

the

# GLOXINIAN

*The Journal for Gesneriad Growers*

Vol. 50, No. 1

First Quarter 2000



*Sinningia hatschbachii*

# American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, Inc.

*A non-profit membership corporation chartered by the State of Missouri*

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Visit our greenhouse and rainforest when in the area. Telephone (941) 365-2378. <whiehler@aol.com>

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*Sinningia hatschbachii*  
(photo by Alain Chautems)

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# Gloxinia Growers I Have Known

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The American Gloxinian Society was founded by people who grew gloxinias – Florist Gloxinias. They did so with great passion and joy. There is a little less joy today because some of those friends are no longer with us. **Miriam Goldberg** grew gloxinias in New York, but she taught the world how to grow them through her activity in her chapter, traveling to nearly every AGGS Convention and corresponding with the world through her newsletter, *Glox News*. Miriam passed away in October.

Diantha Brown liked gloxinias so much that she married "Mr. Gloxinia", Albert Buell, and became "Mrs. Gloxinia". Diantha was a nurse and had other interests, but many of us will remember her as the only person in the world who could grow *Gesneria pulverulenta*. In fact she grew any and all gesneriads that she could get her hands on. Diantha served our society as the Secretary and Membership Chair for many years. **Diantha Buell** died in early August after a brief illness.

We will miss these two Sinningias – 'Mrs. B' and 'Miriam G.', but their legacy remains on our lightstands and in our hearts.

– Michael Riley



*Sinningia* 'Mrs. B'



*Sinningia* 'Miriam G.'

**The new Flower Show Manual (2000) for Judges and Exhibitors is now available. Order yours today from AGGS Publications – see the back cover for details.**

# President's Message

---

Jon Dixon <president@aggs.org>  
55 Tum Suden Way, Woodside, CA 94062

When we talk about the gesneriad family we usually are talking about the plants of the gesneriaceae; but there is another family that we all know and love. That is the community of people who grow, study, hybridize, work with, and show gesneriads. We are found all over the world, as varied and unique as the plants we love. And, like the plants, we are a rare and special group, few in number but each of us significant as stewards of our endangered plants, keeping in cultivation the vast genetic pool which a mankind-altered nature is no longer capable of maintaining.

Unfortunately, there are too many gesneriads and too few of us. As we discover and introduce more species as well as hybridize new worthy cultivars, we only increase our task. Occasionally a variety will go out of cultivation, missed in the continuous distribution from one collection to another. When this happens the event is usually unnoticed, marked with a bare pot which is then emptied and cleaned, the label erased or discarded. It's only later when someone is looking for that plant, that the realization slowly becomes apparent. Last summer Patrick Worley gave a program to my local chapter that brought home the significance of this. He showed slide after slide of species and hybrids that he had at one time photographed, but that could not be found today. They included such once-well-known cultivars as *Gloxinia sylvatica* 'Yellow Bird', twenty years ago available from several mail order nurseries. Also missing was the special dark-leaved variety of *Kohleria villosa* that he used to create *K.* 'Flirt'.

It's not surprising that gesneriads become lost. After all, there are many more plants than there are people to grow them. It's simply a matter of numbers. We are too few; and that is just one more reason why gesneriad growers are so special.

Fortunately we are a family well aware of our special uniqueness. At the local level I see chapters filled with dedicated and caring members who share their rarest finds and value their fellow chapter members. And, when it comes time to put on a show, they pour their efforts into making each and every show as large and well represented as possible.

Members without the opportunity of a local chapter share through the medium of the Internet, the Round Robins, and as contributions to AGGS through the Seed Fund.

It is the close-knit quality of a family that we see once a year when many of us get together for our annual convention. We take on as much the character of a family reunion (but without the bickering), as we do a horticultural conference.

It is also the close-knit quality of AGGS that makes it so enjoyable to belong and participate in this organization. Thus, it's not surprising that we are nearing our 50th anniversary—and look forward to another fifty years.



# Seed Fund

Laura Johnson <seedster@netperson.net>  
15832 Winter Park Drive, Macomb, MI 48044-3881

Ten years ago, I began my odyssey into the world of gesneriads. Growing from seed added a special flavor to those adventures. As my knowledge and experience increased, I realized what a great resource the Seed Fund is. I became determined to add to the Fund by contributing when and where I could, to share with others the same benefits I've received.

Now I will be helping the Fund, and my fellow members, in a larger way. As the new Chairperson of the Fund, I hope to continue the exemplary work of Maryjane Evans. I am looking forward to the challenge of being a caretaker for what might be our society's most important resource. I am also looking forward to the interaction with those members who purchase from, and contribute to, the Seed Fund. Last, I hope I can convince more of you that contributing seed makes a bigger difference than you might think.

Appreciation goes out to Jeff Foederer, Frank Kahn, Ingrid Lindskog, Lee Linett, Carol Mark, Michael Riley, Carolyn Ripps, Katarina Stenman, MJ Tyler, Maureen Wilson and the Uppsala Botanic Garden for their generous contributions to our Fund.

A special measure of thanks to Clay Anderson, Marlene Beam, Keith Dabney and Maryjane Evans for sending multiple contributions.

## Seed Packets — \$1.50 each

### Please

- Make checks payable to the AGGS Seed Fund in U.S. funds
- To pay by credit card, send your credit card number, expiration date, and signature, and indicate if the card is Mastercard or Visa (\$6.00 minimum)
- Remember to enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope
- List alternate choices
- Include your membership number (first number on your mailing label)

### *Achimenes* (D)

- admirabilis* (B)
- chettoana* (B)
- dulcis* (B)
- erecta* (B)
- erecta* 'Tiny Red' (F, L)
- grandiflora* 'Robert Dressler' (B)
- longiflora* (B)
- longiflora alba* (B)
- skinneri* W1897 (L)
- warszewicziana* USBRG88-039 (B)
- 'Carmencita' (L)
- Park's Breeder's Mix (B, L)
- hybrid mix (B, L)

### *Aeschynanthus* (B)

- *albidus*
- *boschianus*
- buxifolius* 913296
- chrysanthus*
- evrardii*
- fecundus*
- garrettii*

- *gracilis*
- hartleyi*
- hildebrandii* USBRG94-214
- hildebrandii* USBRG94-254
- hosseusii*
- lanceolatus*
- longicaulis*
- longiflorus*
- maculatus*
- micranthus*
- mimetes*
- obconicus*
- parasiticus*
- parvifolius*
- parvifolius* 'Bali Beauty'
- pulcher*
- radicans*
- sikkimensis*
- sp. (Vietnam) 921622
- sp. MSBG87-162
- hybrid, lg orange/red

**Alloplectus**

- bolivianus* USBRG95-140 (M)
- cristatus*
- dodsonii* (yellow) GRF98184 (M)
- panamensis* GRF9517 (M)
- tetragonoides* GRF98153
- sp. aff. *schultzei* GRF97103
- sp. aff. *panamensis* GRF9781 (orange)
- sp. GRF9776 (yellow)
- sp. GRF9788 (pinkish/yellow above)
- sp. GRF97153 (peach/orange)
- sp. GRF97166
- sp. GRF98151 (yellow)
- sp. USBRG 98-030
- sp. nov. (*plicatissimus* ined.) (salmon calyx) GRF9521
- sp. nov. (*plicatissimus* ined.) (green calyx) GRF9556
- sp. nov. (*prunifer* ined.) GRF98174

**Alsobia** (B)

- dianthiflora*
- dianthiflora* 'Costa Rica'
- punctata*
- punctata* USBRG77-103

**Anodiscus**

- xanthophyllus* (M)
- xanthophyllus* (Ecuador) GRF97109

**Besleria**

- barbata* USBRG98-052
- barclayi* USBRG95-164
- formicaria* LS7560 (M)
- laxifolia* GRF9675 (M)
- princeps* GRF9479 (LM)
- triflora* GRF9432 (LM)
- sp. GRF9558 (LM)
- sp. GRF9783 (orange w/yellow base)
- sp. GRF97108 (orange)
- sp. GRF97141 (orange)
- sp. GRF9853 (yellow)
- sp. GRF98139 (orange)

**Boea** (F, R)

- hygroscopica*

**Briggsia** (A, R)

- aurantiaca*
- musciicola*

**Capanea**

- grandiflora* GRF9480 (M)

**Chirita**

- caliginosa* (LM)
- elphinstonia* (F, L)
- fimbrisepala* (F, R)
- fimbrisepala* #2
- *fimbrisepala* #3
- *fimbrisepala* #4
- *fimbrisepala* #12
- (*fimbrisepala* × *fimbrisepala* #2) × self
- flavimaculata* USBRG94-085 (R)
- heterotricha* USBRG94-088 (F, R)
- involutrata* (F, L)
- lavandulacea* (LM)
- *linearifolia* (F, LM)

- longgangensis* USBRG94-081 (R)
- micromusa* (F, L)

- *moonii* (F, LM)
- pumila* (F, L)
- sericea* (F, LM)
- sinensis latifolia* (F, R)
- *spadiciformis* USBRG94-087 (R)
- subrhomboida* (F, R)
- tamiana* USBRG98-080 (F, R, P)
- tribracteata* (R)
- walkerae* (F, LM)
- sp. (Thailand)
- sp. 'New York' USBRG85-022 (R)

**Chrysothemis** (F, LM)

- friedrichsthaliana*
- friedrichsthaliana* GRF9764
- pulchella* (Ecuador)
- villosa*
- hybrid mix

**Cobananthus**

- calochlamys* (F, LM)

**Codonanthe** (B)

- calcarata* 'Puyo'
- caribaea*
- caribaea*
- carnosa*
- cordifolia* AC1201
- corniculata*
- crassifolia*
- crassifolia* GRF9858
- crassifolia* GRF9869
- crassifolia* 'Cranberry'
- digna*
- digna* 'Moonlight'
- elegans*
- erubescens*
- gracilis*
- paula*
- serrulata* AC1313
- uleana* GRF9868
- venosa* GRF91175

**Codonanthopsis** (S)

- peruviana* (B, L)
- ulei* (B, L)

