriad Society Convention, I hope you will consider doing so in the future. It is always the highlight of my year.

The show was really a beautiful one that I wish you all could have seen.

This year we have had the resignation of four of our long time workers:

Paul Susi resigned as Development Chair earlier this year. Thanks to Paul for all the great work he did on this important committee. Luckily we have found a replacement, Betsy Gottshall. I know she will do a great job, and we are enjoying working with her.

Darlane Joshlin has resigned as Insurance Chair. She has done a wonderful and amazing job and we really appreciate all the work she put into making it work so well. We will really miss her. We are fortunate that Barbara Festenstein has agreed to replace Darlane, and already has a good handle on her duties.

Jeanne Katzenstein has resigned as Chair of the Publications Committee. She has put a lot of work into this committee and will be missed a lot. In addition to her work with the Convention Committee and as Co-Chair of the Student Convention Grant Committee, she will remain on the Publications Committee to help our new chair, Dave Zaitlin, who has agreed to take over. I certainly look forward to working with Dave. He is a knowledgeable person and a good friend and I am sure he will bring in new ideas.

Our long time Treasurer, Becky Fontes, has decided not to be nominated for another term. The job of Treasurer is a huge one and we thank her for all the work she has done over the years. She will be missed. We are fortunate to have elected a new Treasurer, Mary Schaeffer, and we have already started working with her. She is on the ball and things are shaping up to work well. Thanks so much, Mary, for taking on this job.

It's always nice to have new volunteers, and I hope those of you who have not done so before will consider getting more involved with the society. This is YOUR society and you can help make it better.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie".

Julie Mavity-Hudson
<gespres2015@gmail.com>
Joelton, TN, USA

From the Editor



WELCOME TO THE 2016 POST-CONVENTION ISSUE of *Gesneriads!*

A Gesneriad Society Convention lasts less than a week, but it produces memories and photographs that last for years. If you were one of those who attended our fabulous gathering in Wilmington this past July, I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. One indication of its fabulousness is the sheer volume of photographs I've had to go through to create this issue of our journal. So many photographs that I couldn't fit them all in this issue, so there will be more photos of prizewinning entries in the next issue as well. The tours were wonderful, the lectures were fascinating, the sale and auctions were great, and the show was a gesneriad lover's dream. The number and variety of plants, designs, and other displays made the show a living three-dimensional encyclopedia of gesneriads. There was much information and knowledge packed into that showroom – far too much for anyone to digest during the short time the show was open.

We've preserved much of the show, as well as the rest of the convention, in several formats.

We've preserved much of the show, as well as the rest of the convention, in several formats. One is this journal, where you can read about all the goings-on during that week in Wilmington, and see photos of the people and displays that made it such a success. But there are also other formats in which the 2016 Convention will live on. On our website, Gesneriadsociety.org, you will find

photos from this convention as well as many past ones. We have also uploaded to YouTube 32 short videos, the most ever, of our flower show. You can see interviews with various award-winning exhibitors discussing their entries, as well as yours truly expounding on exhibits that caught my eye. Go to <http://bit.ly/gescon16> to see these, and check out past years' videos at <http://bit.ly/gescon15> and <http://bit.ly/gescon14> while you're at it. Later this year we will be releasing the 2016 Convention DVD, with many photographs of the plants and people, post-convention PowerPoints, copies of the PowerPoint presentations given at the convention, and other goodies. Finally, next year we will publish a 2018 Calendar with photos from the 2016 show.

As usual, this is not "only" a post-convention issue. Our other regular features are here, including the Seed Fund listing, a very important Botanical Review, New Cultivar Registrations, and our Back to Basics column. But the bulk of the issue is about the convention. For those who couldn't make it, you'll get a good taste of what went on in Wilmington last July, and we hope to see you next year in Omaha.

Enjoy *Gesneriads!*

Peter

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ADVERTISERS DIRECTORY

Dave's Violets	41	Mrs Strep Streps	41
Gesneriaceae of South China	60	Steve's Leaves	8
Kartuz Greenhouses	41	Violet Supply	56

A Designer's Perspective on the Convention

Steve Kerr ~ Markham, Ontario, Canada ~ <sakerr@gmail.com>



Paul Susi gives Steve his awards.
Photo: Peter Shalit

CONVENTIONS REALLY ARE A GREAT TIME, and designers like me have twice the fun! It begins as soon as the show schedule is released in late December. I skip ahead to the design schedule and begin poring over the descriptions, looking for inspiration to take flight as my imagination runs wild. Once I have read it over I begin to take notes, mulling over ideas and sketching out designs from December until convention time. Planning requires patience and a keen eye, as containers and line material can come from the unlikeliest places. One thing that is always difficult in design is not knowing exactly what plant material will be in the best condition for the show. Fast forward to a week before convention and I cannot begin to tell you how far I drove to this nursery

and that garden center, all to find materials for my winning foliage design. I know many other designers were doing the same thing I was!

I traveled to Delaware from Canada with three others from our local club: Doris Brownlie, Paul Lee, and fellow designer Judy Zinni. We faithfully packed up all of our design materials and horticultural entries (yes designers grow gesneriads too...), and still managed to find some room for clothes! Leaving from Mississauga at 9:00 a.m., we drove across the border near Niagara Falls and made our way to Wilmington, a drive that lasted about 10 hours. Upon checking in, we struggled to acquire one of the three carts available at the hotel for guests. I always pride myself on traveling light – hah, not for convention! It took two trips to get everything to my room. After unpacking, Paul and I creatively found a way to place our horticultural entries in the small window using our lounge chair and a Styrofoam fish box I had converted to transport horticultural entries.

For those who are able to travel early to conventions, the tours are certainly worth it. In the back of my mind I still needed a number of plants to complete my designs. As any designer can tell you, we never stop thinking about what can be used in a design...someday. We arrived at Longwood and the first thing Judy and I did was peruse the garden shop. We were delighted to find many small gesneriads for purchase as well as a hanging basket of a nematanthus hybrid for us to use in design. I also found a perfect *Primulina* 'Loki' for one of my plant arrangements. Touring Longwood with Doris and Judy, we were inspired by the grand scale of the designs in the gardens, the plantings in the various areas of the conservatories, and the whimsy of the children's garden. Through our travels we saw African violets with variegated girl leaf foliage in the children's area, an aeschynanthus in bloom in the green wall, *Nematanthus* 'Cheerio' and *N. gregarius* both in bloom, massive hanging baskets of streptocarpellas, and finally a chrysothemis that to be honest looked like it had had too much sun but which was still displaying colorful calyces. Overall in the scheme of things we would have liked to see more gesneriads but were happy to see

*If you have not done
artistic designs at a
show I invite you to
try your hand at one
in the future.*



"Mt. Cuba Center" – the award-winning design. Photo: Dale Martens

as many as we did. Just before heading back, Judy and I made our way through the garden shop again. We spent more than we wanted, including \$25 for a very spindly basket of a nematanthus hybrid that we both absolutely needed to complete our designs. I did end up buying that *Primulina* 'Loki' by the way, and two more as well! The following morning at Winterthur we saw more naturalistic gardens, but as a designer I was most interested in learning how Mr. du Pont managed the floral arrangements throughout the house, all tightly centered around the flowers to be displayed in the dining room. What dedication and inspiration! And to think I thought I was particular in my designs! Following our trip to Winterthur, Judy and I were finally able to take some time to look for a floral shop to try to find some items we were still lacking to complete our designs. After a walk in the neighborhood, which became less enticing the further we ranged from the hotel, we scurried back to take advantage of the shuttle service. Our driver very graciously chauffeured us to not one but three florist shops until we were finally able to procure our filler greens and some "stickum" (green putty used to hold materials together). I had left this all-important material at home and needed it for my underwater design.



The author and his award-winning design.
Photo: Mel Grice

The evening before entries

Conventions are a busy time for all of us. I had been grooming my four horticultural entries all week. Now was time to begin assembling the structure of my five design entries. I began with the largest: a seaside/beach theme that needed to incorporate a shell. I muddled around with the elements: a piece of driftwood, a glass container, a shell, and two plants (*Primulina bipinnatifida* and *Petrocosmea* 'Keystone's Bantam'). Seeing that I was struggling with it, my roommate Paul helped me brainstorm different ways to use the elements. Ultimately I had to use a small saw and some hot glue to take apart and remake the piece of driftwood I had brought for the design when I didn't like the way my initial design looked. I then began assembling the gunpowder exploding design, which I knew would challenge the judges. I had seen a number of explosive sculptures in researching this class and I attempted to create a design with line material representing smoke. Honestly it didn't turn out exactly how I had envisioned, but I was happy with it nonetheless. I was glad that I was able to enter it if only to give folks something different to look at.

After noticing that it was now 1:00 a.m., gulp, I moved to the bathroom so that my very accommodating roommate could get some sleep as I finished cutting out the mechanics for my entry into the foliage class. For anyone who doesn't know, this class requires that designers use gesneriad material without blossoms to create the design. This

was the design that ultimately had me the most nervous. I had spent a lot of time sketching this out and had gone through several incarnations in my mind before finally settling on a design that pointed towards the wooded mountains and valleys of the Piedmont region. It was created by layering the foliage of various gesneriads to give an effect of distance through increased texture on the forward panels mimicking the way we can see more on closer hills than on slopes further away. I knew that the design elements would seem unique to the judges, but hoped that they would be able to see beyond the typical to judge this design fairly. As luck would have it this design did very well, winning second best in design. By the time I headed to bed it was 2:30 a.m.

Entries Day

I awoke by 7:30 a.m., showered and began working on placing the foliage on the panels for my most unique entry, a process that took over an hour per panel. With little time to enter plants and place floral designs, my roommate Paul generously offered to complete the entry process of my horticulture entries so that I could enter my designs. I then entered the showroom to claim my niches and the items for the challenge class. In this class, the materials are chosen for us and must be used to create a particular design. Dale Martens was also in the class and we both were working in our neighboring rooms. It was quite fun to encourage each other as we worked to complete our designs. My entry into the challenge class surprised me when it won best in design. And it was a great pleasure as a designer to talk about my designs with anyone who asked after the judging was over.

If you have not done artistic designs at a show, I invite you to try your hand at one in the future. It's a great experience to work with other designers, making fun of each other, laughing and joking while we are all under the pressure. And it's an honor to work alongside such talented individuals as we are lucky to have in The Gesneriad Society, to be encouraged by each other and inspired by their designs. The next time you are at a show be sure to thank the designers for their imagination and creativity. I know they will be happy to tell you all about their process! To all the new friends made at convention: I cannot wait to see you again, hopefully next year in Omaha.

SEED FUND PROMOTIONAL CONTEST

To encourage donations to the Gesneriad Society's Seed Fund, a contest began on January 1, 2016. First and second place prizes will be given to the persons making the most Seed Fund donations throughout the year. The number of individual types of seed contributed (not the number of seeds) will be tracked from January 1 through December 31, 2016. The prizes (\$25 for first and \$15 for second) will be gift certificates of the winners' choice below:

- ▶ SEED FUND
- ▶ COMMERCIAL GROWER OF WINNER'S CHOICE
- ▶ GESNERIAD SOCIETY WEBSTORE
- ▶ CONVENTION PLANT SALES



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Convention Board Review 2016

THE GESNERIAD SOCIETY HELD ITS 60th Annual Convention at the Doubletree Hotel in Wilmington, Delaware, USA from July 5-9, 2016.

President Julie Mavity-Hudson presided at the meeting of the Society's Board of Directors on July 5 and 8. The Annual Membership Meeting convened on Thursday, July 7, 2016. The Board elected the following officers to two-year terms ending in 2018: Mel Grice, First Vice-President, and Mary Schaefer, Treasurer. It elected Winston Goretsky as Second Vice-President for a one-term, ending in 2017, to fill the balance of Mel Grice's term as Second Vice-President. The other officers continued in their current positions.

Barbara Festenstien was appointed Chairperson of the Insurance Committee, succeeding Dariane Joshlin. Dave Zaitlin is replacing Jeanne Katzenstein who stepped down as Publications Chairperson. Betsy Gottshall is replacing Paul Susi who resigned as Development Chair. Doris Brownlie completed her tenure on the Nominating Committee. Irina Nicholson succeeds Doris as Chair, and Mary Schaeffer was appointed to the committee, joining Paul Susi.

In other actions, the Board approved the Society's 2017 budget presented by Becky Fontes, Treasurer.

The Membership voted to accept the Nominating Committee's slate of Directors for the three-year term ending in 2019: Laura Buckner, Karyn Cichocki, Betsy Gottshall, Eileen McGrath, Norah Otto, Mary Schaeffer, and Kathy Spissman. The membership also approved the Bylaw Amendment to revise Article VIII Section 3 as presented (full text in the 2Q16 issue of *Gesneriads*).

Recipients of the sixth annual Student Convention Grants were Hong Xin from Anhui University, Megan Kucker and Claire Garcia from Lawrenceville School.

Mark your calendars for the 61th Annual Gesneriad Convention to be held in Omaha, Nebraska from July 4-8, 2017.

*Recording Secretary,
Leonard Re*



From left: Sally Robinson, Parliamentarian; Julie Mavity-Hudson, President; Leonard Re, Secretary. Photo: Stephen Maciejewski



Your Board hard at work. Photo: Stephen Maciejewski

Gesneriads in the First State

Jeremy Keene ~ *Glennville, West Virginia, USA* ~ <jeremy.keene@glennville.edu>



WHAT IS A GESNERIAD CONVENTION? IF YOU DON'T yet know, you have to go next year. I missed last year, and this year felt like I had been away from my family forever... but it did not feel like forever for long. Everyone quickly welcomed me back and it was truly one of the best conventions that I have attended. I landed in Philadelphia full of excitement and anticipation. I arrived in Wilmington on Sunday afternoon and quickly met up with many old friends, the first of the 160 attendees who would eventually arrive during convention week.

Convention registration started on Monday this year with the always enthusiastic Jay Sespico handing out name badges and

meal tickets. It was time to gather and head out for our trip to Longwood Gardens.

This spectacular garden was turned into one of the leading display gardens by Pierre S. du Pont. This was not my first visit to Longwood, but every time there is something different. There were several gesneriads planted inside the conservatory including chrysothemis, streptocarpus, and nematanthus. The outside gardens were vibrant and filled with just the right combinations of cool- and warm-colored flowers and foliage. I enjoyed most of the day walking the gardens with Jim Roberts and Andrew Norris.

The half day trip to Winterthur on Tuesday was a real treat for me as another convention attendee couldn't go and offered me her place on the trip. I had not purchased the trip because I was not sure how well I would like the tour. I was so

wrong not buying a ticket. Winterthur was amazing on the inside and out. Many of the rooms reminded me of the apartment of Napoleon III in the Louvre. There was so much attention to detail the décor seemed to come to life in each room that we passed into. I was especially taken by the natural plantings outside that appeared to have always existed in the eastern forest that surrounded the house. This was a very special trip and I will remember it for years to come.

That afternoon I went to the opening Board meeting. It was exciting to see how the Society continues to grow. The opening dinner was kind of a blur to me as I was preparing for the conservation meeting. This year's conservation meeting was jammed full of updates from Ecuador, China, and new prospects in Thailand. All of our speakers – David Neill, Wen Fang, and Hong Xin – have been working to promote



Busload of conventioners en route to the Winterthur tour. Photo: Stephen Maciejewski



Conventioners at Longwood Gardens. Photo: Ron Myhr



Judges Workshop: Dale Martens, Jeremy Keene, Nancy Kast, and others.
Photo: Peter Shalit



Judges Workshop: Paul Susi, Winston Goretzky, Steve Kerr, and others.
Photo: Peter Shalit



Judges Workshop: Brandon Erikson, Mel Grice, Levin Tilghman. Photo: Peter Shalit



Judges Workshop: Gary Vellenzer, Irina Nicholson, Norah Otto. Photo: Paul Susi

the conservation of plants within Gesneriaceae. We hope to expand these efforts in the future and offer everyone a glimpse of the plants we love so much in their native habitats.

After the conservation meeting, there was a discussion of social media projects that the Society has been working on. Dale Martens, Mary Schaeffer, and Paul Susi have really outdone themselves coordinating the webinar series. I personally have not seen any of the webinars, but the discussion really encouraged me to think of topics that would be of interest for future webinars. I found everyone's enthusiasm to be infectious and thought of all the ways that I can support the many new endeavors of the Society. So, be sure to check out the webinars on the website and also the Society's Facebook page.

Wednesday came, which meant it was time to learn how to be a better judge. I started in the intermediate judging school, this year taught by Mel Grice. Since I was at judging school, I missed the first informal discussion group, but heard that it went well. I can honestly say that I remember what was for lunch, but was busy again with getting programs set up and missed the follow-up about chapters and members. The judges training session after lunch was a lot of fun as usual. Arleen Dewell is so energetic and helpful, making the whole process entertaining.

This year Nancy Kast brought a really interesting plant (flower stalk) of *Primulina liboensis*. I say flower stalk because what remained of Nancy's very unusual plant was a flower stem mutant. I had only ever seen this in lab-made mutants of *Arabidopsis*. Nancy's plant had nothing more than a flower stalk with sepals and potentially some ovaries – it was such an oddity.

MY FIRST CONVENTION

Bobbie LaFashia:

The 2016 Gesneriad Society Convention was both entertaining and educational for this first-time attendee. The flower show was a walkthrough catalog of plants I had only read about and never seen. Fellow growers inspired me to "branch out" and I have started seeds of plants I never grew before. Thank you all for coming to Wilmington and sharing your plants and enthusiasm with us.



Tennessee Chapter Members: Kathy Spissman, Johnnie Berry, Molly Schneider, Carol Ann Bonner, Julie Mavity-Hudson.
Photo courtesy of Molly Schneider



Nancy and Jerry Kast.
Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson



Maureen Mark, Irina Nicholson, Vilma Dallas.
Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson



Drew Norris, Jim Roberts, Brandon Erikson. Photo: Peter Shalit

Once judging school was completed, we heard a really wonderful talk by Nancy Kast who shared how she grows humidity-loving gesneriads. She and Jerry even brought a sample of the enclosures that Jerry makes for her to grow the plants. She also encouraged us to eat more border bowls and cheese balls to gather more containers to grow our plants in. I will have to get right on that. Who doesn't enjoy cheese balls?

After Nancy's talk, I went straight to the judges test. I am hopeful that I got everything down and will hear good news in a few weeks that I am a senior judge. The final program I went to that night was the Gesneriad Hybridizers Association meeting and program. This event is always well attended because Dale Martens always gives a great presentation. And besides, who doesn't want to try out some new plants for free? This year was the 40th anniversary of GHA, so there was some very interesting information that I did not know about many older hybridizers. Once the presentation was over the real fun started. This year Dale gave a rhizome of *Kohleria* 'Bud's Little Pig' to the last number called. The anticipation was almost overwhelming. I really like rhizomatous plants and wanted that kohleria hybrid. I had the last number, and I nearly sprang out of my chair to get the little rhizome to add to my collection. I can't wait to cut up the flowers once it blooms. I like to see how all the parts form and these little flowers have ears. Oh! The excitement a botanist gets from chopping up plant parts.

One of the best parts of convention starts on Thursday. It is the day that all of the flower show entries come together. I had sneaked a view of a few plants earlier in the week, but so many were completely unseen at this point. I always run downstairs and get a good seat to see all the entries go by or help with placement to really get a good look. The variety of plants is astonishing. I was not involved in the show setup this year and so I helped out with the second informal discussion. It went really well as we talked about the needs of rhizomatous plants and growing outside. I grow all my rhizomatous plants

that have a defined dormancy outside. It saves so much light stand space, which I need most of the year.

In the afternoon we heard student presentations. The first was an update from Hong Xin about the completion of his dissertation on *Primulina*. (He has now graduated and already has moved on to a teaching position.) Two high school students, Megan Kucker and Claire Garcia, presented a program about their Lawrenceville School trip to Ecuador with John L. Clark earlier this year. David Neill, our speaker from Ecuador, then shared his program about early explorations there. He added some insight into how our plant family likely made it into cultivation in Europe. David also highlighted some of the important early work in South America that piqued the interest of future botanists.

Dinner and the Annual Membership Meeting followed with the installation of new directors and presentations of the Awards of Appreciation. The anniversary program celebrating Gessner's 500th birthday came next. It had been prepared

MY FIRST CONVENTION

Karen Allen:

I thoroughly enjoyed my first convention! Everyone was so friendly and welcoming. I loved being able to "meet" friends in person for the first time that I had only known on-line until then. The lectures were fun and educational. The only dinner I had signed up for was the annual membership meeting, but it was great! The food was excellent, and I loved the company at my table. The sales room was fantastic (obviously a highlight at convention) and I did my part to support sales! I loved seeing all of the gorgeous plants in the flower show, and took many photos. I learned a great deal, and looked up many new plants for my own wish list and collection. I hope that this is indeed only my first convention, and that I will be able to attend more in the future! The welcoming and sharing attitude of so many "seasoned" gesneriad growers is beneficial to the future of the society, and gaining new interest and growers. Thanks to all that made my experience a positive one!



Above, MJ Tyler, Rick Fadden, Bob Stewart, Barbara Stewart, Steve Kerr.

Below, Paul Lee, Carol Ann Bonner, Edna Alexander, Tom Finnigan, Sally Robinson. Both photos: Winston Goretsky





Barbara Festenstein, Barb Borleske, Molly Schneider, Rosemary Platz, Winston Goretsky. Photo courtesy of Winston Goretsky



Wen Fang and Fan Xi-Wei with some of their acquisitions. Photo: Stephen Maciejewski



Student speakers: Claire Garcia, Megan Kucker, Hong Xin. Photo: Stephen Maciejewski

by Anton Weber of Austria (who was unable to come to convention) and was presented by Ron Myhr. The program showed how interested Gessner was in fauna and highlighted what he accomplished during his lifetime and how he became the namesake of our plant family.

Marcela Mora then gave a great explanation of all the changes that she has made or will make to *Paradrymonia*, *Chrysothemis*, and *Nautilocalyx*. It doesn't look like it will require a lot of label changing, at least not yet. She had vivid pictures and outlined the differences among all the new genera she is recognizing and the changes she has made.

Finally, the event everyone had been waiting for – the rush to plant sales. You get into the sales room based on your registration number, so register early if you want in early. I was number 147, so I wasn't getting in fast. This year I worked the publications table and avoided the rush. Nancy Kast watched the publications table for a bit so I could sneak in briefly to look around. It was a really good year for plant sales. I didn't buy much – with my collection of over 700 plants, I need to watch what I buy.

Friday morning was the time to hurry downstairs, eat breakfast, receive our instructions and judge the flower show. There were 287 entries, so we had our work cut out for us. The entries were phenomenal, and judging was challenging with so many well-grown plants. I was on a great team this year and everything went very smoothly. We finished our assignments and had a bit of time to judge a few of the special awards.

After judging, I had time to look through the auction items to see what I really needed. I decided I really did need the leaves Dale had donated this year. I went to the wrap-up of the Board meeting, and then headed to Betsy Gottshall's program on growing miniature sinningias. She showed many excellent slides and offered a great step-by-step process for starting new babies. She also brought lots of babies to give away,

MY FIRST CONVENTION

Larry Gruber:

I attended most of the lectures and especially liked the ones on growing streps and mini sinningias. The free plants from the talks were a plus. Suggestion — Would have liked to see additional smaller workshops on growing various other gesneriads. I attended one of the informal discussions on growing and found it very worthwhile. The sales had a very good selection of plants, seeds and rhizomes. I came home with a nice assortment. Overall I found attending the convention worth the time and the money. It probably exceeded my expectations. If there were another Gesneriad Society Convention held in the northeast, I would likely attend.

and I got a new *Sinningia pusilla* to add to my collection.

In the evening, we had a good time talking through the cocktail hour. I caught up with a lot of people that I hadn't had a chance to talk to yet. The awards banquet really showcased all of the big winners from earlier in the day. We got to hear who won all the special awards and cheer on the exceptional growers and exhibitors. Following the banquet, we walked around the flower show and talked about all the entries. I noted that I really should have brought that plant I didn't think was good enough to bring ... and realized how critical I am of my own plants.

Saturday, the final day of convention, is always bittersweet. I started the day with the judges critique, which works toward improving judging. The first lecture that morning was brilliant Karen Allen who offered up many tips for growing beautiful streptocarpus. She loves

fantasy streps, and admits to being a Type B person in a Type A world. Her presentation also made the point I think many growers miss – if it ain't broke don't fix it. I know I am guilty many times of fixing a problem I don't have and causing another.

Next was a presentation by Jeff Smith looking at the natural environment and using available information to improve growing conditions for African violet species. Both of these talks were followed by raffles. My number was 666 and I guess it was lucky because at each program I was able to pick up another plant. Who knew that would be the case? The lunch and live auction was a lot of fun as usual, especially as I won the bid for those leaves that Dale had donated. After lunch, all the sales room material went to half price, and who could resist half-off gesneriads? Not me! It was now 3 p.m. Saturday afternoon, time to take down the show. With all the build-up to get to this point, it was over in literally minutes. I am always amazed at how quickly the show disappears after all the painstaking preparations for it.

For the closing event, we all piled into a bus and headed on a short ride to Timothy's on the Riverfront for our final dinner. This year was a little different than previous years as we had after-dinner entertainment. Jim Roberts presented a program about his obsession to collect it all and invited us into his gesneriad hoarders club.

I hope after reading this you all know what a convention really is. It is an opportunity to meet old friends, make new ones, expand your knowledge, and hone your skills to grow better plants. This experience has brought me so much year after year.



The Anniversary Cake. Photo: Bob Clark

Convention Auctions

Tom Bruning, Auctions Co-Coordinator ~Treyvor, IA, USA ~
<tbruning@unomaha.edu>



Doris Carson, Auctions Co-Coordinator. Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson

ATTENDEES AT OUR WILMINGTON CONVENTION were treated to an incredible collection of items to bid on, both in the silent and live auctions. Plant material predominated in the live auction. Several award-winning plants from the flower show were donated by their growers.

The total of this year's live and silent auctions netted \$3,715 for the Conservation Fund. The live auction raised \$2,657 and the silent auction raised \$1,058. Thirty-five donors contributed 84 items for the silent auction and 34 items for the live auction. Thank you to all of the supporters, donors and winners, for making this another successful auction.

Donors

Susan Bradford, Judy Becker, Barb Borleske, Doris Carson, Karyn Cichocki, Ingrid Crews, Delaware AVGS, Brandon Erikson, Wen Fang, Jill Fischer, Winston Goretsky, Xin Hong, Gary Hunter, Jeanne Katzenstein, Paul Kroll, Stephen Maciejewski, Dale Martens, Nancy Moerer, Ron Myhr, Bill Price, Carolyn Ripps/Mike Horton, Mary Schaeffer, Molly Schneider, Peter Shalit, Robert Stewart, The Gesneriad Society, M.J. Tyler, Elizabeth Varley, Wallace Wells, Penny Wezel, Dave Zaitlin, and Johanna Zinn

Bidders

Edna Alexander, Randy Baron, Johnnie Berry, Carol Ann Bonner, Susan Bradford, Doris Brownlie, Laura Buckner, Tom Bruning, Doris Carson, Karyn Cichocki, Francisco Correa, Edie Chapman, Jon Dixon, Judi Du Pont, Gussie Farrice, Betsy Gottshall, Susan Grose, Linda Hall, Jill Hamell, Marilyn Heinrich, Sarah Ingalls, Nancy Kast, Jeanne Katzenstein, Stephen Maciejewski, Maureen Mark, Jo Anne Martinez, Dale Martens, Eileen McGrath, Andrew Norris, Loris Purtzer, Leonard Re, Carolyn Ripps, James Roberts, Olive Ma Robinson, Mary Schaeffer, Betsy Sherwin, Dell Sherk, Kathy Spissman, Sylvia Svitak, Raymond Van Veen, Wallace Wells, Lan Wu, and Johanna Zinn

Kathy Spissman won the opportunity to enter the Omaha plant sales room ten minutes before it officially opens next year.

Doris Carson and Tom Bruning coordinated both the silent and live auctions. Many other attendees assisted to help make this event a success again this year. These volunteers included Doris Brownlie, Nancy Moerer, Francisco Correa, Michael Riley, Elizabeth Varley, and Paul Lee. Many other individuals donated time as needed and it is greatly appreciated. We are grateful for the expertise of our auctioneer, Bill Price, and the help provided by our outgoing and incoming treasurers, Becky Fontes and Mary Schaeffer.



Bill Price and Tom Bruning, Auctioneers, in action. Photo: Peter Shalit

2016 Convention Flower Show Awards

Paul Susi, Awards Chairperson ~ South Huntington, NY, USA~
<gesneriadawards@gmail.com>

AS YOU MAY KNOW, I FOLLOW PAUL LEE IN THIS POSITION. PAUL has done a great job for the past three years and I hope that I will be able to continue in his footsteps.

I would like to thank everyone who sponsored one or more flower show awards this year. The level of generosity of our members always amazes me. I know that the winning exhibitors appreciate it also. A few donated awards were not used, because in some classes there were no entries or no blue ribbons awarded, or because several special awards were not distributed. The names of those individuals and chapters whose sponsored awards were not presented this year appear at the end of this article.

We are trying to get a jump start on awards for the 2017 Convention so please visit the Flower Show Awards page on the website for more information and to sponsor an award at the 2017 Convention in Omaha, Nebraska.

SPECIAL AWARDS

SWEEPSTAKES IN HORTICULTURE – to Bobbie LaFashia with seven blue ribbons – an award from the New England Chapter in memory of Jessie Crisafulli

RUNNER-UP TO SWEEPSTAKES IN HORTICULTURE – to Brandon Erikson with four blue ribbons – an award from Betsy Gottshall in honor of the Gesneriad Conservation Center of China

BEST IN SHOW – *Streptocarpus* ‘Rose Scentsation’ exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society

RUNNER-UP TO BEST IN SHOW – *Nauticalyx picturatus* exhibited by Nancy Kast – an award from Winston Goretsky, in honor of Bill Price, Betsy Gottshall, Leonard Re, Dolly Yeh, Paul Kroll, Doris Brownlie and Norma Kunzel, and an award from the Greater New York Gesneriad Society in honor of past and present members of the Greater New York Gesneriad Society



Aeschynanthus ‘Mira’ exhibited by Jill Fischer. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Brandon Erikson receives his awards from Paul Susi. Photo: Stephen Maciejewski

SWEEPSTAKES IN ARTISTIC – to Barbara Stewart with three blue ribbons, one red ribbon, and one honorable mention – an award from the Long Island Gesneriad Society in honor of Karyn Cichocki, and an award from Jo Anne Martinez

RUNNER-UP TO SWEEPSTAKES IN ARTISTIC – to Paul Kroll with three blue ribbons and one red ribbon – an award from Jo Anne Martinez

BEST IN ARTISTIC – “Dover Speedway” design by Steve Kerr – an award from Bill Price in honor of Ben Paternoster, and an award from Judith Fox

RUNNER-UP TO BEST IN ARTISTIC – “Mt. Cuba Center” design by Steve Kerr – an award from the Delta African Violet and Gesneriad Society in memory of S. A. (Sam) McKenna, and an award from Barbara Elkin

BEST IN ARTS – *Sinningia hirsuta* monochrome print exhibited by Lan Jiun Wu – an award from Paul Kroll in memory of Monte Watler

RUNNER-UP TO BEST IN ARTS – Sterling Silver Stickpin with a *Primulina* Flower exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Paul Kroll in honor of Mel Grice, Karyn Cichocki, Jill Fischer, Bill Price, Tim Tuttle, Robert Hall, Brett Flewelling, and Ben Paternoster

BEST COMMERCIAL/EDUCATIONAL – “*Primulina maciejewski*” educational exhibit by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Winston Goretsky in honor of Stephen Maciejewski, Hong Xin, and Wen Fang

RUNNER-UP TO BEST COMMERCIAL/EDUCATIONAL – “The Origin of Gesneria” an educational exhibit by Paul Susi – an award from the Delta African Violet and Gesneriad Society

MULTI-DIVISION SWEEPSTAKES – to Stephen Maciejewski with four blue ribbons (one in Horticulture, one in Arts, and two in Commercial/Educational) – an award from Jeanne Katzenstein in memory of Maryjane Evans

BEST IN SECTION A – NEW WORLD TUBEROUS GESNERIAD IN FLOWER – *Sinningia tubiflora* exhibited by Betsy Sherwin – an award from Karyn Cichocki in honor of all those who have donated to the Seed Fund

BEST IN SECTION B – NEW WORLD RHIZOMATOUS GESNERIAD IN FLOWER – *Achimenes* ‘Sauline’ exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from Steve Kerr in honor of Doris Brownlie and Paul Kroll