**Columnnea** (B)

- arguta*
- crassifolia*
- erythrophaea*
- gallicauda*
- glicensteinii*
- gloriosa*
- gloriosa* 'Superba'
- hirta*
- hirta* GRF9493
- hirta* var. *pilosissima*
- hirta* 'Dark Prince'
- hispida*
- linearis* 'Purple Robe'
- maculata*
- nicaraguensis* CR92F16
- nicaraguensis* GRF94105
- oerstediana* GRF9423
- oxyphylla*



- proctori* W3573  
*purpusii*  
*querceti* (L)  
*raymondii* (LM)  
*scandens* var. *tulae* (yellow)  
*schiedeana*  
*sulfurea* G3770  
*tomentulosa*
- Conandron** (A, R)  
*ramondioides*  
*ramondioides*/Awaji Island
- Corytoplectus**  
*capitatus* (LM)  
*capitatus* G291  
*congestus* GRF93259 (L)  
*cutucuensis* (L)  
*cutucuensis* GRF9794  
*riceanus* GRF9654 (M)
- Dalbergaria** (M)  
*asteroloma* GRF97169 (white)  
*eburnea*  
*medicinalis* GRF9507  
*ornata* GRF2665  
*perpulchra*  
*polyantha*  
*sanguinea*  
*sanguinea* 'Orange King' GRF9492  
 sp. GRF93191  
 sp. GRF97160  
 • sp. GRF9852
- Diastema** (D, F, P)  
*latiflorum* GRF9668 (green leaf)  
*latiflorum* GRF9669A (white veins)  
*racemiferum*  
*racemiferum* GRF9757 (wine reverse)  
*vexans*
- Drymonia**  
*affinis* GRF98109  
*alloplectoides* USBRG96-347 (B)  
*brochidodroma* USBRG95-156 (B)  
*coccinea* GRF9851 (B)  
*coccinea* GRF9873  
*coccinea* GRF98150  
*conchocalyx* (B)  
*conchocalyx* 'Silver Lance' × self (M)  
*doratostyla* GRF9674 (B)  
*ecuadorensis* 'Red Elegance' (LM)  
*hoppii* GRF98103  
*macrophylla* (M)  
*mortoniana* (L)  
*pulchra* GRF9889 (L)  
*pulchra* GRF98113  
*rhodoloma* (B)  
*semicordata* G2191  
*serrulata* (B)  
*serrulata* GRF9752  
*strigosa* (B)  
*strigosa* GRF1912  
*urceolata* GRF93146 (LM)  
*urceolata* GRF97124 (red)  
*urceolata* GRF98154 (red w/yellow)  
 sp. nov. (*umecta* ined.) (B)
- Episcia** (H, L, B, F)  
*xantha*  
*cupreata* hybrids mix  
 hybrid mix
- Epithema**  
*saxatile* (F, L)
- Eucondonia** (D, F, P)  
*andrieuxii*  
 • *verticillata*  
*verticillata* 'Ehrenberg'  
 hybrid mix
- Fieldia**  
 • *australis*
- Gasteranthus** (H)  
*corallinus* GRF95120 (LM)  
*crispus* USBRG98-033  
*giganteus*  
*lateralis*  
*wendlandianus* GRF97154 (LM)  
*wendlandianus* GRF97163  
*wendlandianus* GRF98166  
 (w/red spots)
- Gesneria** (H, F, L)  
*christii*  
 • *citrina* WEK96154  
*cuneifolia* WEK96151  
*cuneifolia* WEK96152  
*cuneifolia* WEK96155  
*cuneifolia* WEK96157  
*cuneifolia* WEK96158  
*cuneifolia* 'Esperanza'  
*cuneifolia* 'Quebradillas'  
*cuneifolia* 'Tom Talpey'  
*pedunculosa* WEK96153 (S,T)  
*pumila*  
*reticulata*  
 • *reticulata* WEK96164  
*reticulata* 'El Yunque'  
*ventricosa* (M)  
*viridiflora* ssp. *sintensis*  
 WEK96162 (T)  
 'Flashdance'
- Gloxinia** (D)  
*gymnostoma* (LM)  
*lindeniana* (F, L)  
*nematanthodes* (F, L)  
*perennis* (LM)  
*perennis* 'Insignis' (L)  
*purpurascens* GRF9670 (F,L)  
*racemosa* (L)  
*sylvatica* (F, L)  
*sylvatica* GRF9943 (Brazil)  
*sylvatica* USBRG94-002 (Bolivia)  
 'Medea' × self (F, L)
- Haberlea** (A, R)  
*ferdinandi-coburgii*  
*rhodopensis*
- Hemiboea** (D)  
*subcapitata* (L)
- Heppiella** (D)  
*ulmifolia* GRF95141 (L)  
*ulmifolia* GRF98172

**Jancaea**

- *heldreichii* (A, R)

**Koellikeria** (D, F, P)

- erinoides*
- erinoides* 'Red Satin'

**Kohleria** (D)

- hirsuta* (LM)
- hirsuta* USBRG96-163 (F, L)
- hondensis* (LM)
- rugata* USBRG95-010 (LM)
- spicata* (M)
- 'Bermuda Red' × self (L)
- eriantha* × 'Bermuda Red' (L)
- hybrid mix

**Lysionotus** (LM)

- pauciflorus* var. *pauciflorus* species

**Mitraria**

- *coccinea* (B, LM)

**Monophyllaea** (H, LM)

- elongata*
- horsfieldii*

**Monopyle**

- *flava* USBRG96-149 (F, LM)
- macrocarpa* GRF98117 (F, LM)
- macrocarpa* GRF94123

**Moussonia**

- deppeana* (M)
- elegans* (M)
- elegans* GRF9407
- septentrionalis* G1201 (F,L)

**Napeanthus** (H)

- costaricensis* (F, P)
- *primulifolius* GRF9941 (P)
- jelskii* USBRG94-511 (F, P)
- *reitzii* GRF9932 (P)
- robustus* GRF9765 (L)

**Nautilocalyx**

- adenosiphon* (B, L)
- colonensis* (LM)
- melittifolius* (F, LM)

**Nematanthus**

- australis* (B)
- brasiliensis* (M)
- corticola* (B)
- crassifolius* (B)
- fissus* (L)
- fissus* GRF9938
- formix* (B)
- fritschii* (B)
- gregarius* (B)
- hirtellus* (B)
- jolyanus* (Sao Paulo) (B)
- cf. *lanceolatus* AC2010
- maculatus* (B)
- serpens* (B)
- strigillosus* AC1434 (B)
- tessmannii* GRF9904 (red calyx) (B)
- tessmannii* GRF9912 (red calyx)
- wettsteinii* (B)
- sp. 'Santa Teresa' (B)

- sp. aff. 'Santa Teresa' (lgr fls)
- USBRG89-019

sp. MP50

- sp. nov. (*punctatus* ined.)

**Neomortonia** (B)

- nummularia*

**Opithandra** (A, R)

- primuloides*

**Ornithoboea**

- wildeana* (LM)

**Paliavana** (S, T)

- prasinata*
- prasinata* GRF732
- prasinata* GRF91126
- *prasinata* × *S. macropoda* MP944
- *prasinata* × *S. reitzii* MP949
- tenuiflora*

**Paradrymonia**

- cilosa* (L)
- decurrens* (L)
- flava* (F, L)
- fuquaiana* USBRG94-220
- lurida* (L)

**Parakohleria**

- sprucei* GRF95137
- sp. GRF9778 (red, yellow below)
- sp. GRF9780 (yellow)
- sp. GRF97126
- sp. GRF88105 (red) (L)
- sp. GRF98144 (rose pink)

**Pearcea**

- abunda* (L)
- hypocyrtiflora* (F, P)

**Pentadenia**

- angustata* (B)
- byrsina* (B, L)
- crassicaulis* (B)
- manabiana* (B)
- microsepala* GRF1837 (B)
- orientandina* (LM)
- rileyi* GRF86243 (LM)
- spathulata* GRF9503 (LM)
- strigosa* GRF95154 (B)
- strigosa* GRF9777
- zapotalana* (B)

**Petrocosmea** (R)

- duclouxii* (F, P)
- flaccida* (F, P)

**Phinaea** (D, F, P)

- albolineata*
- divaricata*
- ecuadorana* GRF8852
- multiflora*
- multiflora* 'Tracyeri'

**Ramonda** (A, R)

- myconi* —
- white
- lavender
- purple
- pink
- clone G
- myconi* (upright rosette)

*nathaliae*  
*serbica*

**Rhabdothamnus**

- *solandri*

**Rhynchosyrium** (H, L)

*gardneri*  
*obliquum*

**Rhytidophyllum** (G, H, S, T)

*auriculatum*  
*leucomallon*  
*tomentosum*  
*villosulum*

**Saintpaulia** (F, R)

- *difficilis* #2
- *grandifolia*
- *intermedia*
- *ionantha*
- *pendula kizarae*
- *shumensis*
- *shumensis* EE
- *teitensis*

hybrid mix

**Sinningia** (D)

*aggregata* (M)  
*aggregata* AC1461  
*aggregata* 'Pendulina' (B, L)  
aff. *aggregata* (yellow) (M)  
*aghensis* (T)  
*allagophylla* (MT)  
*allogophylla* GRF9922  
*allogophylla* GRF9929  
*allogophylla* GRF9968  
*brasiliensis* (M)  
*brasiliensis* 'Verde'  
*brasiliensis* AC1314  
*bulbosa* (T)  
*calcaria* MP891 (F, L)  
*canescens* (F, L)  
*carangolensis* (M)  
*cardinalis* (F, LM)  
*cardinalis* (compact) (F, L)  
*cardinalis* 'Innocent'  
*cardinalis* (pink)  
*conspicua* (F, L)  
*conspicua* GRF9942 (fragrant selection)  
*cooperi* (LM)  
*cooperi* AC1522  
*curtiflora* (T)  
*curtiflora* GRF9927  
*douglasii* GRF91188 (LM)  
*douglasii* (pink form) (M)  
*elator* AC1409 (M)  
*elator* GRF9963  
*eumorpha* (lavender) (F, L)  
*eumorpha* (pink)  
*eumorpha* (white)  
*glazioviana* (L)  
*harleyi* MP482 (F, L)  
*hatschbachii* (L)  
*hirsuta* (F, L)  
*iarae* (F, L)  
*insularis* (LM)

*leopoldii* (F, L)  
*leucotricha* (F, L)  
*lindleyi* AC1501 (L)  
*lineata* (LM)  
*lineata* (highly spotted)  
*macropoda* (M)  
• *macropoda* (dwarf form) (L)  
*macrorrhiza* (T)  
*macrostachya* (LM)  
*macrostachya* MP262  
*magnifica* GRF91121 (pink) (LM)  
*magnifica* MP627 (pink)  
*magnifica* GRF91134 (red)  
*mauroana* (LM)  
*mauroana* GRF9964  
*micans* MP892 (LM)  
*nivalis* AC1460 (L)  
*nivalis* GRF9923  
*pusilla* (F, P)  
*pusilla* 'White Sprite' (F, P)  
*reitzii* (M)  
*reitzii* GRF9914 (magenta)  
*rupicola* AC1511 (F, L)  
*sceptrum* (T)  
• *schiffneri* (LM)  
• *schiffneri* GRF91163 (red reverse)  
*sellovii* (MT)  
*sellovii* GRF9919  
*sellovii* 'Bolivia' USBRG96-003  
*sellovii* 'Purple Rain'  
*speciosa* 'Cabo Frio' MP178 (F, L)  
*speciosa* 'Lavender Queen'  
*speciosa* 'Regina'  
*speciosa* AC1652  
*speciosa* (Chiltern Seed Co)  
*speciosa* AC1503  
*sulcata* (LM)  
*tuberosa* (F, L)  
*tubiflora* (S, MT)  
*villosa* (F, L)  
*warmingii* (T)  
*warmingii* GRF9921  
sp. aff. *warmingii* from  
Ilhabela MP631  
sp. 'Lanata' MP622 (L)  
• sp. 'Waechter' (LM)  
*cardinalis* 'Innocent' × *iarae* (LM)  
*glazioviana* × *leopoldii* F2 (LM)  
*iarae* × 'Bewitched' (F, L)  
*speciosa* AC1503 × *speciosa*  
'Regina' (R)  
*eumorpha* hybrids mix (F, R)  
'Hummingbird Mix'  
'Anne Crowley' (F, L)  
'Apricot Bouquet' × self (LM)  
• 'April Star' × self (F, P)  
'Bewitched' × self (F, L)  
• 'China Teacup' × self (F, P)  
'Diego' (red) (F, L)  
'Diego' (pink)  
'Dollbaby' (F, P)  
'Good Pink' × self (F, L)

'High Voltage' × self (F, P)  
 'Jubilee' × self (F, L)  
 'Krezdorn Yellow' × self (L)  
 'Krishna' × self (F, P)  
 • 'Laura' × self (F,P)  
 'Leo B.' × self (F, P)  
 'Little Imp' (F, P)  
 • 'Mark Twain' × self (F, P)  
 • 'Mother of Pearl' × self (F, P)  
 'Mothers Day' × self (F, L)  
 'Pale Beauty' × self (L)  
 'Peaches' × self (F, P)  
 'Pink Ice' (F, P)  
 'Pink Imp' (F, P)  
 'Pure Pink' × self (F, P)  
 'Purple Beauty' × self (F, P)  
 'Purple Crest' × self (F, P)  
 'Rosebells' × self (F, L)  
 'Ruby Red' × self (F, P)  
 'Saylor's Snowcap' × self (F, P)  
 'Scarlet Red' × self (F, P)  
 'Scarlet Sunset' (F, P)  
 'Silhouette' × self (F, P)  
 'Star Eyes' (F, P)  
 'Super Orange' (F, P)  
 'Super Red' × self (F, P)  
 • 'Susan S.' × self (F, P)  
 'Tampa Bay Beauty' × self (L)  
 'Virgil' × self (LM)  
 'Whimsey' × self (F, P)  
 'Angora Love' × 'Margaret' (L)  
 'Cherry Chips' hybrids mix (F, P)  
 'Georgia Sunset' hybrids mix (F, P)  
 Marcia Belisle miniature hybrid mix  
 hybrid miniature mix (F, P)  
 pink hybrid miniature mix (F, P)

***Sinningia speciosa* hybrids (F, R)**  
 blue mix  
 mini lavender  
   pink  
   purple  
   rose  
   white  
 orchid/purple mix  
 pink mix  
 pink/white mix  
 purple w/spots  
 red mix  
 red w/spots  
 white w/red spots  
 Charles Lawn hybrid mix  
 Double Brocade mix  
 Early Giant mix  
 hybrid mix  
 blue slipper  
 lavender slipper  
 pink slipper  
 purple slipper  
 mixed slipper  
 pink dwarf  
 red and white dwarf

Small's dwarf mix  
 white dwarf slipper

***Smithiantha* (D)**  
*aurantiaca* (F, L)  
*canarina* GRF9105 (F, LM)  
*lauri* GRF9117 (F, L)  
*multiflora* GRF9121 (F, LM)  
*multiflora* GRF9122 (F, LM)  
*zebrina* GRF9104 (M)  
 • 'Abbey' × self (F, LM)  
 'Little One' (F, L)  
 'Sunset' × self (F, L)  
 hybrid mix (F, L)

***Streptocarpus***  
*baudertii* (F, R)  
*bolusii* (U)  
*buchananii* (B)  
*caeruleus* (R)  
*candidus* (F, R)  
*candidus*/Ngome, Natal  
*caulescens* (F, LM)  
*compressus* (U)  
*confusus* (U)  
*confusus* ssp. *confusus* (U)  
*cooksonii* (U)  
*cooksonii* (dark purple)  
*cooperi* (U)  
*cyanandrus* (F, P)  
*cyaneus* (blue) (R)  
*cyaneus* (blue/long corolla)  
*cyaneus* (blue/short corolla)  
*cyaneus* (lilac)  
*daviesii* (F, U)  
*denticulatus* (U)  
*dunnii* (U)  
*eylesii* (U)  
*fanninia* (R)  
*fasciatus* (R)  
*fenestra-dei* (R)  
*floribundus* (R)  
*formosus* (R)  
*formosus*/E. Cape, Transkei  
*gardenii* (F, L)  
 • *gardenii*/Weza, S. Natal  
*glandulosissimus* (B)  
*goetzei* (U)  
*grandis* (U)  
*grandis* (blue form)  
*haygarthii* (F, U)  
*haygarthii*/Mkambati, Transkei  
*holstii* (B, L)  
*johannis* (F, R)  
*johannis*/Komga, E. Cape  
 sp. aff. *johannis* (F, R)  
*kentaniensis* MBG2335-60 (R)  
*kentaniensis* (N. Kei River)  
*kentaniensis* (S. Kei River)  
*kirkii* (F, L)  
*meyeri* (F, R)  
*meyeri*/NE Cape Province  
*micelmoresi* (U)

- modestus* (R)  
*molweniensis* (U)  
*molweniensis* subsp. *eschowicus*  
*muscosus* (L)  
*nobilis* (M)  
*pallidiflorus* (F, LM)  
*parviflorus* (R)  
*parviflorus* (mauve)  
*parviflorus* (white/mauve)  
*pentherianus* (F, L)  
*pole-evansii* (R)  
*polyanthus* (F, L)  
*polyanthus* subsp. *comptonii*  
*polyanthus* subsp. *polyanthus*  
*polyanthus* subsp. *polyanthus*/lg fl  
*polyanthus* subsp. *polyanthus*/Valley of 1000 Hills, Natal  
*polyanthus* subsp. *verecundus*  
*porphyrostachys* (U)  
*primulifolius* (F, R)  
*primulifolius* (dark blue)  
Port St. John, Transkei  
*primulifolius* /Mt. Sullivan, Transkei  
*primulifolius* /Bullolo Rvr, Transkei  
*primulifolius* /Valley of 1000 Hills  
*prolixus* (F, U)  
*pumilus* (F, P)  
*rexii* (F, L, R)  
*rexii* (blue)  
• *rexii* (blue) Transkei  
*rexii* (white)  
*rexii* (pale blue/long corolla)  
*rexii* (white/blue mix)  
*rimicola* (F, P)  
*roseoalbus* (F, R)  
*saundersii* (U)  
*saxorum* (B)  
*silvaticus* (R)  
*stomandrus* (F, L)  
*thompsonii* (B, L)  
*thysanotus* (B, L)  
*trabeculatus* (U)  
*vandeleurii* (U)  
*variabilis* (F, R)  
*wendlandii* (U)  
*wilmsii* (U)  
• *wilmsii*/Graskop  
*wilmsii*/Long Tom Pass  
• 'Amethyst' × self (R)  
'Athens' × self (R)  
• 'Bethan' × self (R)
- 'Blue Angel' (B)  
• 'Blue Lemon' × self (R) (B)  
'Cape Beauties' (F, P)  
'Demeter' × self (R)  
• 'Falling Stars' × self (R)  
'Georgette' × self (R)  
'Gloria' × self (R)  
• 'Joker' × self (R)  
'Karen' × self (R)  
• 'Kim' × self (R)  
'Kitten Face' × self (R)  
'Midnight Flame' × self (R)  
• 'Mini Pink Fu' × self (R)  
• 'Party Doll' × self (R)  
'Pegasus' × self (R)  
'Royal' (red) (R)  
'Royal' (white/pink stripes) (R)  
'Sandra' × self (R)  
'Strawberry Crush' × self (R)  
'Suzie' × self (R)  
'Thalia' × self (R)  
• 'Ulysses' × self (R)  
'Wild Grape' × self (R)  
'Black Panther' hybrid mix (R)  
Martin Kunhardt hybrid mix (R)  
New Zealand hybrid mix (F, R)  
*rexii* hybrids (F, R)  
Wiesmoor hybrids (F, R)  
hybrid mix (F, R)  
hybrid, lt blue/dk blue lines (R)  
hybrid, lg burgundy (R)  
hybrid, lg purple (R)  
hybrid, lg white (R)  
*streptocarpella* hybrids (B)
- Titanotrichum***  
*oldhamii* (propagules)
- Trichantha***  
*ambigua* (B)  
*ambigua* 'El Yunque' WEK96163  
*brenneri* (LM)  
*kucyniakii* GRF93166 (MT)  
*minutiflora* GRF9552 (LM)  
*purpureovittata* (B, L)  
sp. nov. (*molinae* ined.) GRF98159
- Vanhouttea*** (S, T)  
*calcarata* GRF3026  
*lanata*
- Mixed gesneriads**
- denotes LIMITED quantities

(A) Alpine or cool greenhouse.	(LM) Low to medium height.
(B) Suitable for hanging basket.	(M) Medium height; 1 to 2 feet.
(D) Has dormant period, forming tubers or rhizomes.	(MT) Medium to tall.
(F) Blooms readily in fluorescent light.	(P) Petite or miniature; not more than 6 inches tall.
(G) Recommended for greenhouses; requires space.	(R) Rosette in form.
(H) Requires humidity and warmth.	(S) Requires sun to bloom.
(L) Low growing; not more than 12".	(T) Tall plants; generally over 3 feet.
	(U) Unifoliolate or single leaf.