BEST IN SECTION C – NEW WORLD FIBROUS-ROOTED GESNERIAD IN FLOWER – *Gesneria christii* exhibited by Jay Sespico – an award from Laura Buckner in honor of our officers and directors

BEST IN SECTION D – OLD WORLD GESNERIAD IN FLOWER – *Streptocarpus* ‘Rose Scentsation’ exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from Connie Leifeste in memory of Marcia Belisle



Alsobia sp. RM 2010-1 exhibited by Ron Myhr. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Columnnea purpusii (trained) exhibited by Ben Paternoster. Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson



Columnnea medicinalis drawing exhibited by Steve Kerr. Photo: Bob Clark



Nautilocalyx picturatus exhibited by Nancy Kast. Photo: Ron Myhr

BEST IN SECTION E – GESNERIAD GROWN FOR ORNAMENTAL QUALITIES – *Henckelia speciosa* ‘Ako Sky’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from Ben Paternoster in memory of Monte Water

BEST IN SECTION F – NEW GESNERIAD – *Primulina xiuningensis* exhibited by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Jim Roberts in memory of Barbara Roberts

BEST IN SECTION G – LESSER-KNOWN GESNERIAD – *Gesneria shaferi* exhibited by Nancy Kast – an award from the Northern Illinois Gesneriad Society

BEST IN SECTION H – TRAINED GESNERIAD – *Columnnea purpusii* exhibited by Ben Paternoster – an award from Susan Grose in honor of Karyn Cichocki

BEST IN SECTION J – COLLECTION OF GESNERIADS – *Primulina* Species Collection exhibited by Bill Price – an award from Robert Hall in memory of Monte Water

BEST IN SECTION K – ARRANGEMENT OF FRESH-CUT, DRIED, AND/OR GROWING MATERIAL – “Mt. Cuba Center” design by Steve Kerr – an award from Ben Paternoster in appreciation of the efforts of the Convention Flower Show Committee

BEST IN SECTION L – ARRANGEMENT OF FRESH-CUT GESNERIAD MATERIAL – “Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge” design by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Murna Kosowan in memory of Monte Water

BEST IN SECTION M – ARRANGEMENT OF GROWING GESNERIAD MATERIAL – “Nemours Mansion and Gardens” design by Mel Grice – an award from Doris Carson in memory of Sue Hill who attended the first convention in Kansas City, Missouri

BEST IN SECTION N – PLANTING OF GROWING GESNERIAD MATERIAL – Tray Landscape exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from Barb Borleske in memory of Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society Member Wally Behnke



Commercial Display exhibited by Gary Hunter. Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson



The Judges and Clerks Show Walk-Through. Photo: Mel Grice



Episcia 'Pink Smoke' exhibited by Francisco Correa. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Hemiboea strigosa exhibited by Eileen McGrath. Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson



Primulina collection exhibited by Bill Price. Photo: Winston Goretsky

BEST IN SECTION P – PHOTOGRAPHY – Monochrome print of *Primulina ophiopogoides* exhibited by Winston Goretsky – an endowed award from the Crisafulli Family in memory of Jessie and Anthony Crisafulli

BEST IN SECTION Q – ART/CRAFT REPRESENTING GESNERIADS – Sterling Silver Stickpin with a Primulina Flower exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Doris Carson in memory of Frances Batcheller and Sue Hill, and an award from Ben Paternoster in honor of Mel Grice

BEST IN SECTION R – COMMERCIAL – “Gary’s Specialty Plants” exhibit by Gary Hunter – an award from Irina Nicholson in honor of Thad Scaggs, the hybridizer with the magic touch, and an award from Patricia Apgar

BEST IN SECTION S – EDUCATIONAL – “*Primulina maciejewskii*” exhibit by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from the Greater New York Gesneriad Society in honor of Lavia Berland

JUDGES AWARD OF MERIT – *Hemiboea strigosa* exhibited by Eileen McGrath – an award from Doris Carson in honor of Paul Susi

JUDGES AWARD OF MERIT – “Dewey Beach” exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from Doris Carson in memory of Frances Batcheller

JUDGES AWARD OF MERIT – Watercolor Study of *Smitthiantha* hybrid exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Barbara Stewart, and an award from Paul Lee in honor of all the people who have helped him do his job of Awards Chair in the last three years

BEST ACHIMENES – *Achimenes* ‘Sauline’ exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from Mel Grice in honor of our president, Julie Mavity-Hudson

BEST COLUMNEA – *Columnnea purpusii* exhibited by Ben Paternoster – an award from Judy Zinni in memory of Monte Watler, who is sorely missed

BEST EPISCIA – *Episcia* ‘Pink Smoke’ exhibited by Francisco Correa – an award from Judy Zinni in honor of Paul Kroll, Arleen Dewell, Mel Grice, Doris Brownlie, and Bill Price

BEST PRIMULINA – *Primulina ophiopogoides* exhibited by Bill Price – an award from Joan Wood

BEST SAINTPAULIA HYBRID – *Saintpaulia* ‘Rob’s Fuddy Duddy’ exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Molly Schneider in memory of Vaunez Brakebill, her gesneriad friend forever

BEST SAINTPAULIA SPECIES – *Saintpaulia ionantha* subsp. *grotei confusa* exhibited by Carol Brown – an award from the Tennessee Gesneriad Society in memory of Chuck Fisher

BEST SINNINGIA – *Sinningia speciosa* hybrid exhibited by Carolyn Ripps – an award from Jim Roberts in memory of Barbara Roberts

BEST STREPTOCARPUS – *Streptocarpus* ‘Rose Scentsation’ exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from the Greater New York Gesneriad Society in memory of Virginie Elbert

BEST RECENTLY REGISTERED HYBRID – *Sinningia speciosa* ‘Rock Lyrics’ exhibited by Jay Sespico – an award from the Gesneriad Hybridizers Association

BEST GESNERIAD EXHIBITING FRUIT – *Streptocarpus thompsonii* exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an endowed award from the Frelinghuysen Arboretum Gesneriad Society in memory of Maryjane Evans

BEST SCENTED GESNERIAD – *Sinningia tubiflora* exhibited by Betsy Sherwin – an award from the Greater New York Gesneriad Society in memory of Jim Fryer

BEST NEW HYBRID – *Sinningia* ‘Bud’s Raspberry Beret’ exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Jim Roberts in memory of Barbara Roberts

BEST NEW SPECIES – *Primulina xiuningensis* exhibited by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Nancy and Jerry Kast in memory of their son Mark

BEST DALE MARTENS HYBRID – *Streptocarpus* ‘Iced Pink Flamingo’ exhibited by Barb Borleske – an award from Arleen Dewell in honor of Dale Martens and Bill Price

BEST PETER SHALIT HYBRID – *Primulina* ‘Nimbus’ exhibited by Laura Buckner – an award from Arleen Dewell in memory of Monte Watler

BEST TAIWAN HYBRID – *Sinningia* ‘Stone’s Yulia’ exhibited by Raymond Ruger – an award from Ying Hua (Vivian) Liu

BEST GESNERIAD GROWN BY A FIRST-TIME CONVENTION EXHIBITOR – *Primulina ophiopogoides* exhibited by Drew Norris – an award from The Bloomin’ Violets and Gesneriads of Palm Beach

CLASS AWARDS

SECTION A – New World Gesneriads in Flower – Tuberos

Class 1 – *Sinningia speciosa* hybrid exhibited by Carolyn Ripps – an award from Julie Mavity-Hudson in honor of Carol Ann Bonner, the best BFF ever

Class 3A – *Sinningia eumorpha* ‘Saltao’ exhibited by Ben Paternoster – an award from Carol Ann Bonner in memory of Kenneth and Margaret Mavity

Class 3B – *Sinningia araneosa* exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from Irina Nicholson in honor of Paul Kroll, mentor and friend

Class 4A – *Sinningia* ‘Orange Raindrops’ exhibited by Mary Schaeffer – an award from Norah Otto in honor of Marlene Beam and Bonita Hutcherson



“Gesneriad Silhouettes”
exhibited by Laura Buckner.
Photo: Winston Goretsky



Natural Garden exhibited
by Karyn Cichocki.
Photo: Dale Martens

Class 4B – *Sinningia* ‘Persephone’ exhibited by Wallace Wells – an award from the San Francisco Gesneriad Society in memory of Sam McKenna

Class 4C – *Sinningia* ‘Bud’s Pompeii Princess’ exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Mary Lou Robbins

Class 5A – *Sinningia* ‘Butter and Cream’ exhibited by Mary Schaeffer – an award from Sally Robinson in honor of Doreen Hovermale and the Puget Sound Gesneriad Society

Class 5B – *Sinningia* ‘Orange Raindrops’ exhibited by Betsy Sherwin – an award from Laura Buckner in honor of Barb Festenstein

Class 5C – *Sinningia* ‘Stone’s Yulia’ exhibited by Raymond Ruger – an award from Elizabeth Varley in honor of the Delaware Chapter

Class 5D – *Sinningia* ‘Kevin Garnett’ exhibited by Paul Susi – an award from Eileen McGrath in honor of Stephanie and Mark Griffith

Class 6 – *Sinningia* ‘Li’l Georgie’ exhibited by Gary Hunter – an award from Dell Sherk

Class 7 – *Nauticalyx pemphidius* exhibited by Johanna Zinn – an award from Jill Fischer in memory of Maryjane Evans



Primulina ‘Summer Song’ exhibited by Carolyn Ripps. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Saintpaulia ‘Rob’s Fuddy Duddy’ exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Saintpaulia ionantha ssp. *grotei* *confusa* exhibited by Carol Brown. Photo: Ron Myhr



Henckelia speciosa ‘Ako Sky’ exhibited by Mel Grice. Photo: Winston Goretsky

SECTION B – New World Gesneriads in Flower – Rhizomatous

Class 8 – *Achimenes* ‘Sauline’ exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from Irina Nicholson in honor of Jay Sespico, her gesneriad soulmate

Class 12 – *Gloxinia erinoides* exhibited by Steve Kerr – an award from Dell Sherk

Class 13A – *Gloxinia perennis* exhibited by Barb Borleske – an award from M. J. Tyler in honor of Doreen Hovermale

Class 13B – *Eucodonia* Hybrid #3 exhibited by Mary Schaeffer – an award from Ben Paternoster in honor of Arleen Dewell

SECTION C – New World Gesneriads in Flower – Fibrous-Rooted

Class 15 – *Columnea* ‘Melissa’ exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from Bill Price in honor of Arleen Dewell

Class 16 – *Alsobia* sp. RM 2010-1 exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from Jill Fischer in honor of Karyn Cichocki, Jeanne Katzenstein, Mary Lou Robbins, and Gussie Farrice

Class 17 – *Gesneria christii* exhibited by Jay Sespico – an award from Susan Grose in honor of Bob and Dee Stewart

Class 18 – *Nematanthus* entered as *N. gregarius* exhibited by Steve Kerr – an award from Sylvia Svitak in honor of Stephen Maciejewski for his work on conservation and the Gesneriad Society’s support for students researching gesneriads

SECTION D – Old World Gesneriads in Flower

Class 20 – *Aeschynanthus* ‘Mira’ exhibited by Jill Fischer – an award from Tom Bruning

Class 22 – *Primulina bipinnatifida* exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from Ben Paternoster in memory of Frances Batcheller

Class 23 – *Primulina* ‘Nimbus’ exhibited by Laura Buckner – an award from Leonard Re in honor of Becky Fontes

Class 24 – *Saintpaulia ionantha* subsp. *grotei confusa* exhibited by Carol Brown – an award from Bill Price in honor of Ben Paternoster

Class 25A – *Saintpaulia* ‘Imp’s Fairy Berry’ exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Connie Leifeste in memory of Richard Holder

Class 25B – *Saintpaulia* ‘Jolly Orchid’ exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Susan Grose in memory of Sue Hill

Class 26A – *Saintpaulia* ‘Rob’s Bed Bug’ exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Robert Hall thanking the Toronto Gesneriad Society’s Stan Sudol for the newsletter and website work he does



“Longwood Gardens” design by Judy Zlnni. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Lan Wu and her photograph of *Sinningia hirsuta*. Photo: Mel Grice



"Dewey Beach" underwater design by Paul Kroll.
Photo: Winston Goretsky



Gloxinia perennis exhibited by Barb Borleske. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Sinningia 'Kevin Garnet' exhibited by Paul Susi. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Tray Landscape exhibited by Barb Borleske. Photo: Bob Clark



Sinningia speciosa Small's hybrid exhibited by Carolyn Ripps. Photo: Ron Myhr



Sinningia 'Stone's Yulia' exhibited by Raymond Ruger. Photo: Winston Goretsky



Sinningia eumorpha 'Saltao' exhibited by Ben Paternoster. Photo: Winston Goretsky

Class 26B – *Saintpaulia* 'Lyon's Little Sweetheart' exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Leonard Re for Chris Highgood in loving memory of 15 wonderful years together

Class 26C – *Saintpaulia* 'Rob's Fuddy Duddy' exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Barb Festenstein in memory of Irwin Wagman

Class 27A – *Saintpaulia* 'Optimara Connecticut' exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Joe and Donna Palagonia in memory of Kay Rotando

Class 27B – *Saintpaulia* 'Optimara New Jersey' exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Leonard Re in honor of Paul Susi as an outstanding past president

Class 28 – *Saintpaulia* 'Pixie Show-Off' exhibited by Carol Brown – an award from Johanna Zinn

Class 29 – *Streptocarpus thompsonii* exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from Robert Hall, thanking the Toronto Gesneriad stalwarts for all they do

Class 31A – *Streptocarpus* 'Lavender Ruffles' exhibited by Barb Borleske – an award from Lan Wu in honor of Dale Martens

Class 31B – *Streptocarpus* 'Kentish Purple' exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from Joe and Donna Palagonia in memory of Kay Rotando

Class 31C – *Streptocarpus* 'Rose Scentsation' exhibited by Ron Myhr – an award from Barb Festenstein in memory of Irwin Wagman

Class 32 – *Streptocarpus* 'Iced Pink Flamingo' exhibited by Barb Borleske – an award from Stuart Hammer

Class 33 – *Boea hemsleyana* exhibited by Nancy Kast – an award from Bill Price in honor of Paul Kroll

SECTION E – Gesneriads Grown for Ornamental Qualities Other Than Flowers

Class 34 – *Episcia* 'Aloha Mauna Loa' exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Susan Grose in honor of Peter Shalit

Class 35 – *Episcia* 'Pink Smoke' exhibited by Francisco Correa – an award from Ben Paternoster in honor of Paul Kroll, Dale Martens, and Bill Price

Class 36A – *Primulina ophiopogoides* exhibited by Drew Norris – an award from Paul Susi in honor of Becky Fontes

Class 36B – *Primulina yungfuensis* exhibited by Drew Norris – an award from Eileen McGrath in honor of Stephanie and Mark Griffith

Class 36C – *Primulina* 'Destiny' exhibited by Laura Buckner – an award from the Grow and Study Gesneriad Club in memory of Elaine Re

Class 36D – *Primulina* 'Loki' exhibited by Gary Hunter – an award from the North Coast African Violet and Gesneriad Club

Class 37 – *Columnea* 'Frosty Hills' exhibited by Jill Fischer – an award from Barb Borleske in honor of members and friends in the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society



Sterling Silver Stickpin with a Primulina Flower exhibited by Brandon Erikson. Photo: Bob Clark

Sinningia tubiflora exhibited by Betsy Sherwin. Photo: Ron Myhr

Class 38 – *Henckelia speciosa* ‘Ako Sky’ exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from the Northern Illinois Gesneriad Society

Class 39A – *Drymonia chiribogana* exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Paul Kroll in honor of Arleen Dewell

Class 39B – *Sinningia bullata* exhibited by Paul Susi – an award from Barb Borleske in honor of Mary Schaeffer

Class 39C – *Nauticalyx picturatus* exhibited by Nancy Kast – an award from the Culver City Gesneriad Society in memory of Elaine Re

SECTION F – New Gesneriads

Class 40 – *Primulina xiuningensis* exhibited by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Susan Grose in honor of Becky Fontes

Class 42 – *Sinningia* ‘Bud’s Raspberry Beret’ exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Doris Carson in honor of Susan Grose