# The Second GRF Expedition to Brazil

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Our 14th annual GRF expedition, again to Brazil, was from April 15–30, 1999. This time we went to tropical, subtropical or temperate southern Brazil, south of the big city of São Paulo (population 21 million), to the states of São Paulo, Paraná and Santa Catarina. Unlike other expeditions, our purpose was not to find new species, but to be impressed with the growing sites of gesneriads there, especially *Sinningia*, which Dr. Alain Chautems and Mauro Peixoto had already discovered previously. We just wanted to observe these sinningias' native habitats, photograph them, collect some tubers or plantlets, and make herbarium and seed collections. Southern Brazil is an important locality for finding *Sinningia*, now a genus of about 80 species. We found an astounding number of 15 species of *Sinningia* on this expedition. There are actually more there.

The trip participants were sixteen: Elizabeth Glazebrook from Australia, Nagahide Nakayama from Japan, Tsuh Yang Chen, Gussie Farrice, Michael Horton, Carolyn Ripps, Barbara Shilkret and Wallace Wells, all from New York, Maryjane Evans and Jeanne Katzenstein from New Jersey, Alan LaVergne from California, Vivian Scheans from Oregon, Jewell Doering from Washington, Melissa McDowell and Hans Wiehler from Florida, and Mauro Peixoto from Brazil.

This was a comparatively easy GRF expedition, with an extremely comfortable, giant Mercedes bus with a toilet, hot and cold water and even a small refrigerator. We ate good Brazilian food, and at night-time we had comfortable hotels (one night even a grand luxury hotel)—quite different from Lumbaqui, Ecuador!



GRF Study Group at Iguassu Falls



Mauro directing the group from the beach to the trail leading up to *Sinningia leopoldii*.

What sticks out about this 1999 GRF expedition is, after a five-month interval of hindsight: the good, easygoing, joyful atmosphere among the group; the many "gesneriad" conversations; the fantastic experience of the monumental Iguassu Falls, the largest waterfalls on this earth (I still hear the thunderous roaring and see the mist rising); our finding of *Sinningia sellovii* there, misted, in bloom; in contrast, the severe habitat of *Sinningia nivalis* on bare rock in high mountainous terrain, cold (it had snowed there a week before), the bus slowly descending a dangerous, winding, narrow road with Mauro running ahead of the bus, guiding and also looking for tubers on the steep roadside cuts; and, almost lastly, the habitat of *Sinningia leopoldii* near Garopaba, directly on the Atlantic coast, growing on gigantic, round, smooth boulders tumbled on the sandy beach, with lush tropical vegetation hanging over them (the GRF has a new tee-shirt featuring this plant); and finally, I will always remember Mr. Hatschbach's botanical plantation near Curitiba, and Mauro's resourceful gesneriad greenhouse and family sitio near São Paulo.

## **Grow-It-All Company**

### ***Featuring New Zealand Sphagnum Moss Pellets***

A natural, **sterile** medium for rooting cuttings, seed propagation and used as a soil substitute for the *Sinningia pusilla* awarded Best Tuberos and 2nd Best Gesneriad at the '98 AGGS Convention.

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# Where are the Sinningias?

Alan LaVergne <Alan\_LaVergne@iacnet.com>  
2369 Saint Francis Dr., Palo Alto, CA 94303

Once the late Marty Mines came to visit for an afternoon. I showed him *Sinningia cardinalis*, my *S. reitzii* hybrids, and *S. lineata*. He looked at them all patiently, but finally he said, "They are very nice, but where are your sinningias?" By which he meant the miniature sinningias that he grew, propagated, and hybridized.

I was reminded of that story when I was looking at *Codonanthe* and *Nematanthus* in Brazil. "Yes, yes, very nice," I caught myself thinking, "but where are your gesneriads?" By which I meant, of course, sinningias.

Once we travelled almost an entire day without seeing a gesneriad, even one of those C\*\*\*\*\* things. But on the whole, southern Brazil is sinningia-lovers' heaven. Since it was Brazilian autumn, many of the sinningias were going dormant, but we found several species in bloom.

As I write this, I can see my *Sinningia douglasii* blooming just outside the back window. It has lustrous green leaves with red midribs, and purple-marked light red flowers. This plant is one of a crop of seedlings from AGGS Seed Fund seed, with the accession number GRF91188. The plant (and its siblings) were the fruits of a previous (1991) GRF expedition. In 1999 I was at the other end of the chain seeing *S. douglasii* growing in the wild.

The encroachments of civilization have had a mixed bag of effects on wild plants. Mankind certainly destroys plant habitats. People also introduce aggressive new plants that displace natives. We saw ordinary impatiens everywhere, and a white ginger that was almost as widespread.

But our intervention also creates new habitats for some opportunistic plants, and some of those exploiters are sinningias. *S. douglasii* seemed to be the most flexible and creative of the opportunists. We saw it growing on rocks, on tree trunks, on tile roofs, and even sharing a roost with a bromeliad.



Alan LaVergne and Mauro Peixoto searching a steep rock wall for tubers



*Sinningia douglasii* growing high up on a tree



Other *sinningias* appeared to be exploiting roadcuts and similar niches created by human activities. But many *sinningias* grew in habitats and situations that were definitely endangered by the approach of human habitation. And nowhere were they the dominant vegetation.

But first: Brazil. Despite their country's economic problems (for which Brazil was hardly responsible), the Brazilians we met were friendly, helpful, and cheerful. The weather was perfect. The scenery was wonderful. Even though nobody could understand my feeble attempts at Portuguese, I'm ready to go back.

Second: gratitude. Thank you to Hans Wiehler and the Gesneriad Research Foundation for organizing the expedition. *Muito obrigado* to Mauro Peixoto for leading us to where we could see *sinningias*, for putting up with our incessant tourist questions, and for the hospitality he and his family extended us at his *sítio*. Another *muito obrigado* to Jota (José Aparecido Silva) and Totó (Antonio Domingos de Moraes), our drivers, for taking excellent care of us and driving that comfy tour bus any unreasonable place we asked them to go.

So here is a list of the *sinningias* we saw, and what conditions they were growing in. I would not necessarily recommend trying to reproduce those conditions. Lots of the plants we saw looked chewed-upon. I would not recommend trying to reproduce that either.

*S. allagophylla*. This species grew low on rocky banks or along roadsides in full sun. We collected a lot of seed of this tall-growing species. The places we found it were within 50 miles or so of the Atlantic coast.

*S. calcaria*. The plants were in deep shade, on a steep slope, and in bloom. The tubers were wedged in among rocks. I spotted them first. Because I knew my words would be preserved for posterity, I chose them carefully: "Hey look, orange flowers!" Of course, Mauro led us to the hill, said go up this path, and by the way don't shake that tree, there's a big nest full of nasty wasps in it. This species was growing near *Caverna do Diabo*, in the low mountains about 50 miles from the coast.

*S. canescens*. We found tubers of these plants on vertical rock faces, in partial shade, next to tillandsias. These were in *Vila Velha* park, a "forest" of tall-standing stone pillars near *Ponto Grosso*, about 200 km from the coast. Nearby were plants of the adaptable *S. douglasii*. Also nearby were the adaptable coatimundis, rodents related to raccoons which take advantage of tourists.

*S. conspicua* was blooming in the conservatory in the botanical garden in Curitiba. It is probably not native to the conservatory, however, since most of the other *sinningias* we saw evolved in outdoor locations. We also saw it in cultivation at Mr. Hatchbach's botanical plantation.

*S. curtiflora*. These plants were growing in a meadow beside a road in full sun. The ground was moist at the time we were there. *Sinningia elator* was also growing nearby. We later found *S. curtiflora* growing in a more shaded location alongside a dirt road leading to an old farm.

*S. douglasii*. You (and everybody else on the expedition) say "duh-GLAZZ-ee-eye." Ugh. I say "douglas-ee-eye" or "douglas-ee-ee", depending on my mood. But variations are only fitting: this is a versatile plant. We saw it at *Vila Velha*, growing on rocks. We saw it near *Caverna do Diabo*, as an epiphyte either on or next to a bromeliad. And we saw it growing on tile roofs and on trees at a *recanto* (rest area) along the Graciosa Road.



*Sinningia mauroana*  
(photo by Jeanne Katzenstein)



*Sinningia schiffneri*  
(photo by Wallace Wells)



*Sinningia curtiflora*  
(photo by Alain Chautems)



*Sinningia reitzii*  
(photo by Jeanne Katzenstein)

*S. elatior*. We saw many plants of this species, in bloom, on a roadside near the meadow of *S. curtiflora* mentioned above. Another GRF side trip found it at *Pedro da Garrafa*. Like *S. curtiflora* and *S. allagophylla*, this is a tall-growing species that appears accustomed to lots of sun. I have not had much success growing this plant. On the internet, I saw an abstract of an article about growing *S. allagophylla* in tissue culture, and the plantlets grew better on a medium with less available (ammonia) nitrogen. The authors speculated that because of the exposed location in which it grew (same as *S. elatior*) that the species might be adapted for soils lower in available minerals.

*S. hatschbachii*. We first found them growing in partial shade along a ridge halfway up a steep slope alongside the road. Some were in bloom. Below them on the hillside were baby plants, probably seedlings from the plants above. This was a common pattern. Most likely the babies were doomed. At least we almost never saw any blooming plants lower down on the slope.

*S. leopoldii* was found growing high up on cliffs along the beach near the town of Bombinhas. Many tubers were found clinging to the smooth rock-faces, and one beautiful specimen was found in full bloom at the top of the cliff.