Class 43 – *Primulina* ‘Summer Song’ exhibited by Carolyn Ripps – an award from the Grow and Study Gesneriad Club in memory of Elaine Re

SECTION G – Lesser-Known Gesneriads Seldom Grown or Seen in Shows

Class 44 – *Oreocharis auricula* exhibited by Michael Riley – an award from Barb Borleske in honor of Elizabeth Varley

Class 45 – *Codonanthopsis ulei* exhibited by Drew Norris – an award from the North Coast African Violet and Gesneriad Club

SECTION H – Trained or Sculptured Gesneriads

Class 46 – *Columnnea purpusii* exhibited by Ben Paternoster – an award from Paul Susi in memory of Irwin Wagman



Watercolor of *Smithiantha* hybrid exhibited by Brandon Erikson. Photo: Winston Goretsky

Primulina 'Nimbus' exhibited by Laura Buckner. Photo: Winston Goretsky

SECTION J – Collections of Gesneriads

Class 49 – *Primulina* Species Collection exhibited by Bill Price – an award from Doris Carson in honor of Nancy Moerer

SECTION K – Arrangements of Fresh-Cut, Dried, and/or Growing Gesneriad Material

Class 52 – “Longwood Gardens” exhibited by Judy Zinni – an award from Paul Susi in honor of Kathy Spissman

Class 53 – “Mt. Cuba Center” exhibited by Steve Kerr – an award from the Toronto Gesneriad Society in honor of Stan Sudol, whose superb newsletters are eagerly received each month

Class 55 – “Grand Opera House” exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from Dariane Joshlin in memory of Monte Watler

SECTION L – Arrangements of Fresh-Cut Gesneriad Material

Class 56 – “Dover Speedway” (Challenge Class) exhibited by Steve Kerr – an award from the Puget Sound Gesneriad Society in honor of Doreen Hovermale for all her years of contribution to the Puget Sound Chapter

Class 57 – “Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge” exhibited by Bobbie LaFashia – an award from Linda Hall in memory of Sue Hill

Class 58 – “Dewey Beach” exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society

Class 59 – “Hagley Museum and Library” exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from the Puget Sound Gesneriad Society in honor of Doreen Hovermale for all her years of contribution to the Puget Sound Chapter

SECTION M – Arrangements of Growing Gesneriad Material

Class 60 – “Rehoboth Beach” exhibited by Barbara Stewart – an award from Bill Price in honor of Winston Goretsky

Class 61 – “Nemours Mansion and Gardens” exhibited by Mel Grice – an award from the Toronto Gesneriad Society in honor of Betty Tapping who, at the age of 90, still offers majestic support

Class 62 – “Lewes, Delaware” exhibited by Barbara Stewart – an award from Patricia Aggar

SECTION N – Plantings of Growing Gesneriad Material

Class 63 – Terrarium, straight-sided, exhibited by Barbara Stewart – an award from the Puget Sound Gesneriad Society in honor of Doreen Hovermale for all her years of contribution to the Puget Sound Chapter

Class 65 – Tray Landscape exhibited by Paul Kroll – an award from Linda Hall in memory of Sue Hill

Class 66 – Natural Garden exhibited by Karyn Cichocki – an award from the San Francisco Gesneriad Society in memory of Kevin Daly

SECTION P – Photography

Class 68 – Color print (parts of a plant) of *Sinningia brasiliensis* bud exhibited by Dale Martens – an award from the Long Island Gesneriad Society in honor of Sherman Paur

Class 69 – Color print (whole plant) of *Streptocarpus* ‘Blueberry Butterfly’ exhibited by Winston Goretsky – an award from the Culver City Gesneriad Society in memory of Elaine Re

Class 70 – Color print (native habitat) of *Primulina wentsaii* exhibited by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Paul Susi in honor of Bob Clark

Class 71 – Monochrome print of *Gasteranthus herbaceous* GRE 13009 exhibited by Dale Martens – an award from the Toronto Gesneriad Society in honor of Emma Bygott for lending a hand behind the scenes for more years than they can remember

SECTION Q – Arts and Crafts Representing Gesneriads

Class 72 – Watercolor study of *Smithiantha* hybrid exhibited by Brandon Erikson – an award from Arleen Dewell in honor of the 2016 Flower Show Committee

Class 74 – “Gesneriad Silhouettes” exhibited by Laura Buckner – an award from the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society

SECTION R – Commercial Displays

Class 76 – “Gary’s Specialty Plants” exhibit by Gary Hunter – an award from Murna Kosowan in memory of Monte Watler

SECTION S – Educational Exhibits

Class 77 – “The Origin of Gesneria” exhibit by Paul Susi – an award from Bill Price in honor of John Wrightson

Class 78 – “*Primulina maciejewskii*” exhibit by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Arleen Dewell

Class 79 – “*Primulina* sp. nov.” exhibit by Stephen Maciejewski – an award from Julie Mavity-Hudson in memory of her parents, Margaret and Kenneth Mavity

Class 80 – “Gesneriads Outdoors in the Northeast” exhibit by Paul Susi – an award from Murna Kosowan in memory of Monte Watler

Awards sponsored by the following members and chapters were not distributed this year and will be held over to 2017: Paulo Castello da Costa, Cindy Eastman, Stuart Hammer, Dale Martens, Nancy Moerer, Sylvia Svitak, Fay Wagman, the Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers, the New England Chapter, and the Vancouver African Violet and Gesneriad Club.

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- Brazil Plants and Plants in Brazil by Mauro Peixoto
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- Conservation of *Cyrtandra* by Melissa Johnson
- Conservation in Ecuador by Mary Jo Modica
- Conservation Grant Program at Brazil Plants by Mauro Peixoto
- Conservation and Update on GCC of China by Wei Yi-Gang
- Systematics and flower evolution of *Drymonia* by Laura Clavijo
- Pollen morphology of *Primulina* from South China by Hong Xin
- Searching for *Cyrtandra* in Fiji by Melissa Johnson
- *Gesneria viridiflora* and a new species of *Gesneria* in Haiti by François Lambert
- Phylogenetic placement of *Resia* and *Cremospermopsis* by Jason Martin
- Judging School Workshop by Dale Martens
- Macro Photography Workshop by Winston Goretsky
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Awards of Appreciation

Molly Schneider, Awards of Appreciation Chairperson ~ Nashville, TN, USA ~ <molly608sch@comcast.net>

THE ANNUAL AWARDS OF APPRECIATION CEREMONY WAS HELD at the Annual Meeting at the recent Gesneriad Society Convention. All past recipients of the Gesneriad Society's award of appreciation present were asked to stand and be

recognized! They have a blue diamond on their name tag. Judy Becker (1989) was the longest standing AOA recipient present. The Society website lists all the recipients since 1977 when the awards were started. All AOA recipients receive a life membership in The Gesneriad Society if not already life members.

The criteria for the selection of recipients of an AOA, as stated in our Standing Rules, are as follows: importance of service rendered, length of service, charing projects with successful completion of appointed

tasks, diligent work behind the scenes, faithful contribution of articles in publications, and any other duties of merit. No more than three awards can be given in a year.

This year the committee (Arleen Dewell, Michael Riley, Elizabeth Varley, and Molly Schneider as chair) gathered ideas and suggestions for potential awardees from all members of the Society. We always welcome the Society members' suggestions. The committee chose three deserving individuals this year. Each awardee receives an Award of Appreciation certificate specially prepared by Carol Ann Bonner and signed by Society officers.

Award of Appreciation: Robert A. Clark, Jr.

Membership Secretary, Master Judge, Author, Cheerful Promoter of Gesneriads

Bob joined the Gesneriad Society in 1989, became a Life Member in 1995 and for the past sixteen years has been the Society's membership secretary. As he puts it, "My goals in The Gesneriad Society have long been to make the Society as "green" as possible. I proposed the popular membership with green mailing option, which saves several hundred copies of the journal from being printed each year. I also helped bring The Gesneriad Society membership into the computer age by keeping the membership in a spreadsheet form. Email reminders of pending lapse in membership help save the Society [and the planet] from having to produce and mail paper reminders. It is, and has been, my goal to be prompt with membership receipt, and communicate via email [if known] with members confirming receipt of their dues."

While this has been a tremendous boon to the Society there are still more contributions Bob has made. Since 1998 he has attended every convention and is a Master Judge. Further he has served the Society by assuming the duties of:

- Judges and Clerks Chair for Convention Shows in 2005 and 2006
- Convention Chair 2012 in Seattle
- Judges and Clerks Chair Convention Show 2015
- Convention Registrar from 2006 to 2011



Left to right: Becky Fontes, awardee; Molly Schneider, Awards of Appreciation Chair; Bob Clark, awardee. Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson

The national level is not the only place Bob serves the gesneriad cause. He joined the Puget Sound Gesneriad Society in November 2004 and has held the positions of Show Chair, Membership Chair, Awards Chair, and Secretary.

He is also an accomplished writer, having written newspaper articles which have been published in the African Violet Magazine as well as a piece on design that was printed in *Gesneriads*. Design? Oh yes, Bob has always been interested in the arts. He received the Bachelor of Arts in Music from Gordon College in Massachusetts. An earlier job was working as a wholesale florist at Baystate Floral Supply. Currently he is a Certified Medical Assistant in the practice of Dr. Peter Shalit, affiliated with Associated Nurses in AIDS Care. He also enjoys floral design and handicrafts such as needlepoint, knitting and crochet.

Bob's gardening interests are not limited to the Gesneriad Family. He is also a life member of the African Violet Society as well as a member of the American Begonia Society. Again in his words, "I enjoy outdoor gardening of fruits, vegetables and flowers, and anything that is fragrant or draws bees. If we had room in the garden, I would love to have a beehive."

Award of Appreciation: Rebecca Fontes

Becky epitomizes the best one could ask for in terms of diligence, integrity, and commitment.

She has been a member of The Gesneriad Society for at least 18 years. Becky joined the Puget Sound Chapter when her husband Kevin, then stationed in Washington State, served two navy tours there. When the family moved to Illinois, Becky continued her interest in gesneriads as a valued member of the Northern Illinois Chapter. She is a former Senior Gesneriad Society judge, (and we'd be delighted if she became active again!) and currently lives in Maysville, Kentucky. She and her husband, Kevin have two grown children and enjoy watching their young granddaughter grow. In addition to crunching the numbers for our Society, some of her other interests revolve around speaking engagements and writing. She is also a fan of many sports activities and diligently watches over our planet with her beekeeping.

Becky served our Society for two years as the assistant to our former Treasurer, Helen Bortvedt. In 2006, she took over the reins as Treasurer in her own right. And what a stroke of luck that was for us! Becky's degree in Computer Science from California's Polytechnic State University has served both her and the Society extremely well over the last decade. Becky has single-handedly transferred all the Society's financial records from an old-school bookkeeping system to a completely digital platform. Definitely not a job for the squeamish – especially when you consider that all the Society's financial records, including operating accounts and investment vehicles, are held in financial institutions spread all over the country. She was also tasked with the job of keeping a watchful eye over the Society's day-to-day financial activities such as accounts payable and receivable, membership, Seed Fund, publication, and apparel sales – the list goes on and on!

Award of Appreciation: Dr. Anton Weber, gesneriad taxonomist

Sometimes it seems that the nemeses of horticulturists are those pesky scientists who are always changing the names of the plants that we love to grow; when all we really want is to know the REAL and FINAL name to put on that label in the pot. Some of us have had the opportunity to observe plants as they grow in nature and this helps us understand the variability and parameters of a species: a tuberous plant is not always a sinningia, and a violet from Africa is not always a saintpaulia. Botanists must also evolve with the technology and methods of distinguishing the evolutionary paths of any given

plant, and that challenge becomes their life's work. One such scientist was the keynote speaker and a presenter at the World Gesneriad Research Conference at Selby Gardens in 2010.

It is a pleasure to present an Award of Appreciation to Anton Weber of Vienna, Austria. Anton Weber received his doctorate in 1971 and has been a Full Professor of Botany since 1983 at the University of Vienna. His main scientific interests have been in plant morphology, reproductive ecology, tropical biology and systematics in Gesneriaceae as well as other tropical plant families. Research in the field has taken him to SE Asia, Africa, Madagascar and Central America.

Dr. Weber has been a member of The Gesneriad Society for 38 years and has been a frequent contributor to *The Gloxinian* and *Gesneriads*. His credits include nearly 300 publications in scientific journals and books, many on Gesneriaceae and a wide range of other topics. He co-authored "A New Formal Classification of Gesneriaceae" with John L. Clark and Michael Möller, published in *Selbyana* in 2013.

He is now retired, allowing him the time to pursue other interests such as chamber music, musicology, astronomy and history. Another of his many contributions to our understanding of Gesneriaceae has been his collaboration with Ron Myhr on his website The Gesneriad Reference Web. Ron has graciously agreed to convey this award to Dr. Weber with our hearty congratulations and appreciation.

The common thread among this year's recipients is that each awardee has taken our Gesneriad Society to new levels of advancement in technology in his or her own way. This follows our Society's tradition of keeping up with the times as technology advances.

Jimmy Dates was the first Membership Secretary to take our database from 3 × 5 cards to an electronic database, the only problem being that it was HIS database and no one else could understand it. Dave Tyler reinvented the wheel and created a database that worked for him, but then he always demanded that it was correct (when it wasn't), so Bob Clark took the database to an Excel spreadsheet – a miracle. This is now a consistent format, consistent with Allen Press mailing, consistent with the US Post Office database (against which it is required to be run prior to each mailing to eliminate bad addresses) and capable of generating any report that he or we ask of it.

Helen Bortvedt was an extremely competent old-time bookkeeper/accountant but Becky Fontes was the one who took everything electronically – no small feat to doing business with numerous banks, investment houses, printers, credit card accounts, and Gesneriad Society functions (memberships, seeds, publications, pins, t-shirts, webinars, etc.).

We're sure that Dr. Anton Weber has faced similar challenges when DNA sequencing came along and revolutionized cladistic charts and reorganized the entire plant world.

Congratulations to our three 2016 Award of Appreciation recipients!

BRITISH STREPTOCARPUS SOCIETY

<http://www.streptocarpussociety.org.uk>

To join from the USA/Canada, payment can be made by PAYPAL \$10 for a Green Membership with pdf-form newsletter; hardcopy newsletter is \$18 per year USA/Canada. A check in US funds for either type of membership can be made out to Dale Martens and sent to
1247 Island View Drive, Sherrard, IL 61281 USA.

Donations

Paul Susi, outgoing Development Chairperson

THIS WILL BE MY LAST REPORT AS DEVELOPMENT CHAIRPERSON.

It has been my pleasure to serve as the chief fundraiser of The Gesneriad Society for the past ten years. Betsy Gottshall <gottshb@verizon.net> has taken over the reins of this important committee and is looking forward to your generous donations. As you will read in this and upcoming issues of *Gesneriads*, donations are what enable The Gesneriad Society to fund research, education, and conservation projects. Your donations also enable the Society to assist students of the Gesneriaceae to come to convention, meet other generiad enthusiasts and present talks and posters to convention attendees.

The following tax-deductible donations were made to The Gesneriad Society during the period January through June of 2016:

ELVIN McDONALD RESEARCH ENDOWMENT FUND - \$459

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Vestal African Violet and Gesneriad Society – proceeds of the treasury upon the dissolution of the chapter

STUDENTS AND SPEAKERS CONVENTION FUND - \$350

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Karyn Cichocki - in lieu of reimbursement for committee expenses and in lieu of speaker's honorarium from the Long Island Gesneriad Society

Betty Fennerty - in honor of Gertrud Schneider

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CONSERVATION FUND - \$654

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Cichocki, Jill Fischer, Wallace Wells, Mary Schaeffer, Mel Grice, Elizabeth Varley,
Gary Vellenzer
Twin Cities Chapter – in memory of Esther Oleisky

THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE - \$1,000

Quentin Schlieder - in memory of Susan Schlieder

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS:

Amanda Brock, Suzanne Lawson, Drew Norris, Glenda Williams
(Life Membership receipts are placed in the Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund.)

New Features Starting Next Issue

Drew Norris ~ Marriottsville, MD, USA ~ <extensionofgreen@yahoo.com>



FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NOT MET ME, I BEGAN growing African violets and gesneriads for exhibition in 2009. Since then I have consistently earned several top awards in local chapter shows, regional shows, my first Society exhibition, and chapter shows from other states. I am a member of The American Begonia Society, The International Carnivorous Plant Society, The African Violet Society of America, Mid Atlantic African Violet Society, The Gesneriad Society, and several chapters. I have a collection of approximately 800 species and hybrids in many genera of gesneriads, carnivorous plants, begonias, ant plants, variegated plants, orchids, and others that catch my interest. I look forward

to sharing, cultivating, and encouraging the obsession that is growing and loving plants, through our journal and through my correspondence with our diverse membership.

I'm just getting all of my new acquisitions from the 2016 Gesneriad Convention potted up, down to root, scaled, watered, and placed under lights. Plant shows always seem to inspire me to take on new roles, grow new plants, and tend better to my existing ones. This convention has inspired me to contribute to our fantastic journal, *Gesneriads*.

For each issue starting in 2017, I plan to write an article about my growing methods for specific plants from my own collection, or to take on new plant material, try to grow it, and report my findings. For the next issue I will be picking a plant from my collection that received a blue ribbon and has not been seen frequently in shows, in flower, in commerce, or in cultivation in general. I will give a brief introduction to the plant and describe how I grow it. A recent conversation with Dale Martens opened my eyes to the reality that people are less interested in articles about plants they either can't acquire or can't grow. Therefore I will be sure to provide cultural information as well as sources for acquiring the plants I write about.

I also plan to coordinate a "Desperately Seeking" list, where members can email me the name of plants they are searching for and their preferred contact information, to be published in *Gesneriads*. To be eligible, you must be a member of The Gesneriad Society. Submit your request to my email address <extensionofgreen@yahoo.com> and state the plant or plants you are searching for, your contact information, and country of residence. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

Gesneriad Registrations

Irina Nicholson, Registrar ~ Lakewood, CO, USA ~
<irina.nicholson.co@gmail.com>



***Primulina* 'Alvin's Kornhill Peony'**, 2016, IR161315, Alvin Tam, Hong Kong (*P. gueilinesis* var. *longipedunculata* × self, chance seedling selection). Cross made April 2, 2010, planted May 12, 2010, and first flowered March 9, 2011. Reproducible true from seeds. Basal rosette. Leaves green with silvery veins, 27 cm long × 12 cm wide with nearly no petiole, elliptic with entire margin, cuneate base and acute tip, smooth. Calyx split, green, ca. 1 cm long. Pedicel 2-2.5 cm, 10 or more flowers per axil. Corolla salverform, 5-6 cm long × 4-5 cm

wide, white, pale pink, magenta-violet. This is a silver-veined form of *P. gueilinesis* var. *longipedunculata* (sp. ined.). It has longer peduncles than the species *P. gueilinesis* and nicer flowers. Prefers wet environment, responds well to fertilizing.



***Sinningia* 'Little Jessy'**, 2016, IR161316, Sharon Crochet, LA (*S. 'His Majesty'* × *S. richii* var. 'Robson Lopes'). Cross made June 12, 2015, planted July 15, 2015, and first flowered March 20, 2016. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette. Top of the leaves is medium green, reverse has purple veining, 3.25 in. long × 2.25 in. wide, with 1 in. petiole, oblong, with cordate base, crenate margin and rounded tip. Calyx split, green, 0.25 in. Pedicel 4 in. with one flower. Corolla salverform, 1.75 in. long × 1.25 in. wide, yellow and purple throat with purple dots and lines. Small plant with large leaves, long flower stems, large

soft yellow flowers with light purple marking on the top petals and light purple dusting on the lower petals. This hybrid goes into dormancy.



***Sinningia* 'Saga'**, 2016, IR161317, Ray Coyle, NY (*S. 'Apricot Bouquet'* × *S. araneosa*). Cross made May 2008, planted Jul. 2008, and first flowered Jul. 2009. Fertile. Reproducible only vegetatively. Multi-crowned growth habit, similar to the seed parent, 30 cm erect stems. Leaves medium green, 7 cm long × 5 cm wide with 1-2 cm petiole,



ovate with cuneate base, crenate margin and acute tip. Calyx split, green, 0.4 cm. Pedicel 3 cm with 1 flower per axil. Corolla salverform, 4.5 cm long × 2 cm wide, raspberry with light pink throat.



***Smithiantha* 'Esther's Sunrise'**, 2016, IR161318, hybridized by Thad Scaggs, FL, registered by the Twin Cities Gesneriad Society, MN (*S.* 'Jan's Surprise' × *S.* 'Tropical Sunset'). Cross made Jan. 14, 2011. Fertile. Reproducible only vegetatively. Erect growth habit up to 42 cm. Leaves dark green, mottled with light green areas, 10 cm long × 8 cm wide with 6 cm petiole, hairy, orbicular with serrate margin, cordate base and acute tip. Calyx split, medium green, 6 mm. Pedicel 3 cm with 8 flowers per axil. Corolla infundibuliform, 5.5 cm long × 2.5

cm wide, apricot outer tube with white to light apricot face and interior. Unique flower color, very floriferous. The Twin Cities Gesneriad Society named this hybrid in honor of one of its founders, Mrs. Esther Oleisky.



***Primulina* 'Cat's Garland'**, 2016, IR161319, Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. yungfuensis* × *P. glandulosa* var. *yangshouensis*). Cross made Jun. 5, 2013, planted Jul. 10, 2013, and first flowered May 25, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Dark green leaves with gray or white short soft hair, 8.5-10 cm long × 6-6.5 cm wide with 6.5-8 cm petiole, ovate with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip,

hairy. Calyx split, maroon, 0.8-1 cm long. Pedicel 0.6-1.2 cm with 15-25 flowers. Corolla salverform, 2.3-2.6 cm long × 1.5-1.7 cm wide, pink white with double light yellow guidelines and several purple lines in a throat. Very floriferous, flowers form a circular garland.



***Primulina* 'Dan's Pretty Girl'**, 2016, IR161320, Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. macrorhiza* × *P. pungentisepala*). Cross made Feb. 25, 2013, planted Apr. 10, 2013, and first flowered Mar. 12, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Dark green leaves with light green veining with gray or white short soft hair, 8-10 cm long × 5.5-6.5 cm wide with 7-8 cm petiole, ovate with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip, hairy. Calyx split, green, 0.5-1 cm long. Pedicel 1-2 cm with 3-5 flowers. Corolla salverform, 4.5-5.5 cm long × 3.8-4.2 cm wide, lilac with double bright yellow guidelines. This hybrid has some similarity with the seed parent, but more compact. Easy to grow in a good indirect light in the temperature range 0-35°C.





3.6-4 cm long × 2.5 cm wide, thistle (pale purplish) with double bright yellow guidelines. This hybrid has some similarity to the pollen parent, with its stout thick leaves, but has bigger flowers. Easy to grow in a very good indirect light in the temperature range 0-35°C.

Primulina 'Dan's Thistle Dancer', 2016, IR161321, Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. 'Blue Mood'* × *P. ophiopogoides*). Cross made March 24, 2013, planted May 1, 2013, and first flowered Mar. 27, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-1.5 cm stem. Dark green leaves with gray or white short soft hair, 8-10 cm long × 1.7-2 cm wide with 0.5-0.7 cm petiole, linear with entire margin, cuneate base and acute tip, hairy. Calyx split, chartreuse, 0.3-0.4 cm long. Pedicel 1.5-3 cm with 3-6 flowers. Corolla salverform,



wide, blue-violet with double bright yellow guidelines and several dark red stripes in the throat. This hybrid is quite different from its parents; flowers aggregate on the peduncle. Easy to grow with some direct sunlight in the temperature range 0-35°C.

Primulina 'Dan's Trumpet', 2016, IR161322, Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. ophiopogoides* × *P. beiliuensis* var. *fimbribracteata*). Cross made Apr. 15, 2012, planted May 20, 2012, and first flowered Apr. 9, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Dark green leaves with mahogany on the blade tip, 9-10 cm long × 2.8-4 cm wide with 0.5-1 cm petiole, elliptical with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip, smooth. Calyx split, chartreuse to red 0.4-0.5 cm long. Pedicel 1-2 cm with 4-18 flowers. Corolla salverform, 4.8-5 cm long × 3.3 cm



reticulate veins from the pollen parent, but has bigger flowers and tolerates hot weather better. Easy to grow in a very good indirect light in the temperature range 0-35°C.

Primulina 'Piebald Apple', 2016, IR161323, Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. 'Lavender Apple'* × *P. sclerophylla*). Cross made Mar. 20, 2013, planted Apr. 30, 2013, and first flowered Mar. 15, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Green leaves with white reticulate veins, 10-12 cm long × 7-9 cm wide with 4.5-5 cm petiole, ovate with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip, hairy. Calyx split, chartreuse 1-1.2 cm long. Pedicel 1.5-2 cm with 6-8 flowers. Corolla salverform, 6-6.5 cm long × 4.5-5 cm wide, purple with double bright yellow guidelines. This hybrid inherited the white



cm with 16-20 flowers. Corolla salverform, 1.8-2 cm long \times 1-1.1 cm wide, light blue with double bright yellow guidelines. This hybrid is different from both parents; it has a shorter peduncle than the seed parent with bigger flowers. Easy to grow in a very good indirect light in the temperature range 5-35°C.

Primulina 'Blue Sand', 2016, IR161324, Pan Bo, Wang Bing-mou, Guangxi, China (*P. semicontorta* \times *P. mabaensis*). Cross made April 20, 2014, planted May 30, 2014, and first flowered April 10, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Green leaves with grey or white short hair, 7.5-8 cm long \times 4.5-5 cm wide with 9-11 cm petiole, ovate with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip, hairy. Calyx split, chartreuse 0.2 cm long. Pedicel 0.6-1



Primulina 'Blue Giraffe', 2016, IR161325, Wang Bing-mou, Pan Bo, Guangdong, China (*P. semicontorta* \times *P. maculata*). Cross made April 15, 2014, planted May 20, 2014, and first flowered April 5, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Green leaves with grey or white short hair, 10.5-11 cm long \times 5.5-6.5 cm wide with 6-7.5 cm petiole, ovate with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip, hairy. Calyx split, chartreuse 0.6-0.7 cm long. Pedicel 1.5-3 cm with 5-10 flowers. Corolla salverform, 3.2-3.5 cm long \times 1.5-1.7 cm wide, pinkish blue with double bright yellow guidelines. This hybrid is different from both parents; has chartreuse lanceolate bracts 2-2.5 cm long, 0.5-0.7 cm wide. Easy to grow in a very good indirect light in the temperature range 5-35°C.



hairy. Calyx split, brown, 0.5-0.7 cm long. Pedicel 1.5-2 cm with 4-7 flowers. Corolla salverform, 4.7-5 cm long \times 3.5 cm wide, pinkish-blue with double bright yellow guidelines. This hybrid is different from both parents. Easy to grow in a very good indirect light in the temperature range 0-35°C.

Primulina 'Cat's Tail', 2016, IR161326 Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. 'Blue Mood'* \times *P. guelinensis*). Cross made Mar. 25, 2013, planted Apr. 20, 2013, and first flowered Apr. 3, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Dark green leaves with gray or white soft dense hair and fish-bone veins, 8-14 cm long \times 3-3.5 cm wide with 0.5-1 cm petiole, lanceolate with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip,



Primulina 'Cat's Little Cow', 2016, IR161327, Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. yungfuensis* × *P. beiliuensis* var. *fimbribracteata*). Cross made Feb. 25, 2013, planted Apr. 2, 2013, and first flowered Mar. 5, 2015.

Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Dark green leaves with gray or white short soft hair, 9-11 cm long × 7-8 cm wide with 4-6 cm petiole, orbicular with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip, hairy. Calyx split, light yellow, 1-1.2 cm long. Pedicel 1.5-2 cm with 2-4 flowers. Corolla salverform, 7-7.5

cm long × 3.5-4 cm wide, bluish-purple with double bright yellow guidelines and blue-purple freckles in the throat. Cymes axillary, not branched. Bracts 2-2.5 cm long × 1 cm wide; smaller than those of the pollen parent, but bigger than those of the seed parent. Easy to grow with a very good indirect light in the temperature range 0-35°C.



Primulina 'Cat's Spring', 2016, IR161328, Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. yungfuensis* × *P. sclerophylla*). Cross made May 5, 2013, planted Jun. 10, 2013, and first flowered Mar. 25, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Leaves almost white with green flecks, 7.5-8 cm long × 5.5-6 cm wide with 4-4.5 cm petiole, ovate with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip, hairy. Calyx split, chartreuse 0.8-1 cm long. Pedicel 2-3 cm with 6-8 flowers. Corolla salverform, 6-6.2 cm long × 4.5-5 cm

wide, lavender with double bright yellow guidelines. Very unusual pale almost white leaves. Easy to grow in a very good indirect light in the temperature range 0-35°C.



Primulina 'Dan's Dress', 2016, IR161329, Lai Bi-dan, Huang Yi-qin, Guangxi, China (*P. sclerophylla* × *P. beiliuensis* var. *fimbribracteata*). Cross made Mar. 20, 2013, planted Apr. 25, 2013, and first flowered Mar. 15, 2015. Reproducible only vegetatively. Basal rosette with 1-2 cm stem. Green leaves with white reticulate veins, 14-16 cm long × 11-12.5 cm wide with 5.5-6.5 cm petiole, ovate with crenate margin, cuneate base and acute tip, hairy. Calyx split, chartreuse 0.7-0.9 cm long. Pedicel

1.2-1.5 cm with 3-10 flowers. Corolla salverform, 5.6-6 cm long × 2.8-3.2 cm wide, purple with double bright yellow guidelines. White reticulate veins are similar to its seed parent, but its bracts are bigger. Easy to grow with a very good indirect light in the temperature range 0-35°C.



***Sinningia* 'Rock New Covenant'**, 2016, IR161330, Jay Sespico, FL ([*S.* 'Thad's Gas Planet' × *S.* 'Bristol's Good Morning'] × *S.* 'Sensational Pepperpot'). Cross made Oct. 24, 2013, planted Feb. 4, 2014, and first flowered May 16, 2014. Reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette, stem length 1.6 in. Leaves medium green with lighter venation, 9.5 in. long × 6.25 in. wide, with 3.25 in. petiole, ovate with cuneate base, crenate margin and acute tip. Calyx split, light green, 1 in. Pedicel 4 in. with 1 flower per axil. Corolla peloric, upright with radial symmetry, 2.25 in. long × 3.8 in. wide, red with lighter edge. Extremely floriferous hybrid with long-lasting flowers with pleasant floral fragrance.



***Sinningia* 'Rock Lyrics'**, 2016, IR161331, Jay Sespico, FL [(*S.* 'Thad's Gas Planet' × *S.* 'Bristol's Good Morning'] × *S.* 'Sensational Pepperpot'). Cross made May 15, 2013, planted Feb. 4, 2014, and first flowered Jun. 3, 2014. Reproducible only vegetatively. Rosette, stem length 0.5 in. Leaves medium green, 8.75 in. long × 6 in. wide, with 2.7 in. petiole, ovate with cuneate base, crenate margin and acute tip. Calyx split, light green, 0.75 in. Pedicel 5.4 in. with 1-4 flowers per axil. Corolla peloric, upright with radial symmetry, 2.5 in. long × 3.9 in. wide, purple with mauve edge. Extremely floriferous hybrid; flowers have a pleasant floral fragrance.

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***Streptocarpus* ‘Rose Scentsation’— Winner, Best in Horticulture, Gesneriad Society 2016 Convention Show**

Ron Myhr ~ Ashburn, Ontario, Canada ~ <rmmyhr@pathcom.com>

Editor’s note: An interview with Ron, describing his Best in Show entry, has been uploaded to YouTube at this link: <http://bit.ly/Gescon16BIS>



I mentioned my plight on Gesneriphiles, and two angels quickly came to my rescue.

Fortunately for me, *Streptocarpus* ‘Biscentenary’ was one of a pair of siblings, and after Chris chose the one for naming he gave me pieces of the other one. I grew it on, and was amazed at its flower production and overall beauty. I named my plant *Streptocarpus* ‘Rose Scentsation’, incorporating the hybridizer’s name in a way that recognizes the color of the flowers, and alluding to the distinct vandeleurii-style smell of the flowers. I distributed the plant fairly widely.

And then disaster! I had another of Chris’ hybrids, a red one I called ‘Rose’s Red’, which has a similar look in young plants. During a clean-out of my growing area I thought that I had kept one of ‘Rose’s Red’ and one of ‘Rose Scentsation’, but something was mis-labelled and they were both ‘Rose’s Red’. So I had lost ‘Rose Scentsation’.