*S. lineata*. Since this plant blooms in the Brazilian spring, what we found were tubers or plants going into dormancy. The tubers were imbedded in rocks along the banks of *Rio Erval* and in small patches of dirt on a rocky slope above the river. Several tubers were more than 12 inches in diameter and one was over 18" in diameter.

*S. micans*. We found this species on a steep, partially shaded rocky slope near *S. schiffneri*. The latter was in bloom, but the plants of *S. micans* had already gone dormant, and we found only tubers with a leaf or two still attached.

*S. nivalis* was growing on the cliffs above a road which snaked down out of the mountains from São Joaquim (the highest town in Brazil) to the coast. As our tour bus crept down the winding road at three miles per hour,



A huge tuber of *Sinningia lineata* found embedded in a rock wall above *Rio Erval*



*Sinningia elatior* growing  
in a roadside field



*Sinningia hatschbachii* growing  
on a roadside rock wall

we could see the tubers above and beside us exposed on the rock surfaces without much shade. Also, there was a potted plant of *S. nivalis* in the restaurant we stopped at near the bottom of this road.

*S. reitzii*. We found this species in a variety of situations: in deep shade near the entrance to *Morro Preto* cavern, then along the road in partial shade. All these plants had magenta or reddish magenta flowers, unlike the "New Zealand" collection with red flowers. The plants were up to three feet tall. In my yard, *S. reitzii* does not die back to the tuber in winter; this might be true in Brazil also.

*S. schiffneri* was the first sinningia species we saw on the trip. It grew about two feet tall on a moist, partially shaded, steep slope alongside a road near Peruibé on the Atlantic coast. The white flowers were quite large, and some of the leaves had attractive red undersides.

*S. sellovii* was found growing on moist shaded slopes near Iguassu Falls. The typical pendant flowers were pale pink and/or pale creamy green.

*S. warmingii* was growing in the same habitat as *S. lineata*. The plants had bloomed at the end of last year and only tattered leaves and some empty seed capsules remained.

*S. sp. nov.* ("Waechter" *ined.*) (also temporarily referred to as *S. "dunensis"* as it was found growing on sand dunes at the beach). The tubers were happily growing with their roots directly in the warm sand. There did not seem to be much shade except from other scrub plants nearby.

And that concludes my ....

What? *Nematanthus*? Okay, we saw some of them too. *Nematanthus tessmannii* was all over, and nematanthus fans oohed and aahed over the different colors of calyces found at different locations: pink and red near *Caverna do Diabo*, yellow and red and green at different points along the



*Nematanthus tessmannii*  
(photo by Jeanne Katzenstein)

same road on which we found *Sinningia hatschbachii*. We found *Nematanthus teixeiranus* and *N. fritschii* on Pedro da Garrafa, *N. fissus* and *N. wettsteinii* near the Graciosa Road, and *N. maculatus* near Morretes. *Codonanthe gracilis* and *C. devosiana* were encountered numerous times. We also saw two species of *Napeanthus*, *N. primulifolius* and *N. reitzii*, which are not particularly exciting plants when not in bloom. And finally, we saw wonderful plantings of *Gloxinia sylvatica* at several different places, just covered with flowers, but none in the wild.

There were many beautiful and interesting plants we found growing in Mauro's greenhouse during our visit there on one of our last days in Brazil. One gesneriad especially worth mentioning is a new species of *Sinningia* that will soon be published with the name "*nordestina*". It is alleged to be an annual sinningia! - no tuber, apparently. The spotted flowers were more like a kohleria or a smithiantha than a sinningia. We hope to learn more about this plant in the near future.

I write this final paragraph in October 1999. I have been transplanting seedlings of *Sinningia reitzii* and *S. curtiflora* that I started from seed collected in Brazil last April. The *S. reitzii* seedlings already have fat little ball-shaped tubers at the soil line. The *S. curtiflora* seedlings have smaller, elongated tubers well below the soil line. It is fascinating to observe the development of the youngsters in relation to the circumstances in which their parents grow in the wild, 7000 miles away. Now, as I look at these handsome little plants, I know some better answers to the question: "Where are the sinningias?"

# 44th ANNUAL AGGS CONVENTION — 2000

Wednesday, July 5th, to Saturday, July 8th, 2000

## Convention Registration Form

Mail to Convention Registrar:

**Carol Schreck, 2055 South Floral Dr. #328, Bartow, FL 33830-7114**

*Please print:*

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) to be printed on badge(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

AGGS Membership Category:    \_\_\_ Individual    \_\_\_ Family  
   \_\_\_ Sustaining    \_\_\_ Research    \_\_\_ Life

Membership # (Top Line of current TG label) \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Commercial Affiliation (name of nursery/greenhouse) \_\_\_\_\_

AGGS Officer/Director (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

AGGS Chairman/Staff (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Convention Chairman (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

AGGS Chapter President \_\_\_\_\_

First AGGS Convention? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be arriving on or before July 4? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, what date? \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate special diet needs \_\_\_\_\_

All registrations must be postmarked by June 1, 2000. Any received after that date will be on a space-available basis and will be charged an additional late fee of \$25. Registration fee includes registration packet and lectures except the Judges Training School for which there is a separate registration.

*Please make checks or money orders payable, in US\$ on a US bank to: AGGS*

Or, charge my  VISA, or  MasterCard the total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Event	No.	Cost USD	Total
Individual .....	_____ @	\$30.00 = \$	_____
Guest/Family (incl. spouse & children) .....	_____ @	\$40.00 = \$	_____
Wednesday, July 5, Opening Breakfast .....	_____ @	\$16.00 = \$	_____
Thursday, July 6, Tour to GRF, Selby Gardens, Lunch, Jerry's Columneas, and Bud Spence's Greenhouses .....	_____ @	\$32.00 = \$	_____
Friday, July 7, Continental Breakfast .....	_____ @	\$11.00 = \$	_____
Friday, July 7, Membership Luncheon .....	_____ @	\$17.00 = \$	_____
Friday, July 7, Flower Show Awards Banquet .	_____ @	\$35.00 = \$	_____
Select one: Broiled Grouper _____			
Duck A L'Orange _____			
Saturday, July 8, Breakfast .....	_____ @	\$16.00 = \$	_____
Saturday, July 8, Luncheon .....	_____ @	\$17.00 = \$	_____
Saturday, July 8, Dinner Boat Cruise .....	_____ @	\$48.00 = \$	_____
Late Charge (if postmarked after June 1, 2000) .	_____ @	\$25.00 = \$	_____
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b> .....			\$ _____

***Be sure to register by April 30 for early admittance to plant sales!***

Will you volunteer a few hours of your time to help with staffing during convention?

Registration Table: \_\_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (time/s)

Plant Sales: \_\_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (time/s)

Flower Show Host: \_\_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (time/s)

Distribute Table Favors  
and Take Meal Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (time/s)



# 2000 AGGS Convention Program

## "Y2K in Tampa Bay"

### Tuesday, July 4

- 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. AGGS Board of Directors Meeting  
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Convention Registration and Information

### Wednesday, July 5

- 7:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Convention Registration and Information  
7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Opening Breakfast. Greetings and Remarks: Phyllis King, Local Convention Chairman; Helen Freidberg, AGGS Convention Chairman; Jon Dixon, AGGS President  
8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Judges Training, Session 1-A  
Pre-registration and AGGS membership required  
8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Judges Training, Session 1-B  
Pre-registration and AGGS membership required  
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Convention Registration and Information  
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Chapter Presidents Meeting with Jon Dixon, AGGS President  
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Judges Training Session 2, A&B  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Convention Registration and Information  
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Judges Interest Group Meeting  
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Internet Communications Meeting  
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Round Robins Meeting  
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Newsletter Editors Meeting  
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Convention Registration and Information  
6:15 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. Judges Test  
7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Welcome Reception  
8:15 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Gesneriad Hybridizers Association Meeting  
(open to everyone)

### Thursday, July 6

- 7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. Convention Registration and Information  
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tour of Gesneriad Research Foundation, Selby Gardens, Jerry's Columneas and Bud Spence's Greenhouses  
5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Convention Registration and Information  
6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Flower Show Entries; Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund Auction donations accepted  
10:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. Early Entry Plant Sales  
10:30 p.m. - Midnight Plant Sales & Auction Viewing

## Friday, July 7

6:00 a.m. - 6:30 a.m.	Flower Show late entries (only with written permission of Flower Show Chairperson, Jo Anne Martinez)
6:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast for judges, clerks and show personnel who should include this meal with their registration
7:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Flower Show Judging
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast honoring Special Interest Groups
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Convention Registration, Plant Sales and Auction Viewing
10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Lecture #1: "Creating Hybrids: Classics, Trends, Innovation" by Paul Cummiskey
12:00 noon - 1:45 p.m.	Annual Membership Meeting and Luncheon, President Jon Dixon presiding; Awards of Appreciation; Election of Directors
2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Lecture #2: " <i>Chirita</i> : The Gesneriad of the New Millenium" by John Boggan
3:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Convention Registration and Information
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Flower Show open; Plant Sales and Auction Viewing
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	AGGS Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	Cocktail Hour
7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.	Flower Show Awards Banquet (Awards Chair: Colleen Turley; Auction Chair: Doris Carson)
After Banquet - 11:30 p.m.	Flower Show open

## Saturday, July 8

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.	Photographers only in Flower Show room
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Flower Show Judges Critique (for judges and clerks who participated in the 2000 Flower Show)
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Breakfast honoring Host Chapter, AGGS Chapters and Members-at-Large
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Auction Viewing
9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Flower Show and Plant Sales Open
9:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Lecture #3: "Conservation and Botanical Exploration of Gesneriads in Northwestern Ecuador" by John Clark
11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Lecture #4: "Pouched Flowers in the Classification of Neotropical Gesneriaceae" by Dr. Hans Wiehler
12:30 p.m.	Silent Auction closes
12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Luncheon honoring AGGS Commercial Growers, Friends-at-Large, et al.; Endowment Fund live plant auction and silent auction wrap-up
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Flower Show and Plant Sales breakdown
5:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	Dinner Boat Cruise

## Sunday, July 9

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	AGGS Board of Directors meeting
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# AGGS Convention Show Schedule

## "Y2K in Tampa Bay"

July 7 and 8, 2000

Entries will be accepted on Thursday, July 6, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Late entries may be received on Friday morning, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:30 a.m. only with the written permission of and by prior arrangement with the Flower Show Chairperson.