I mentioned my plight on Gesneriphiles, and two angels quickly came to my rescue. Gary Mikita and Mel Grice both sent me starter plants in May of 2014. I’ve been growing them on ever since, and the big plant that won Best In Show at this year’s convention came from one of them. I’m afraid my labeling practices aren’t much improved, and I’m not sure which of my angels is responsible for the show plant, but thanks to both!

IN THE LATE 1990s AND EARLY 2000s I DEVELOPED a friendship with Chris Rose, who lived at the time in Bristol, UK. He worked for the UK Green Party, but was an avid amateur hybridizer of streptocarpus. He grew spectacular plants in a lean-to greenhouse and in front of every available window space. As befits a Green Party worker, he didn’t use artificial light or heating for his growing spaces, and grew everything in natural soils and composts.

Chris moved to London in 2009. Since then he hasn’t had the capacity for any more hybridizing work due to a reduced amount of space; besides, his spare time lately has been taken up with wildlife conservation activities.

Before his move, though, he introduced a hybrid he called *Streptocarpus* ‘Biscentenary’ in honor of the Royal Horticultural Society’s 200th anniversary in 2004. It was a beautiful large-growing (and scented) hybrid of Dale Marten’s *S.* ‘Texas Hot Chili’ (widely distributed in the UK) and the species *S. vandeleurii*. This hybrid was shown at the big RHS anniversary flower show that year.



Ron receives his awards from Paul Susi, Awards Chair. Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson



Transporting show plants from Toronto to Wilmington. Photos: Ron Myhr

As noted, *Streptocarpus* 'Rose Scentsation' is a hybrid of Dale Martens' *S.* 'Texas Hot Chili' × *S. vandeleurii*. The latter is a very floriferous unifoliate species with strongly scented flowers that have been described as smelling like creosote. Some like it, some don't. I do.

Streptocarpus 'Rose Scentsation' grows slowly and can become a very large plant. The starts that I got from Gary and Mel bloomed in about a year, in May of 2015. I propagated one plant around that time, and in the course of just over a year it grew into my Best in Show winner.

After propagation, the plant was grown on in a 5" standard azalea pot. When big enough it was potted up into an 8" azalea pot in which it remains. The hybrid can be successful in a 5" or 6" pot, but it does like more room. I used my (somewhat variable) standard grow mix, probably a 3-2-2 mix (peat or packaged soilless mix, perlite, vermiculite), and fertilize most waterings. I may use more fertilizer than some people, usually more than 1/4 tsp per gallon of water.

I've been asked how I got this large plant to the show. I drove from near Toronto, and in the back seat of the car fitted a piece of aspenite (similar to particle board) across the seat, propped up with bricks at the back so it was level. I used some old plastic plant utility trays and with a soldering iron cut holes in the bottom of the trays in the shape of the pots I was taking, and then used screws to fasten the upside-down trays to the aspenite in the back seat. The aspenite was held in place by the seat belts, and the plants were very secure sitting in their designated holes. The border inspectors admired them before waiving me through.

As to grooming, when I had the plant in my hotel room for a few days in advance of entries, I spent a fair bit of time taking lime and fertilizer stains off the foliage with vinegar and distilled water, carefully applied and dried with sponges, and used pinking shears to trim the edges of the large leaves. For many streps this is both cosmetically necessary and permissible, as the ends of the leaves are intended, in nature, to die back.

I also entered another of Chris' hybrids, one I've named *Streptocarpus* 'Kentish Purple'. This is a cross between a complex hybrid (involving *S. parviflorus*, *S. johannis* white form, and *S.* 'Elsi') and *S. kentaniensis*. The latter is compact growing, with narrow succulent leaves, is fairly drought resistant and tends to bloom well in short-days, an important consideration in the UK which is quite far north with short winter days. *Streptocarpus* 'Kentish Purple' has beautiful small dark purple flowers on a compact plant. It blooms reasonably well, but is never spectacular, and I was very pleased and surprised to find that it, too, had won a blue ribbon. It was a great day for Chris Rose hybrids.

Coming Events

Mary Schaeffer ~ Newark, DE, USA ~ <schaeffermary@yahoo.com>

Gesneriad Society Events



October 22 – Portland African Violet and Mount Hood Gesneriad Society Show and Sale Tabor Heights Methodist Church, 6161 SE Stark St., Portland, OR, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Additional information: 503-631-3925 or alicemaebblue@yahoo.com

July 4-8, 2017 – 61st Annual Gesneriad Society Convention, Omaha, NE, hosted by the Omaha African Violet & Gesneriad Society. For additional information, see the Gesneriad Society website in January 2017.

Gesneriad Society Webinars

(also available for anytime viewing for three months after the live event)

September 27: Growing and Showing Saintpaulia Species with Dr. Jeff Smith

October 4: Growing and Showing Achimenes with Julie Mavity-Hudson

November 15: Growing and Showing Saintpaulias with Sandy Skalski

December 6: Growing and Showing Florist Gloxinias with Dale Martens

For additional information or to register, go to:
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Botanical Review No. 43

Bob Stewart ~ Stow, MA, USA ~ <aeschnanthus@verizon.net>



Mora, M.M., and J. L. Clark. 2016. Molecular Phylogeny of the Neotropical Genus *Paradrymonia* (Gesneriaceae), Reexamination of Generic Concepts and the Resurrection of *Trichodrymonia* and *Centrosolenia*. *Syst. Bot.* 41(1): 82–104. 2016

This is another paper causing massive renaming, based on DNA evidence. Perhaps before we discuss the results it is time for a short explanation of the type of evidence that these projects use.

By now, everyone over the age of six has probably heard that DNA is the molecule that carries the coding for many of the things that have been called “heredity.” You have probably also

heard that the coding is carried by “base pairs” that are designated by the abbreviations A, C, G, and T. You have probably heard that these codes direct the manufacture of proteins, both obvious ones such as muscle protein and less-obvious ones such as enzymes.

Scientists can routinely extract DNA from a living thing and run the DNA through a process that lists out the sequence of base pairs. (Just as with the transistor or blood typing, doing it the first time was worthy of a Nobel Prize, and a few years later it is an everyday thing.)

If you have paid a little extra attention to DNA then you will also know that in between the sections of DNA that carry the codes for proteins there are sections called “introns” that act as “spacers.” Originally these regions were thought to have no function other than keeping the coding regions apart, and these spacer regions were even called “junk DNA.” Some of them are surprisingly long, much longer than the “real” DNA sections. Some portions of these regions are now known to have functions, but others are still thought to be unused.

Scientists use the DNA sequences of the unused parts of spacer regions to estimate plant evolutionary relationships. The DNA in the spacer regions, just as in the useful regions, occasionally suffers a mutation. In the useful regions any mutation that is harmful to the life of the plant will tend to be eliminated by natural selection, and any mutation that is beneficial to the life of the plant will tend to be passed on preferentially. In the spacer regions used for these studies the assumption is that the mutations do not “do anything” and therefore are not “selected” either for or against; they just get passed along. (If a scientist someday discovers that these “unused” regions actually do have a function and natural selection does act on them, then a lot of taxonomic work is going to come unraveled.)

Since mutations are rare and random, if two species have the same set of mutations in their spacer DNA



Centrosolenia porphyrotricha grown by Drew Norris won Best in Show at the recent National Capital Area Chapter Show. Photo: Jim Roberts

then they presumably must be related; they inherited the mutations from a common ancestor. Species with a large number of identical mutations must be closely related, and species with fewer mutations in common are more distantly related. Since mutations do not all happen at once, if several species have one group of mutations in common but differ at other spots then the common mutation is assumed to have been earlier in time and in the evolutionary tree and the not-in-common mutations later.

Scientists can extract spacer DNA sequences from a number of related species and feed the sequences into computer programs that find the mutations (places where the spacer DNA is different between species), figure out which ones are common between which species, sort them by which apparently came first, and put out a tree-like diagram giving an estimate of how similar or different the DNA is. This diagram is interpreted as showing the evolutionary relationships among the species. The program also gives numbers at each branch point that represent the degree of confidence of that branch.

I would love to show an example of such a tree, but they are in papers under copyright. There is a PDF file of the *Paradrymonia* paper available; you can look at the whole thing yourself if you wish.

The present paper devotes a page of fine print and another two pages of regular print to the precise details of how the analysis was done and its exact bearing on the outcome. These details are important to a scientist attempting to understand exactly what was done but there is little point in reproducing them here. The explanation above is a very broad glossy overview of the background behind a lot of hard work.

Once you have what you believe to be the evolutionary relationships of the species, how does this apply to names? Genera (and groups at higher levels of the naming system) are supposed to be “monophyletic.” That is, all species in a genus are supposed to be related back to a single common ancestor (branch of the relationship tree), and no other genus names are allowed to species derived from that particular ancestor.

Botanical names are supposed to reflect common ancestry. So if the spacer DNA analysis program output tree shows a plant with genus name X in the middle of a group with genus name B, then something is wrong with the names. Similarly if it shows two plants with genus name K that are in groups that split apart at the very earliest level of the tree, with lots of other plants with genus names C and D in between, something is wrong with the names.

Once the botanist is confronted with evidence that names must change, there is a set of rules governing how such changes can happen. One example is that when genera are combined, the oldest name has priority; this is how former *Chirita* species became *Primulina* species. Another rule is that if a genus must be split apart, the genus name must stay with the first species named in that genus, not (for example) with the majority of the species; this has now happened with *Paradrymonia*.

Some decisions about naming can be made more freely. There is no rule saying that a genus name has to be at a certain level of the tree. There is no maximum number of species allowed in a genus; the genus *Begonia* has about 1500 species at present. All plant species had a common ancestor somewhere in the past, but we do not want all plants in one genus. Every species is different, but we do not want every species to have its own genus. At each level of the naming hierarchy the groupings should be useful. The person doing the naming has to exercise judgement.

DNA evidence is felt to be “better” than the older system based on shared visible characteristics. Characteristics are subject to the pressures of natural selection, which can create similar characteristics in species that are not closely related at all. If a plant happens to be growing in a place where the main pollinator happens to like orange tubular flowers with a pouch on the bottom, then the plant either gets lucky and develops flowers of that type or it becomes extinct. There are species in the genus



Nautilocalyx antioquiensis exhibited by Jay Sespico at the 2011 Gesneriad Society Convention Show. Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson



Nautilocalyx pemphidius exhibited by Elaine Gordon at the 2000 Gesneriad Society Convention Flower Show. Photo: Julie Mavity-Hudson

Drymonia with that sort of flower, even though most species in that genus have bell-shaped white flowers and most species with orange tubular flowers with a pouch on the bottom are in the genus *Nematanthus*.

For another example closer to home, birds and men both walk on two feet, and camels and lizards both walk on four feet, but humans are more closely related to camels and birds are more closely related to lizards.

Using the “shared characteristics” system, scientists had to decide which characteristics were “more important” in deciding relationships. Sometimes this was clear, but sometimes it led to “my characteristic is bigger than your characteristic” arguments that could not be resolved in a scientific manner. Mutations in spacer DNA are believed to be completely unbiased. In the present paper the authors describe shared characteristics of the groups that they found, but the real division into groups is decided by the DNA evidence.

The present paper focuses on plants that were assigned to *Paradrymonia*. The plants (mostly formerly) known as *Paradrymonia* are usually found at relatively low elevation in warm lowland rain forest. (There is a conspicuous exception in *P. metamorphophylla*, which lives in cloud forest at much higher altitude.) The plants are usually found in wet situations such as wet fallen logs, moss-covered rocks, or near streams. They usually have white or off-white flowers, sometimes with markings.

Paradrymonia, along with *Nautilocalyx* and *Chrysothemis*, are in the Columneinae subtribe of the Episcieae tribe of the subfamily Gesnerioideae of the family Gesneriaceae.

The name *Paradrymonia* was created by Hanstein in 1854 for *P. glabra*, but only a few years later he changed his mind and reduced it to synonymy under *Episcia*. Wiehler re-established the name in 1973, and since then quite a few more plants have been assigned to the genus; it held 40 species. Since then there has been considerable feeling that the genus was not monophyletic; the present authors decided to do a full study and straighten things out.

These three P-N-C genera are the last in the subtribe to be subjected to modern analysis. The authors obtained samples from a great many species, and used field expeditions to get samples of species that were previously not available. To nobody's surprise the traditional classifications of many species need to be changed, though some of the changes are not what I was expecting.



Chrysothemis pulchella growing at the Fairchild Botanical Garden in Florida in 2007.
Photo courtesy of Julie Mavity-Hudson

The first conclusion of the analysis is that the *Paradrymonia-Nautilocalyx-Chrysothemis* complex is indeed nested in the Columneinae subtribe and is cleanly separated from the other genera in the subtribe.

The next conclusion is that this P-N-C group of species can be divided relatively neatly into seven groups, which only partly line up with the existing three names.

The first division is a small group containing *Paradrymonia glabra*, *P. ciliosa*, and *P. campostyla*. Since this group contains the type species for the genus *Paradrymonia*, these plants will remain with that genus name.

The inclusion of *Paradrymonia campostyla* in this group by DNA evidence is a surprise to me; I have always thought that it looked more like a *Nautilocalyx*. It apparently surprised the authors too. It is distinct from the other two species in many ways, but they refrained from creating a new genus for it.

The DNA and the authors make a distinction between two similar species that in the past have sometimes been considered as the same, *Paradrymonia glabra* from Venezuela and the widespread *P. ciliosa*. The former has white straight corollas with white hairs on the outside and the latter has cream-white corollas, bent near the base at about 45 degrees, with red hairs on the outside. Both have a fimbriate (fringed) lower lip. Check your plants. I looked at one of my plants labeled *P. ciliosa* and it has the straight shape of *P. glabra* but it has red hairs. The authors mention an ongoing monographic revision of the genus, which I am looking forward to seeing.

In addition to the three species named above with DNA in the analysis, *Paradrymonia lutea*, *P. buchtienii*, *P. yatua*, and *P. tepui* are morphologically similar and also get to keep their names, as does *P. barbata*.

The second group separated by the analysis contains the plants formerly known as *Nautilocalyx coccineus*, *N. cordatus* (a.k.a. *N. hirsuta* and *Episcia hirsuta*), and *Paradrymonia densa* (a.k.a. *Episcia densa*). The authors have also assigned *N. porphyrotrichus* to this group; although the evidence is slightly weaker, this seems to be the best place for it. These species now acquire the genus name *Centrosolenia*, because this name was available and was previously assigned to one of these plants. The plants listed above become *C. coccinea*, *C. hirsuta*, *C. densa* and *C. porphyrotricha* respectively.

These plants all have variegated leaves (though only when young in the case of *Centrosolenia densa*). All of these species are from the Guiana Shield region of northeastern South America; the name comes from an underlying geological feature. The area includes Venezuela and the three Guiana countries plus part of Colombia and eastern Brazil, and has a surprising number of endemic (not found elsewhere) gesneriads. Because of shared characteristics and shared region of origin, the authors also rename several other species (which may not be in cultivation and did not have DNA tested) formerly in *Nautilocalyx*.

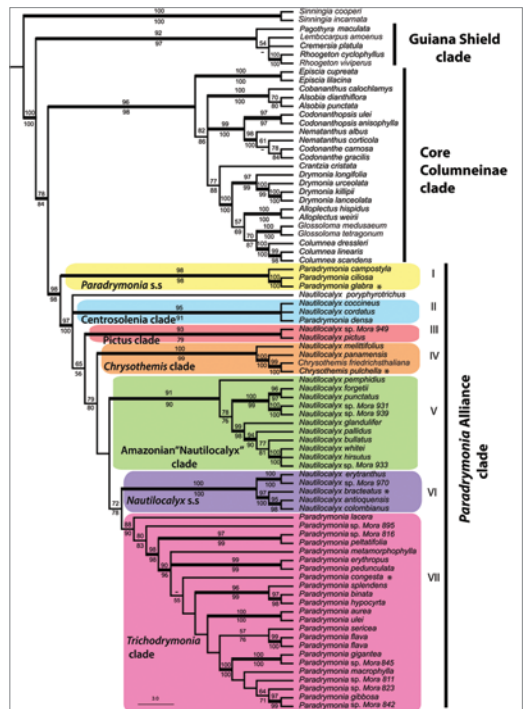
The third group in the tree includes only *Nautilocalyx pictus* and a recently discovered species not yet described. The authors have not changed the names of these species even though this group does not contain the type species for the genus; they want more species of *Nautilocalyx* sampled to provide better evidence; this study was aimed at *Paradrymonia*. There may well be a change coming in the future.

The fourth group separated by the tree is the *Chrysothemis* group containing the current two species *C. pulchella* and *C. friedrichsthaliana* plus surprises. Say hello to several former *Nautilocalyx* species now to be known as *C. melittifolia*, *C. panamensis*, *C. adenosiphon*, and *C. colonensis*. These species are all terrestrials with the possibility of tubers and with succulent stems. You might not think that a stubby rosette plant with bright yellow flowers and orange calyces belongs in the same genus as a tall stalky plant with soft pink flowers, but the DNA says they are related by ancestry.

The fifth group has a great many species traditionally labeled as *Nautilocalyx*. Conspicuously absent however is the type species for the genus, so if some later study of that genus upholds the distinction found here these species will need a different genus name. This group includes commonly grown species such as *N. pemphidius*, *N. forgetii*, and *N. glandulifer*. They are not renamed in this paper. All of these species come from the Amazon region.

The sixth group is the “real” *Nautilocalyx* species. They are “real” because this group includes the type species *N. bracteatus*; it also includes *N. erytranthus*, *N. antioquiensis*, *N. colombianus*, and a new as-yet-unnamed species. Most of these species do not come from the Amazon Basin but from further west in the Andes. This group has rather simple narrow calyx lobes, while the group above has calyx lobes that are broad, and are pressed together or folded.

The final group contains most of what many of us thought of as the typical *Paradrymonia* species, but since this group does not include the type species they all need new names. There are about 40 named species and several new species known so far only



The phylogenetic relationship tree derived by DNA analysis. Reproduced by permission of the publisher of the paper cited in this review.

as Mora collection numbers. If you don't see your favorite *Paradrymonia* species listed under the first two groups it is in line for the change.

The species portion of the name will remain the same. The new genus name is *Trichodrymonia*, used because it was an earlier genus name for *Paradrymonia congesta*, one of the species in the group, and the type species for the genus. This species had been lost for 150 years; M. Marcela Mora collected this species on an expedition in Mexico at the type locality in 2010 so that it could be used in the study.

The plants assigned to *Trichodrymonia* mostly have maroon-colored sulcate (grooved) petioles; this seems like a strange characteristic to be common among a large diverse group, but there it is. The three plants remaining in *Paradrymonia* have "beards" on the anthers and have fimbriate (fringed) corolla lobes; the plants in *Trichodrymonia* do not. The three plants remaining in *Paradrymonia* have creeping stems with adventitious roots; the plants in *Trichodrymonia* generally have short vertical stems with the leaves in a rosette, and the leaves are often quite lanceolate, giving the plant a "fountain" appearance.

So that is the story on *Paradrymonia* and friends; we can await similar interesting developments regarding *Nauticalcalyx*.

At the end of the paper is the formal taxonomic section, with official descriptions of the two resurrected genera and of the reduced *Paradrymonia* and the enlarged *Chrysothemis*, plus lists of the new naming combinations. There is also a key to allow you to look at a plant and decide which of the seven groups its characteristics suggest that it fits in, but to be sure you will need a DNA sample.

The paper also contains several useful pictures to illustrate some of the characteristic features of the various groups.

Appendix 2 of the paper has a table running over two pages giving old names and new names. This includes various synonyms, so for example *Paradrymonia lurida* becomes *Trichodrymonia lineata*.

I recommend the paper to anyone with an interest in the genera. It can be accessed at <<http://www.bioone.org/doi/abs/10.1600/036364416X690561>>

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Changes to Species Seed List 3Q16

Additions:

- *Aeschynanthus fulgens*
- *Codonoboea* sp. (white)/Kledang Hills
- *Drymonia* sp. (cuyabensis ined.)
Drymonia teuscheri GRE 14923
Drymonia teuscheri GRE 15017
- *Kohleria* sp. GRE 1498
- *Petrocosmea* sp. "Roberts B"
- *Petrocosmea* sp. "Roberts C"/China
- *Primulina atropurpurea*
- *Primulina bipinnatifida*

Deletions:

- *Aeschynanthus parvifolius*
- *Chrysothemis pulchella* (Ecuador)
- *Drymonia macrophylla*
- *Primulina eburnea*
- *Sinningia gerdiana*
- *Sinningia macrophylla*
- *Sinningia schiffneri* (red leaf)
- *Streptocarpus candidus*

Change:

- *Primulina tamiana* to *Deinostigma tamiana*
- *Streptocarpus orientalis* to *Damrongia orientalis*

Send orders for species seed to:

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Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)

The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

Year Ended December 31, 2015

	2012	2013	2014	2015
GENERAL FUND				
Checking	\$12,788	\$20,296	\$6,439	\$4,409
In Savings	29,419	11,942	15,233	5,744
Taiwan Hybrid Award Funds	200	150	100	50
Paypal	2,350	2,702	8,910	9,467
PCIT (w/USDA for phytos)	72	72	239	300
Endowment CDs:				
Crisafulli Family Award	2,438	2,481	2,524	2,568
Frelinghuysen Arboretum	2,351	2,433	2,473	2,510
Chapter Award				
Undeposited Receipts				4,307
Receivables		1,424	1,324	1,324
Bills to be Paid				(1,997)
Year-End Balance	\$49,618	\$41,500	\$37,243	\$28,682
STUDENT AND SPEAKERS CONVENTION FUND				
In Savings	14,484	18,042	\$17,326	\$16,735
Year-End Balance	\$14,484	\$18,042	\$17,326	\$16,735
CONSERVATION FUND <i>established July 2014 with \$15,000 from Register Fund</i>				
CD at Wa Fed Svgs Bank			\$12,520	\$12,662
In Savings			(5,483)	(2,316)
Year-End Balance			\$7,036	\$10,346
ELVIN McDONALD RESEARCH ENDOWMENT FUND				
CD at Wa Fed Svgs Bank	\$3,224	\$3,329	\$3,395	\$3,446
Schwab Investment Account		73,327	80,952	80,206
In Savings	73,363	13,102	14,195	13,104
Year-End Balance	\$76,587	\$89,758	\$98,542	\$96,756
FRANCES BATCHELLER ENDOWMENT FUND				
In Savings	(\$2,178)	(\$3,152)	(\$3,724)	(\$6,068)
CDs at Wa Fed Svgs Bank	97,686	100,433	103,173	105,387
Fidelity Mutual Funds	75,711	86,278	91,005	90,608
Schwab One Account	168,382	182,414	186,577	179,312
Year-End Balance	\$339,601	\$365,973	\$377,031	\$369,239
GESNERIAD REGISTER FUND				
CD at Wa Fed Svgs Bank	\$12,176	\$12,347	\$0	\$0
In Savings	5,198	5,361	2,826	2,859
Year-End Balance	\$17,374	\$17,708	\$2,826	\$2,859
NELLIE D. SLEETH SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND				
In Savings	(\$3,916)	(\$3,570)	(\$1,311)	(\$3,695)
Schwab Investment Account <i>(est 2015)</i>				119,784
CD Wa Fed Svgs Bank	112,805	115,682	118,633	0
Year-End Balance	\$108,889	\$112,112	\$117,322	\$116,089
GESNERIAD RESEARCH CENTER FUND <i>(dissolved 2015 by grant to Selby)</i>				
In Savings	\$35,563	\$35,773	\$24,013	\$0
Year-End Balance	\$35,563	\$35,773	\$24,013	\$0
The Society has no Liabilities				
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$642,116	\$680,866	\$681,342	\$640,706

Statement of Activities (Income Statement) The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

January 1, 2015 thru December 31, 2015

GENERAL FUND

REVENUES:

Convention excl Plant Sale	\$44,057
Plant Sale Net	4,501
GHA Dues	857
Shows & Judging: <i>Appraisal</i> , etc.	477
Membership	24,710
Promotions Sales	1,705
Publication Sales	3,205
Seed Fund Sales	3,605
Webinars	1,065
Other Revenues	1,458

Total Revenues	\$85,640
Budgeted Transfer from FBEF	\$4,500

EXPENSES:

Accounting Services	(\$1,997)
Publication/Distrib. of <i>Gesneriads</i>	(23,694)
Membership Processing	(822)
Publication Expenses	(2,471)
Internet Comm. Expenses	(1,064)
Other Chair & Officer Expenses	(952)
Stipends	(3,200)
Insurance Expenses	(6,208)
Convention Expenses	(52,694)
Promo Expenses	(1,236)
Credit Card Processing	(3,772)
Other Expenses	(591)

Total Expenses	(\$98,701)
Increase(Decrease) in General Fund	(\$8,561)

CONSERVATION FUND

REVENUES:

Donations	\$6,592
GCCC T-shirt proceeds	80
CD Interest	142
Total Revenues	\$6,814

EXPENSES:

Wire Fees	(\$45)
Grant for Ecuador Conservation	(3,460)

Total Expenses	(\$3,505)
Increase(Decrease) in Fund	\$3,309

ELVIN McDONALD RESEARCH ENDOWMENT FUND

REVENUES:

Interest from CDs and Savings	\$51
Schwab Change in Market Value	(746)
2015 Convention Auction Proceeds	2,318
Donations	591
Total Revenues	\$2,214

EXPENSES: Grants Awarded

Gabriel Ferreira	(\$2,000)
Melissa Johnson	(2,000)

Increase(Decrease) in Fund	(\$1,786)
----------------------------	------------------

FRANCES BATCHELLER ENDOWMENT FUND

REVENUES:

Life Memberships	\$1,125
Donations	1,031
Interest from CDs	2,214
Fidelity Mutual Fund:	
Dividends	4,993
Change in Market Value	(5,390)
Schwab One Account:	
Advisory Fees	(886)
Change in Market Value	(6,379)
Total Revenues	(\$3,292)

Transfer to General Fund for 2015	(\$4,500)
Increase(Decrease) in Fund	(\$7,792)

GESNERIAD REGISTER FUND

REVENUES:

Sales of Registers	\$32
Interest from CDs and Savings	0
Total Revenues	\$32
Increase(Decrease) in Fund	\$32

SLEETH SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND

REVENUES:

Donations	\$2,116
Interest from CDs and Savings	1,586
Schwab Change in Mkt Value	(435)
Total Revenues	\$3,267

EXPENSES: Grant Awarded

Carlos Martel	(\$4,500)
Increase(Decrease) in Fund	(\$1,233)

GESNERIAD RESEARCH CENTER FUND (DISSOLVED VIA GRANT)

REVENUES:

Donations	\$0
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EXPENSES:

Grant to Selby Gardens	(\$24,013)
Increase(Decrease) in Fund	(\$24,013)

STUDENTS AND SPEAKERS CONVENTION FUND

REVENUES:

Donations	\$2,835
GCCC T-shirt proceeds	80

EXPENSES:

2015 Students/Speakers	(\$3,506)
Increase(Decrease) in Fund	(\$591)

*Respectfully submitted,
Rebecca Fontes, Treasurer*

Wintering Gesneriads

Dale Martens ~ Sherrard, IL, USA ~ <DaleMartens@mchsi.com>



I have to decide whether to harvest rhizomes for storage, or just leave them in the pots.

I HAVE FRIENDS WHO GROW IN GREENHOUSES AND outdoors in pots or in the ground, and they have to be aware of impending winter weather. Since I grow on fluorescent plant stands, one would think I'd do nothing to winter my gesneriads. Although my plants receive twelve hours of artificial light all year around, they "know" winter is coming because of the decrease in the natural light that comes through the windows into the plant room. Blooming often slows down by early November. That's when I begin to prepare my plants for winter.

In early November I leach the pots with tepid water. I pour two or three cups of water through the pots to remove excess salts and fertilizer. I cut off all the older leaves on the plants. After leaching, I decide if the plants are overgrown enough to need dividing and transplanting to three-ounce Solo cups. For streptocarpus I remove all the flowers and buds until mid-February or even to early March. This causes the plants to produce new leaves. The plant room is cooler in winter as we turn down the thermostat to around 67°F (19°C). This means the pint reservoirs don't empty for about three weeks as opposed to weekly during summer when plants are blooming.

By the end of November the rhizomatous plants such as achimenes, smithianthas, gloxinias, diastemas, amalophyllons and phinaeas look pretty ragged and become susceptible to powdery mildew. I have to decide whether to harvest rhizomes for storage, or just leave them in the pots. The latter is usually easier for me. I moisten the mix, but not so the mix is soaking wet. Then I put each pot in a plastic baggie to spend time in a box in the dark closet for the winter.

I have been in situations where we lost electrical power for 48 hours during snowstorms. In that case, because we didn't know when the power would return, I removed the plants from wick reservoirs so the soilless mix would dry out. Being excessively cold with wet roots is a dire situation. Putting several pots together in large trays, covered with light-weight plastic dry-cleaner bags, seemed to help keep damage under control. If I had a rare plant that was in real danger of getting cold, I know that I

Hardy planting of *Oreocharis auricula*, *vaccinium*, and *Oreocharis pankaiyuae* exhibited by Michael Riley at the 2016 Gesneriad Society Convention Flower Show. Photo: Ron Myhr



would box it and keep it under a blanket with me! A few dark days of warmth are better than freezing.

Michael Riley, who grows several gesneriads on a rooftop in New York City, covers his plants with styrofoam when the thermometer hits 30°F (-1°C). If there's prolonged cold, he'll temporarily bring them indoors. His *Aeschynanthus buxifolius* stays outside to 30°F (-1°C). When asked about alpine gesneriads, Michael says they need the outdoor cold during winter, but cautions they need protection from the wind that will desiccate them if there is no snow cover. He's been known to water the alpins in winter, too.

Alpine gesneriads tolerate various degrees of frost or freezing weather. For example, *Mitriaria coccinea* tolerates frost on occasion. *Conandron ramondioides* needs to be watered sparingly in the winter. Its origin is mountains in Eastern Asia, Taiwan, and Japan. A light covering of snow is okay for it. When it is dormant, one finds small cabbage-like formations that eventually become new plants.

Ingrid Lindskog lives in Sweden and shares with us a photo of an alpine gesneriad, *Haberlea rhodopensis*. Her alpine gesneriads survive three feet of snow at temperatures of -4°F (-20°C). She reports that one winter it rained, covering the plants with ice, and yet they still survived.

Julie Mavity-Hudson's area of Tennessee can get down to 20°F (-7°C). She says several local gesneriad growers grow *Sinningia sellovii* and *S. tubiflora* outdoors. She has had a seemannia or two come back after a mild winter by using a light mulch over them. She used to put a heavy straw covering over achimenes planted in the ground.

Jaco Nel in the UK grows his streptocarpus plants in an unheated garage. Winter temperatures can go below freezing. The fluorescent lights are on for 12 hours a

Conandron ramondioides



Mitriaria coccinea



Conandron ramondioides dormant





Left, *Haberlea rhodopensis*. Photo: Ingrid Lindskog

Below left, *Sinningia bullata*. Photo: Paul Susi

Below, *Sinningia leucotricha*

Photos by the author unless otherwise noted



day, giving some heat. His greenhouse has a pipe heater set so the area does not go below 41°F (5°C). He grows on the dry side, only giving water when they are almost fully dry. In the winter they easily go three to four weeks between waterings. He experimented with growing streps outdoors in the garden. Frosty nights killed newly emerging leaves in February, but older leaves were fine. However, when frost and wet weather combined, he lost the plants. His sister lives in southern Africa and has grown streps for three years outdoors under an acacia tree. Winter night temperatures frequently drop below 31°F (-1°C), but the plants seem to be protected from frost while under the tree.

Although Ruth Coulson's area of Australia doesn't freeze in winter, it is cooler. Many of her plants are grown outdoors. She prefers everything to be a bit drier in winter. The exception to that is when winter can bring strong, cold winds. In that case she needs to keep her gesneriads wetter to prevent them from drying out. Otherwise, she does not



Above, *Ramonda myconii*

Below, *Haberlea rhodopensis virginalis*

Photos: Karyn Cichocki



temperature also seem to appreciate the winter rain. He speculates the rain leaches the fertilizer salts out of the soil. They sprout earlier and more vigorously.

fertilize in winter months (mid-June to mid-August).

Alan LaVergne lives in Northern California where it can get as low as 28°F (-2°C) for a week or so in winter. Beginning in November, he moves his sinningia pots under the patio roof and onto shelving units. He feels the patio roof adds three to four degrees of warmth with those closer to the house being more protected. These are the most sensitive to cold and must be brought indoors: *Sinningia speciosa*, *S. aghensis*, *S. braggae* (formerly "Ibitioca"), and *S. nordestina*.