### Division I — HORTICULTURE

*Saintpaulia* permitted only in Classes 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 36, 40, 42, and 44

#### SECTION A — Tuberous Gesneriads in Flower

- Class 1 *Sinningia speciosa* species or hybrids (upright or pendent flowers)
- Class 2 Other *Sinningia* species or hybrids (more than 10" in diameter)
- Class 3 Other *Sinningia* species or hybrids (between 5" and 10" in diameter)
- Class 4 Other *Sinningia* species or hybrids (less than 5" in diameter)
- Class 5 Other *Sinningia* species or hybrids (largest leaf less than 1" long)
- Class 6 Other tuberous gesneriads

#### SECTION B — Rhizomatous Gesneriads in Flower

- Class 7 *Achimenes*
- Class 8 *Gloxinia*
- Class 9 *Kohleria*
- Class 10 Rhizomatous gesneriads less than 5" in any dimension
- Class 11 Other rhizomatous gesneriads

#### SECTION C — Fibrous-Rooted Gesneriads in Flower

- Class 12 *Aeschynanthus*
- Class 13 *Chirita*
- Class 14 *Codonanthe*, ×*Codonanthus*
- Class 15 *Columnnea*, *Dalbergaria*, *Pentadenia*, *Trichantha* species, hybrids or cultivars
- Class 16 *Episcia*, *Alsobia*
- Class 17 *Episcia* (largest leaf less than 2" in length)
- Class 18 *Gesneria*
- Class 19 *Nautilocalyx*
- Class 20 *Nematanthus*
- Class 21 *Petrocosmea*
- Class 22 *Saintpaulia* species
- Class 23 *Saintpaulia* hybrid or cultivar more than 12" in diameter (limit two entries per exhibitor)
- Class 24 *Saintpaulia* hybrid or cultivar between 8" and 12" in diameter (limit 2 entries per exhib.)
- Class 25 *Saintpaulia* hybrid or cultivar less than 8" in diameter (limit two entries per exhibitor)
- Class 26 *Saintpaulia* trailer (limit two entries per exhibitor)
- Class 27 *Streptocarpus*, caulescent (ssp. *Streptocarpella*)
- Class 28 *Streptocarpus*, acaulescent, rosulate, plurifoliate
- Class 29 *Streptocarpus*, acaulescent, unifoliate
- Class 30 Other fibrous-rooted gesneriads

#### SECTION D — Gesneriads Grown Primarily for Foliage or Fruit

Decorative fruit is permitted, but no flowers or buds showing color. A plant should have some special quality of color, texture or growth habit to be entered in this section.

- Class 31 *Episcia*
- Class 32 *Episcia* with pink-and-white leaf variegation
- Class 33 *Chirita*
- Class 34 Other gesneriads with variegated foliage
- Class 35 Other gesneriads

## SECTION E — New Gesneriads

This section is for introductions made within the last two years, but not previously entered in an AGGS Convention show. A card must accompany each entry, giving information for educational purposes, such as name of hybridizer, collector, place of origin, special cultural requirements.

- Class 36 Species in flower
- Class 37 Species not in flower
- Class 38 Hybrid or named cultivar in flower
- Class 39 Hybrid or named cultivar not in flower

## SECTION F — Lesser-Known Gesneriads Seldom Grown or Seen in Shows

A card must be supplied by the exhibitor giving educational information such as habitat, source, special cultural requirements.

- Class 40 In flower
- Class 41 Not in flower

## SECTION G — Collections of Gesneriads

A grouping of 3 to 5 different plants in flower or grown for foliage, or in combination (*Saintpaulia* must be in flower). Exhibitor is encouraged to stage the plants as a unit since this is a consideration in judging this section. Exhibitor should provide a card with identification of plants and in Classes 43 and 44, educational information.

- Class 42 Plants of a single genus, either species, cultivars or hybrids
- Class 43 Kinship group — Intergeneric hybrid/hybrids with one or more parents
- Class 44 Kinship group — Interspecific hybrid/hybrids with one or more parents

## SECTION H — Novice

Anyone who has never won a blue ribbon in the horticulture division of a gesneriad flower show. An exhibitor wishing Novice status may not enter other Horticulture classes with the exception of Classes 22, 23, 24, 25, or 26.

- Class 45 Tuberous gesneriad in flower
- Class 46 Rhizomatous gesneriad in flower
- Class 47 Fibrous-rooted gesneriad in flower
- Class 48 Any gesneriad grown for foliage (no flowers or buds showing color)

## Division II — ARTISTIC

**GESNERIADS MUST PREDOMINATE. No artificial plant material allowed; other live and dried materials permitted.** Accessories optional. Plant material used should be identified on an accompanying card. Table covering will be a neutral color. White niches will be provided for Sections I and J; exhibitors may provide additional draping. Reservations for Sections I and J may be sent to Diane Heras, 8633 Quail Hollow Blvd., Wesley Chapel, FL 33544; telephone 813-973-8611. There is a limit of 5 entries in each class of Sections I and J. Please reserve by June 10.

## SECTION I — Arrangement of Fresh Cut Plant Material

- Class 49 "Invasion of the Pirates" – Jose Gaspar and his band of fierce pirates are remembered each year with the annual Gasparilla Festival in Tampa as they sail into the Bay, then parade around the "conquered" city, throwing coins and beads to the crowds. A design for a 30"H x 24"W x 15"D niche.
- Class 50 "Bridges" – Three bridges cross Tampa Bay to connect Tampa with the cities in adjoining Pinellas County on the Gulf of Mexico side of the Bay. An arrangement using two containers with a connection. Niche size is 30"H x 24"W x 15"D.
- Class 51 "Busch Gardens" – Theme park home of animals you would find if you went on safari in Africa, rides, games and roller coasters, the newest of which is a two-track wooden monster called Gwazi. A design for a 30"H x 24"W x 15"D niche.
- Class 52 "The Florida Aquarium" is a large, glass building shaped like an up-side-down sea shell. Your challenge is to symbolize it in a mobile structure. Niche size is 30"H x 24"W x 15"D. Dowel will be provided.
- Class 53 "Performing Arts Center" is the finest center of its kind in the southeastern United States. Located in downtown Tampa, it hosts many outstanding performances by touring companies, of which "Phantom of the Opera" is a recurring favorite. Name and interpret your favorite Broadway show. Niche size is 16"H x 12"W x 12"D.
- Class 54 "Tarpon Springs" is a nearby community with a strong Greek influence, sponge diving, Greek festivals and the annual Epiphany rite of young men diving for the Cross in the Spring Bayou. Create this underwater design in a clear container not to exceed 12" in any direction.

## SECTION J — Arrangement Using Growing Gesneriad(s)

- Class 55 "Looking to Tampa's Future" – a space needle in the Port of Tampa area, Super Bowl XXXV, the USS Forrestal as a Navy, Air and Space Museum, and possibly the 2012 Summer Olympics are being hoped for. Give the name of your creation in a 30"H x 24"W x 15"D niche.

- Class 56 "Lightning Capital of the World" – The Tampa Bay area is known for its summer storms and its National Hockey League team, the "Tampa Bay Lightning". A symbolic lightning bolt sculpture keynotes their home arena, The Ice Palace. An arrangement in a 30"H x 24"W x 15"D niche.
- Class 57 "The Don CeSar" – This bright pink luxury hotel is affectionately called "The Pink Palace" by local residents. Located at St. Pete Beach, it is named for the hero of a light opera, "Maritana" and is supposedly haunted by the builder, Thomas Rowe, as he roams the lobby and hallways looking for his love, Maritana. Niche size is 30"H x 24"W x 15"D.
- Class 58 "The Strawberry Festival" is held each year in neighboring Plant City. An arrangement, using red, for a 16"H x 12"W x 12"D niche.
- Class 59 "University of Tampa" – the campus is home to Plant Hall, a National Historic Landmark, dating to the early 1890's. Originally it was the Tampa Bay Hotel, known for its thirteen silver minarets styled with the Moorish architecture of the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. An arrangement for a 16"H x 12"W x 12"D niche.
- Class 60 "Y2K" – St. Petersburg, across the Bay from Tampa, is the home of the Salvador Dali Museum. Create a surrealistic miniature arrangement involving clocks and/or computers in a 10"H x 8"W x 6"D niche.

**SECTION K — Growing Material in a Planting (Artistically and Horticulturally Balanced)**

- Class 61 Terrarium, straight-sided, not to exceed 30" in any direction
- Class 62 Terrarium, curved, not to exceed 30" in any direction
- Class 63 Tray landscape, not to exceed 30" in any direction
- Class 64 Trained or sculptured gesneriads—bonsai, topiary, espaliered, or other style
- Class 65 Natural Garden – a planting in weathered wood, not to exceed 30" in any direction
- Class 66 Other container, not the usual form of plastic or clay pot

**SECTION L — Novice – Anyone who has never won a blue ribbon in the artistic division of a gesneriad flower show. An exhibitor wishing Novice status for the Artistic Division may not enter other Division II classes.)**

- Class 67 An entry suitable for any of the classes in Sections I, J, or K. On a 3" x 5" card identify the name of the class chosen and the plant material used.

**Division III — THE ARTS**

All entries must feature gesneriads in some form. Limit, one entry per exhibitor per class, and not previously exhibited in any AGGS Convention Show. Each entry must have been made by the exhibitor.

**SECTION M — Photography**

Must have been taken by the exhibitor. Prints must be mounted. The subject should be identified on the entry card. Prints should not exceed 8" x 10"; mats not exceed 11" x 14". Exhibitors must provide an easel for prints 5" x 7" or over. Slides must be mounted for projection in a standard carousel projector.

- Class 68 Color transparency
- Class 69 Color print
- Class 70 Black and white print

**SECTION N — Crafts Representing Gesneriads**

- Class 71 Painting or drawing (easel must be provided by exhibitor)
- Class 72 Textile (a card must accompany each entry, giving the source of the design)
- Class 73 Other crafts

**Division IV — COMMERCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL**

Reservations for Sections O and P may be sent to Fay Wagman, 52 Harper Dr., Pittsford, NY 14534; telephone 716-381-6384; email <FayW@aol.com>. Please reserve by June 10.

**SECTION O — Commercial**

- Class 74 Display table with a grouping of gesneriads (10 or more plants)
- Class 75 Display table with a grouping of gesneriads (less than 10 plants)

**SECTION P — Educational**

- Class 76 Exhibit illustrating phases of scientific or historical research or gesneriad promotion
- Class 77 Exhibit of plant material
- Class 78 Exhibit of photograph(s)

This class is for photographs of gesneriad plant material seldom seen in shows and of botanical interest. The class is appropriate for plants which are seasonal or are rare in cultivation. A card must be supplied by the exhibitor giving educational information such as habitat, source, special cultural information, and reason for inclusion in this class.

## RULES

1. Entries shall be in accordance with the schedule.
2. Exhibitors need not be members of AGGS.
3. Entries will be accepted only during hours specified. An exhibitor may request that the Classification Committee accept an entry for exhibit only. These entries and all entries arriving after classes close will be placed for exhibit only, not to be judged, and located in a separate area of the showroom. Where appropriate, educational information should be provided.
4. All exhibits for competition will be approved by the Classification Committee. Non-conformity to the schedule may bring disqualification.
5. An exhibitor is limited to one specimen of the same plant per class in the Horticulture Division. An exhibitor may submit more than one entry per class, provided each entry is a different species, cultivar or hybrid unless otherwise prohibited.
6. In fairness to amateur growers, institutions may not make more than two entries in the Horticulture, Artistic or Arts Divisions of the flower show. The same restriction applies to commercial growers who have employees who assist with the culture and grooming of potential entries.
7. Classes may be subdivided or consolidated by the Show Chairman after entries close.
8. No entries may be removed from the showroom until the show closes. All entries must be checked out through the Show Committee.
9. All plants must be grown by the exhibitor and have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least three months prior to the show. This rule does not apply to plant material used in artistic arrangements in Division II.
10. All entries will be staged in the showroom by the Placement Committee. Artistic arrangements and collections can be executed in the showroom by the exhibitor in the space designated, and during the stated time for entries. Cut blossoms or plant material may be placed in artistic arrangements on Friday morning from 6:00 to 6:30 a.m. by previous arrangement with the Artistic Reservations Chairman.
11. Exhibitors will be permitted to indicate the front of a horticultural entry.
12. All plants must be free of insects and disease. All will be inspected, including commercial and educational exhibits.
13. AGGS standard competitive judging will be used.
14. Awards will be made according to the following point scores: 1st, blue ribbon, 90-100; 2nd, red ribbon, at least 80; 3rd, yellow ribbon, at least 70. Honorable Mention may also be awarded.
15. Special Awards (more than a class ribbon) will be reserved for AGGS members only unless otherwise offered to non-members. An exhibit must score 90 or above to be considered.
16. There will be two Sweepstakes Awards: one for the Horticulture Division; one for the Artistic Division. An exhibitor must win a minimum of 3 blue ribbons to be eligible for this award. Reserved for AGGS members only.
17. The award for Best Gesneriad in Show in the Horticulture Division (excluding *Saintpaulia*) is given for horticultural perfection. A plant must score 95 points or over to be considered for this award. Reserved for AGGS members only.
18. AGGS will endeavor to protect all entries but assumes no responsibility for loss or damage.

## EXHIBITOR'S INFORMATION

The exhibitor should prepare a list of plants and other exhibits with the appropriate Section and Class numbers to facilitate the work of the Entries Committee. The Flower Show Committee will assist in identifying material unknown to the exhibitor.

No particular type of container is specified for the Horticulture Division. Whatever is used should be clean. Foil covering should be avoided. A protective container or cover made of transparent material to shield delicate plant material from dry air or cold drafts may be used for any exhibit requiring it. Such plants may be judged uncovered.

Growing material established in situ should present a practical horticultural method of growing, not a temporary insertion for display only. This section covers entries such as terrariums, dish gardens, bonsai and material grown in containers other than the usual plastic or clay pots. Straight-sided terrariums are composed of flat pieces of glass or plastic; curved terrariums are composed of rounded pieces.

The class for a collection of gesneriads of one genus stresses horticulture primarily, but as this serves to focus attention on a special group, there should be some degree of presentation. Uniform type and color of container would be a first step toward unity. Some simple staging to provide different levels may be provided by the exhibitor. The plants might be grouped in a basket or a tray.

Photography: The photographer is being judged on the skill, technique and composition displayed, not on the quality of the plant material chosen as a subject.

Educational exhibits may be entered by institutions, chapters, study groups, or individuals. Any project relating to gesneriads may be presented with illustrative material which may or may not include live plant material.

## Convention Chairpersons

<i>AGGS Convention</i>	Helen Freidberg (781-891-9164) 11 Arrowhead Road, Weston, MA 02193 <HelenDF@aol.com>
<i>AGGS Auction</i>	Doris Carson
<i>AGGS Awards</i>	Colleen Turley
<i>AGGS Shows &amp; Judging</i>	Ben Paternoster
<i>Local Convention</i>	Phyllis King (727-398-7450) 11752 11th Terrace N., Seminole, FL 33778 <phyllisk@gte.net>
<i>Artwork &amp; Pamphlet</i>	Phyllis King
<i>Convention Packet</i>	Carol Schreck
<i>Hospitality</i>	Mina Menish
<i>Plant Sales</i>	Mollie Howell & Jo Anne Martinez
<i>Publicity</i>	Barbara Matthews
<i>Registration</i>	Carol Schreck (863-533-7288) 2055 South Floral Dr. #328, Bartow, FL 33830 <carolanded2@juno.com>
<i>Speakers</i>	Dale Martens
<i>Special Events/Transportation</i>	Mollie Howell & Catie Lindelow
<i>Flower Show</i>	Jo Anne Martinez (813-963-7424) 809 Taray de Avila, Tampa, FL 33613 <4jam@gte.net>
<i>Artistic Reservations</i>	Diane Heras
<i>Classification &amp; Plant Inspection</i>	Peter Shalit & Marcia Belisle
<i>Educational &amp; Commercial</i>	Fay Wagman (716-381-6384) 52 Harper Dr., Pittsford, NY 14534-3104 <FayW@aol.com>
<i>Entries &amp; Tag Writers</i>	Jeanne Katzenstein
<i>Judges &amp; Clerks</i>	Paul Kroll
<i>Placement</i>	Connie Leifeste & Shirley Killpatrick
<i>Plant Maintenance</i>	Catie Lindelow
<i>Show Schedule</i>	Carol Schreck, Barbara Matthews, Mary Lou Harden
<i>Staging</i>	Diane Heras

## Additional Convention Information

DoubleTree Hotel – Tampa Airport is conveniently located on Cypress Street just east of Westshore Boulevard. There is a free shuttle to the hotel from Tampa International Airport. When you arrive at the airport, call the hotel from the courtesy phone in the baggage area. The hotel phone number is 879-4800. DoubleTree is also providing free shuttle service to a nearby mall and nearby restaurants. If traveling by car, the hotel is located at the Westshore exit on Interstate 275. Travel directions will be sent with your registration confirmation. DoubleTree is providing complimentary parking. Hotel reservations must be received by June 19, 2000, to assure room availability.

**Register for convention by April 30, 2000, to gain early admittance to the plant sales.** Convention registration must be postmarked by June 1, 2000, in order to avoid an additional \$25.00 late fee.

Educational and Commercial Exhibitors should contact Fay Wagman, 52 Harper Dr., Pittsford, NY 14534-3104 (phone: 716-381-6384) email <FayW@aol.com> for space availability.

To donate items to the auction to benefit the Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund, contact Doris Carson, 1702 Joplin Ave., Joplin, MO 64804-0649 (phone: 417-623-5804).

To sponsor an award for the Flower Show, contact Colleen Turley, 6118 Windsor Dr., Fredericksburg, VA 22407-5058 (phone: 540-891-1145) email <awards@aggs.org>.

There shall be a minimum of 50 plants a vendor may bring to sell at the convention plant sales. Rhizomes, tubers, cuttings, and stolons in labeled plastic bags are welcomed. Potted plants for sale should be well rooted. Contact Mollie Howell, 1855 McCauley Rd., Clearwater, FL 33765 (phone: 727-797-2328) email: <molliehowell@ij.net> for space availability.

## Judges Training School

The Training School for the 2000 Convention will be held on Wednesday, July 5. The sessions for beginning and advanced AGGS judges will be held from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. and from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. The examination will be given from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. A member who is primarily interested in exhibiting, rather than becoming a judge, may register for the school. Taking the examination is optional unless accreditation is desired.

The registration fee is \$10.00, which includes a new or renewal subscription to *Appraisal*, the newsletter of the Judges Interest Group. Only one subscription (\$5.00) for *Appraisal* is needed for a single address. Checks should be made out to AGGS and sent to Ben Paternoster, Chairman of Shows and Judging, 14 Coptor Court, Huntington, NY 11743-2335 by June 10. Planning for a productive school is enhanced by compliance with this deadline.

There will be a meeting for the Judges Interest Group on Wednesday, July 5, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Current AGGS judges or those interested in becoming judges are welcome to attend this meeting. For the judges and clerks who participate in the flower show judging, there will be a critique by Frances Batcheller on Saturday, July 8, from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m.

## A Call for Judges and Clerks

Anyone who is interested in an assignment as a judge or clerk should write to Paul Kroll, Judges Chairman, 4325 Two Rod Road, East Aurora, NY 14052-9693, or <pfkroll@worldnet.att.net>, for consideration. If you wish acknowledgement of the receipt of your request by regular mail, please enclose a self-addressed postcard with your request. Email requests will be acknowledged by reply email.



# American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, Inc.

## 44th Annual Convention — 2000

### Room Reservation Form

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Phone: **1-800-355-0524 or 1-800-222-8733 or 1-813-879-4800.**  
To obtain the special group rate, tell them you will be attending the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society Convention. In order to guarantee reservations, please enclose a check for the amount of the first night's room and tax, or fill out the credit card information listed below.\*

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Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Persons sharing room \_\_\_\_\_

and Names \_\_\_\_\_

Check-in Time: 3:00 p.m. Rates: \$79.00 Single, Double, Triple or Quad

Check-out Time: 12:00 Noon (Tax: 11.75%)

*The above rooms are subject to all applicable taxes. Reservations must be received by June 19, 2000.*

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\*Cancellation of guaranteed room reservations must be received 48 hours prior to arrival in order to avoid a charge equal to one night's room and tax.