Alan gave a list of some sinningia species not harmed by 28°F (-2°C). These include *Sinningia sellovii* and *S. leucotricha*. *Sinningia glaziovana*, *S. bullata*, and *S. reitzii* keep their top growth year around. *Sinningia hatschbachii* blooms in winter but needs some protection. Some species of *Sinningia* go completely dormant in winter by dropping their top growth. These are only damaged if the freeze arrives before abscission is complete.

Alan said the late Celine Chase used to cover her plants with newspaper if it was going to be a cold night. Alan reports that sinningias that tolerate colder

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Seed Fund – Hybrids

Gussie Farrice, Seed Fund Co-Chairperson ~ Staten Island, NY, USA ~
<f.farrice@verizon.net>



Donations are helping the Seed Fund grow.

AS I WRITE THIS MESSAGE I HAVE JUST RETURNED from the annual Gesneriad Society Convention in Wilmington, Delaware. For those who were unable to attend, I can tell you that you missed one great convention. The quality and quantity of the material entered in the show was very high, and the quantity of plants in the plant sale met the needs and desires of most attendees. I am already thinking ahead to next year's convention in Omaha, Nebraska and hope that many of you will attend.

On another note, I hope that everyone has noticed that the price of a seed packet has increased to \$3. Please be sure that you are paying the right amount and that you have included your stamped, self-addressed return envelope with your order. Also please include alternates.

Donations from the following are helping the Seed Fund grow: Atlanta Botanical Garden, Paulo Castello da Costa, Karyn Cichocki, Bob Clark, Keith Dabney, Charles Huston, Paul Kroll, Hung Nguyen, Irina Nicholson, Carolyn Ripps, Peter Shalit, and David Zaitlin.

Send orders for hybrid seed to:

Gussie Farrice, 121 Nelson Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10308

Seed Fund – Hybrids

Achimenes (D)

- 'Carmencita' × self
- longiflora* × 'Klaus Neubner'
- hybrid mix (B,L)

Aeschynanthus (B)

- 'Thai Pink' × self
- hybrid, large orange/red

Chrysothemis (F,LM)

- *pulchella* hybrid mix
- hybrid mix

Columnnea (B)

- 'Aladdin's Lamp' × self
- 'Bold Venture' × self
- 'Fujiyama' × self
- 'Malissa' × self
- hybrids (orange)

Epsicia (H,L,B,F)

- *cupreata* hybrids × 'Suomi'
- cupreata* yellow hybrids
- cupreata* hybrids mix
- hybrid mix
- mixed hybrids (5 crosses)
- yellow hybrids

Eucodonia (D,F,P)

- verticillata* 'Cecilia' × *Eucodonia* hybrids
- reverse crosses
- hybrid 1
- hybrid 2

- hybrid 3
- hybrid mix

Gesneria (H,F,L)

- citrina* hybrid × self
- 'Flashdance' × self
- 'Sundrop' seedling × self

Kobleria (D)

- ('Brazil Gem' × *bogotensis*)
- hondensis* hybrid × 'Bermuda Red'
- hybrid mix

Microchirita

- caliginosa* × *sericea* (LM)
- viola* × *caliginosa*

Nematanthus

- 'Cheerio' × self

Primulina

- 'Dreamtime' × self (sp. "New York" × *flavimaculata*)
- dryas* 'Hisako' × self

Seemannia

- 'Medusa' × self
- sylvatica* hybrid × self

Sinningia (D)

- (*aggregata* [yellow] × *sellovii*) × self
- (*calcareae* × *reitzii*) × self
- canescens* × *leucotricha* 'Max Dekking'
- carangolensis* × *warmingii* 'Esmeril'

Seed Packets — \$3 each

- Please**
- To pay by credit card, send your credit card number, expiration date, and signature, and indicate if the card is MasterCard or Visa (\$6 minimum)
 - Make checks payable to The Gesneriad Society in U.S. funds
 - **Provide a self-addressed, stamped envelope** (non-U.S. orders will have the postage added to their credit card bill)
 - List alternate choices
 - Include your membership number (first number on your mailing label)
- Note**
- There is a limit of one seed packet of a single variety per order
 - There is a limit of 25 seed packets per order
 - There is a household limit of 50 seed packets per calendar year

- cardinalis* × *glazioviana*
cardinalis hybrids
cardinalis ‘Innocent’ × *iarae* (LM)
 • (*cardinalis* ‘Innocent’ × *iarae*) × self
cardinalis × *iarae* × self
cardinalis × double orange hybrid
cardinalis ‘Skydiver’ × *iarae* × self
conspicua × *cardinalis*
eumorphia hybrids mix (F,R)
(eumorphia ‘Saltao’ × *piresiana*) × *conspicua*
glazioviana × *leopoldii* F2 (LM)
guttata × *aggregata* (yellow)
guttata × *speciosa* ‘Cabo Frio’
(iarae × *cardinalis* compact) × self
leopoldii × *iarae*
(leucotricha × *bulbosa*) × self
(leucotricha × *cardinalis*) × *leopoldii* × self
(leucotricha × *cardinalis*) × self
leucotricha × *leopoldii*
leucotricha × *piresiana*
sellovii small pink hybrid × self
(sellovii × ‘Apricot Bouquet’) × self
sellovii × ‘Peridots Sand Pebbles’
(sellovii × *tubiflora*) × self
(tubiflora × ‘Apricot Bouquet’) × (*sellovii*
 × *tubiflora*)
(tubiflora × *incarnata*) × self
 ‘Anne Crowley’ × self (F,L)
 ‘Apricot Bouquet’ seedling × ‘Apricot
 Bouquet’ (LM)
 ‘Apricot Bouquet’ × self (LM)
 (‘Apricot Bouquet’ × self) × self (LM)
 (‘Apricot Bouquet’ seedling) × *conspicua*
 (F,L)
 • (‘Apricot Bouquet’ × self) × (*conspicua* ×
eumorphia) (F,L)
 ‘Apricot Bouquet’ hybrids
 ‘Arkansas Bells’ × self
 ‘Beata’ × self (*leucotricha* × *leopoldii*)
 ‘Bewitched’ × self (F,L)
 • ‘Butterfly Kiss’ × self
 ‘Cindy-Ella’ × self
 ‘Claire’s Choice’ × self
 ‘Delta Fox’ × self (F,P)
 ‘Diego’ (red) (F,L)
 ‘Diego’ (pink)
 ‘Dollbaby’ × self
- [(‘Dollbaby’ × ‘Mercury’) × self] × ‘Foxy
 Blue’
 ‘Doris’ F3 × self
 • ‘Elin’ × *leucotricha*
 ‘Flamenco Apricot Bouquet’ × self
 ‘Fuzzy Bear’ × self
 ‘Good Pink’ × self (F,L)
 ‘Gyllenblom’ × ‘Raketbain’
 • ‘Jubilee’ × self (F,L)
 • ‘Krezdorn Yellow’ × self (L)
 • ‘Krishna’ × self
 ‘Lavender Crest’ × self
 ‘Little Imp’ × self (F,P)
 ‘Little Redhead’ × self
 ‘Maiden’s Blush’ × self (F,P)
 ‘Mother of Pearl’ × self (F,P)
 ‘Mothers Day’ × self (F,L)
 ‘Ozark Pink Petunia’ × self
 ‘Pale Beauty’ × self (L)
 ‘Peridots Blazer’ × self
 • ‘Piglet’ × self
 ‘Pink Pearl’ × self
 ‘Premier Pink’ × self (F,P)
 ‘Pure Pink’ × self (F,P)
 • ‘Purple Crest’ × self
 ‘Raketbain’ × self
 ‘Romanza’ × self
 ‘Ruby Red’ × self (F,P)
 ‘Scarlet O’Hara’ × self
 ‘Scarlet Sunset’ × self (F,P)
 • ‘Super Orange’ × self
 ‘Tampa Bay Beauty’ × self (L)
 • ‘Ted Bona’ × self (F,P)
 ‘Treva McDaniel’ × self
 ‘Vevette’ × self
 • ‘Winkie’ × self
 • ‘Xanadu’ × self F2
 hybrid (peach) × self
 Super Mini F5
 • ‘Georgia Sunset’ hybrid mix
 ‘Hummingbird Mix’
 miniature hybrid mix (F,P)
 • miniature hybrid mix (lav/purple) (F,P)
 pink hybrid mix
 peloric hybrid mix
 peloric hybrid mix, red

Sinningia speciosa hybrids (F,R)

- blue × self
- mini
 - lavender
 - pink
- purple
 - red
 - rose
 - white
 - white × red
- pink & rose pink
- pink dwarf
- purple peloric
 - purple w/spots
 - purple × pink
 - red w/spots
 - red w/white edge
 - white
 - white w/red spots
 - white/lavender
 - “California Minis”
 - Chiltern hybrid
 - blue slipper
 - blue slipper × self
 - ‘Empress’ purple × self
 - lavender & pink slipper × self
 - lavender slipper
 - pink slipper
 - red slipper
 - AC1503 × *speciosa* ‘Regina’
 - blue mix
 - orchid/purple mix
 - pink mix
 - pink/white mix
 - pink & white slipper
 - pink and white × purple
- purple
 - purple × red
 - red mix
- slipper mix
 - Charles Lawn hybrid mix
 - Empress Mixed
 - Jack Evans purple mix
 - ‘Regina’ hybrid
 - Small’s dwarf mix
 - white × red
 - mixed hybrids

Smithiantha (D)

- ‘An’s Sognare Firenze’ × self
- ‘An’s Sognare Firenze’ × *zebrina*
- ‘Big Dots Rule’ × ‘Vivian’s Gift’
- ‘Jan’s Surprise’ × ‘Tropical Sunset’
- ‘Little One’ (F,L)
 - ‘Sassy Redhead’ × ‘An’s Sognare Firenze’
 - ‘Vivian’s Gift’ × self

Streptocarpus

- ‘Amy’ × self
- ‘Bethan’ × self
 - ‘Black Panther’ × self
 - ‘Bristol’s Charm’ × self
 - ‘Bristol’s Daisy Jane’ × self
 - ‘Bristol’s Gum Drop’ × self
 - ‘Bristol’s Hey Mei’ × self

- ‘Bristol’s Hot Rod’ × self
- ‘Bristol’s Ice Castle’ × self
- ‘Bristol’s Luv It’ × self
- ‘Bristol’s Popsicle’ × self
- ‘Bristol’s Ripe Melon’ × self
- ‘Canterbury Surprise’ × self (V)
- (‘Canterbury Surprise’ × ‘Bristol’s Leopard Skin’) × self
- ‘Canterbury Surprise’ × ‘Charlotte’
- ‘Canterbury Surprise’ × ‘Coral Flair’ (V)
- ‘Canterbury Surprise’ × ‘Emily’s Song’
- ‘Cape Beauties’ × self (F,P)
- (‘Cape Essence’ × ‘Iced Pink Flamingo’) × unnamed hybrid
- ‘Charlotte’ × self
- ‘Charlotte’ × ‘Northwoods Bear-ly Salmon’
- ‘Crystal Wonder’ × self
- ‘Demeter’ × self
- ‘Electric Blue’ × self
- ‘Elegance’ × self
- ‘Ella Mae’ × self
- ‘Ella Mae’ × “Blue Variety”
- ‘Falling Stars’ × self
- ‘Fancy Pants’ × self
- ‘Fernwood’s Cherries Jubilee’ × self
- ‘Fernwood’s Fairy Princess’ × self
- ‘Festival Wales’ × self
- ‘Fleischle’s Princesse’ × self
- ‘Fleischle’s Roulette Cherry’ × self
- ‘Franken Dainty Lady’ × self
- ‘Franken Jane Elizabeth’ × self
- ‘Franken Stacey’ × self
- ‘Good Vibrations’ × (*primulifolius* × *rexii* selfed)
- ‘Hera’ × self
- ‘Ice Berg Blues’ × ‘Guidelines’
- ‘Ice Berg Blues’ × (‘Canterbury Surprise’ × ‘Bristol’s Leopard Skin’)
- ‘Ice Berg Blues’ × ‘Paper Moon’
- ‘Jane Elizabeth’ × “Blue Variety”
- ‘Jenny’ × self
- ‘Ken’s Purple’ × self
- ‘Keri’s Purple’ × self
- ‘Kim’ × self
- ‘Kitten Face’ × self
- ‘Midnight Flame’ × self
- ‘Mini Pink Fu’ × self
- ‘Northwoods Bear-ly Salmon’ × self
- ‘Northwoods Bear-ly Salmon’ × ‘Iced Amethyst Showoff’
- ‘Northwoods Bear-ly Salmon’ × ‘Velma’
- Pale lilac netted × self
- ‘Park’s Holiday Hybrid’ × self
- ‘Party Doll’ × self
- ‘Passion Pink’ × self
- ‘Pegasus’ × self
- ‘Persephone’ × self
- ‘Piment Ornamental’
- ‘Pink Ice’ × self
- Polish Mini #2 × self
- ‘Royal’ (red)
- ‘Royal’ (white/pink stripes)

- 'Sandra' × self
- 'Scarlet Glitter' × unknown
- 'Somerset Purple Ice' × self
- 'Spooky' × self
- 'Stacey' × "Blue Variety"
- 'Stonewashed' × self
- 'Sue mini' × self
- 'Suzie' × self
- 'Thalia' × self
- 'Velma' × self
- 'Wow' × self
- (*confusus* ssp. *confusus* × *polyanthus* ssp. *verecundus*) × self
- *johannis* × unknown
- (*montigena* × *rexii*) × self
- (*polyanthus* ssp. *polyanthus* × *prolixus* JT04-11) × self
- (*primulifolius* × *rexii*) × self
- *rexii* × *gardenii*
- rexii* hybrids
- Wiesmoor hybrids
- hybrid, lt blue/dk blue lines
- hybrid, lg purple

- hybrid, lg white
- hybrid, lg mixed colors
- hybrid, pink/pink
- hybrid, red
- hybrid, red × self
- hybrid, white/pink × self
- hybrid mix
- Dibley's Dragon Mix
- Dibley's Pink Bouquet Mix
- New Zealand hybrid mix

***Streptocarpella* Subgenus**

- 'Concord Blue' × self
- hybrids
- 'White Butterfly' × self

Intergenerics

- Paliavana prasinata* × *Sinningia macropoda* MP 944
- Paliavana prasinata* × *Sinningia reitzii* MP 949
- × *Gloximannia* 'Circe' × self

Mixed gesneriad hybrids

- denotes LIMITED quantities

Seed Fund Key

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Alpine or cool greenhouse (AN) Annual, dies after flowering (B) Suitable for hanging basket (D) Has dormant period, forming tubers or rhizomes (F) Blooms readily in fluorescent light (G) Recommended for greenhouses; requires space (H) Requires humidity and warmth (L) Low growing; not more than 12" | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (LM) Low to medium height (M) Medium height; 1 to 2 feet (MT) Medium to tall (P) Petite or miniature; under 6" (R) Rosette in form (S) Requires sun to bloom (T) Tall plants; generally over 3 feet (U) Unifoliolate or single leaf (V) Leaves may be variegated |
|---|--|



Prof. Wei Yi-Gang

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Judges Interest Group — Calendar year subscription to *Appraisal* newsletter, 3 issues, \$6 (postal mail) or \$3 (email/full color). Send to Mary Lou Robbins, 403 Mizdail Road, Hunlock Creek, PA 18621 <mlr07005@gmail.com>
Gesneriad Hybridizers Association — *CrossWords*, 3 issues, \$8 (\$9 outside USA). Send to Martha Lacy, 260 Stoddards Wharf Rd., Gales Ferry, CT 06335 <Martha_GHA@comcast.net>
“Gleanings” — a free monthly newsletter from The Gesneriad Society (Mel Grice, editor). To subscribe, go to <http://www.gesneriads.org/gleanings/index.htm> and click on “Subscribe to Notification email.”
Gesneriphiles Internet Discussion Group — Visit the website for instructions about joining the list: <<http://lists.ibiblio.org/mailman/listinfo/gesneriphiles>>

Visit <<http://gesneriads.org/resources/>> for more information about websites, organizations, and Facebook pages devoted to gesneriads.

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Go to www.gesneriads.org for complete chapter meeting information.

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Chapters: Report changes of chapter presidents to the Chapters and Affiliates Chairperson at <neotto@earthlink.net>

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