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## Flower Show Awards

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Colleen Turley <awards@aggs.org>  
6118 Windsor Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22407-5058

**O**ur annual convention is fast approaching. The thoughts of sunny Florida are especially appealing during the crisp, wintery month of January. And, as surely as the daffodils will soon appear, I am making my yearly request for award donations.

One of the convention's highlights is when the flower show participants are recognized for their high quality plants and exhibits. The winning exhibitors, myself, and AGGS as a whole appreciate the generosity of the individual members, commercial members, chapters, and friends-at-large who donate these awards.

I am currently soliciting donations for the 2000 Convention to be held in Tampa, Florida. Any member or chapter who wishes to donate an award may forward the award to me at the address above. Checks or money orders should be made payable to AGGS.

As in the past, preference is for unspecified awards. This allows for fair distribution to all deserving entries. Special requests will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If there are no eligible entries, or the category's award has already been filled, the award may be transferred to another class or section. Should there be fewer eligible entries than awards, then the balance of award donations will be used to sponsor a color picture in THE GLOXINIAN of the "Best Gesneriad in Show".

Acknowledgement of all award donations will be printed in THE GLOXINIAN and on the AGGS web site. Thanks for your past support and for your consideration for this year's convention.

## Convention Auctions

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Doris Carson, Endowment Fund Chair  
1702 Joplin Ave., Joplin, MO 64804-0649

**T**he 15th Gesneriad Auctions, live and silent, for the benefit of the Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund will take place during the Tampa Convention, July 7-8, 1999.

Contribute plants, leaves, cuttings, tubers or rhizomes for our rare plant auction. Artwork, crafts, gift certificates, and books (especially with gesneriad contents) are always popular auction items. Use your imagination! All donations will be most welcome, and receipts will be given upon request. If you are unable to attend the convention or cannot carry your auction items with you, mail or ship them to Jo Anne Martinez, 809 Taray de Avila, Tampa, FL 33613.

And then, remember, when packing up for the convention trip, bring your checkbook or charge card, and be sure to leave extra space in your luggage for all the terrific items that you will not be able to pass up at the live and silent auctions. *First donate—then bid!*

# Destination — TAMPA!

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Barbara Matthews <mathba@aol.com>  
1206 Terra Mar Dr., Tampa, FL 33613

With the catchy title, "**Y2K in Tampa Bay**", you may be wondering just what this convention is offering to entice you to pack your bags and head to the west coast of Florida in July, 2000.

If it sounds like this is an underwater affair, a little explanation is in order. You see, "Tampa Bay" refers not only to the body of water that graces Tampa's shoreline, but also to the entire metropolitan area in which Tampa, and the cities of Clearwater and St. Petersburg are located—on opposite sides of the bay. At one time, Tampa and the cities across the bay were in constant rivalry. Today, peace reigns in paradise and hordes of citizens criss-cross the bay daily to get to where they work, live, or play. The Bay is an integral part of daily life here, its three bridges bringing its people together.

So, whether you are spanning a bridge, an ocean, or a nation to get here, people coming together is the soul of a convention. And that is the goal: to bring as many AGGS members as possible together in the year 2000 to start the new century. Think about it! This is a once-in-a-lifetime chance to be at the first AGGS Convention of the new millennium, and then to be able to say, "I Was There!"

What else can you do to celebrate this milestone? Include a vacation for everyone in your convention plans. Non-plant-loving folks who come with you have so much to choose from, and if you can add a few extra days to your trip, there is even more that all of you can do together.

In Tampa alone you will find four museums and an IMAX theater; Busch Gardens and Adventure Island; a shopping mall and Saks Fifth Avenue near the hotel; golf courses and the New York Yankees Legends Field; the University of Tampa where Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders once camped and the University of South Florida with a botanical garden; the haunted Tampa Theater and the magnificent Performing Arts Center; the Florida Aquarium and the WWII merchant ship, SS American Victory; Ybor City, the heart of Tampa's Latin culture, an eclectic mix of early cigar factories, Victorian architecture, a new brewery and a winery, along with some unusual shops and the famous Columbia Restaurant.

Lift your sights skyward. If there should be a shuttle launch, it usually is visible from Tampa—an awesome sight. On any day, we have sunrise alerts, towering cloud formations unique to the summer sky, and spectacular sunsets. Take a few minutes to enjoy some of Mother Nature's best ideas.

Beach-goers will join the locals in a jaunt across the bay to Clearwater and St. Pete Beaches on the Gulf of Mexico. Deep-sea fishing and dolphin-sighting cruises are among the many attractions along the beaches. Check out The Pier in St. Petersburg and the Salvador Dali Museum nearby.

Getting here is easy, whether you are flying or driving. Access to the DoubleTree Hotel is convenient and the parking is free, both in the adjacent garage and in the open lot. The hotel provides free shuttle service from the airport, to Westshore Mall for your shopping convenience, and to restaurants within two miles. There is also an assortment of restaurants within walking distance. Hotel amenities include a pool and spa, a full-service health club, and freshly baked chocolate chip cookies. Free morning coffee is available in

the lobby. This newly decorated DoubleTree Hotel is located in the upscale Westshore business district, about 15 minutes from the airport. Visit the website: <http://www.doubletreehotels.com> for additional hotel information.

For tourist information, contact the Tampa Hillsborough Convention & Visitors Association, 400 N. Tampa St., Suite 1010, Tampa, FL 33602. Phone: 813-223-1111. Website: <http://www.thcva.com>—check it out!

Just say "Y2K in Tampa Bay", click your heels, and head our way.



Carol Schreck, Phyllis King, Jo Anne Martinez, Barbara Matthews, Mollie Howell (left to right) at last year's convention inviting us all to "Y2K in Tampa Bay".

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# Here Comes the Judge!

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Michael A. Riley <Riley2362@aol.com>  
101 West 104th Street, New York NY 10025

Flower shows are a really nice way to share one's horticultural interests with other people. They provide the opportunity and the forum for getting all gussied up and putting one's best foot forward for the public and the local members of a chapter. All of this takes a lot of forethought, planning, and plain hard work to make it happen smoothly... and then, here come the judges! The thought of having one's plants judged by a panel of "experts" is a frightening thought to those of us who just like to grow plants for our own enjoyment. It really is an unnecessary fear and should be viewed as a constructive process for everyone involved, particularly the judges! Besides, judges are human, too, and we like being courted and plied with pastries and coffee to insure that we are not in a foul mood that might be applied to those poor little sinningias, quaking on the first show table.

In that light and for the general good cause of international relations, a team of AGGS Master Judges, composed of myself, Jeanne Katzenstein and Vivian Scheans recently embarked on an adventure to the northernmost chapter of AGGS, the Gesneriasts of Sweden, to judge their first judged flower show. Many of you know Ingrid Lindskog, the stalwart leader of the group, and you therefore recognize that this is not a group of horticultural enthusiasts who are novices at anything. They have been meeting and sharing knowledge and plant material and staging exhibitions for many, many years—at least since Carl Linnæus taught them, in Botany 101 at Uppsala University, that gesneriads were undoubtedly the most beautiful plants in the world.

This first judged flower show was held in Uppsala, about one hour north of Stockholm in the Uppsala Botanic Garden. At some predawn hour ("*Gomorra*n!"), we walked into the show area set up in an 1804 Orangerie built in honor of Linnæus, adjacent to the herbarium built to house his personal herbarium collection. We were cheerfully greeted by Show Chairman Kristina Hagland and Judging Chairman Ingrid Lindskog who gave us a hug



The judging team of Vivian Scheans, Michael Riley, and Jeanne Katzenstein assisted by clerks Ingrid Lindskog and Mari Ålgekrans



*Chirita sinensis* 'Hisako' exhibited by Vera Hedlund  
(photo by Jeanne Katzenstein)



*Kohleria* 'Karl Lindberg' exhibited by Åsa Tysk  
(photo by Michael Riley)



*Sinningia* 'Georgia Sunset' exhibited by Siwie Rohne  
(photo by Britta Hedlund)



Exhibit of South American gesneriads – one of many displays  
set up by Åsa Tysk and the Uppsala Botanical Garden

and a tour of the showroom. They said (in perfectly spoken English): "You will be able to judge this rather quickly as we only have a few entries." We raised our judicial eyebrows as we viewed table after table of beautiful specimen plants, artistic arrangements, huge color photographs and vast educational displays.

After they picked us up off the brick floor, we proceeded to the judging process with our trusty clerks, Mari Älgekrans and Ingrid. Several hours later we finished and helped place the nice hand-made ribbons and rosettes. There were many special awards and trophies to be awarded, as well as a bag of newly dug potatoes for the "Best Tuber"—a *Sinningia leucotricha* grown by Vera Hedlund. The "Best in Show" was a perfectly grown *Chirita sinensis* 'Hisako' also grown by Vera, who had brought these and her other entries all the way from Stockholm. *Chirita* seems to be a favorite of the growers in Sweden. A spectacular *Chirita heterotricha*, in full bloom, was transported to the show on the back of Lena Klintberg's bicycle. Several other beautiful chiritas in the show were grown by Ewa Andersson.

This show also included a great diversity of plant material such as the blue-ribbon *Sinningia schiffneri* grown by Maike Lundberg and a blooming *Episcia lilacina* 'Blue Nile' that won a blue ribbon for Helena Eriksson. There were a number of interesting *Kohleria* hybrids which were new to the judge's eyes such as *Kohleria* 'Cinnamon Toast', and K. 'Karl Lindberg'. The latter has brilliant plum-colored flowers with nice light green leaves. This striking hybrid was grown by Åsa Tysk and was awarded Best Rhizomatous.

Åsa is a remarkable young woman who is responsible for several growing houses containing the tropical collection at the Uppsala Botanic Garden.



*Chirita heterotricha* exhibited by  
Lena Klintberg



*Smithiantha zebrina* hybrid  
exhibited by Maike Lundberg



*Eucodonia* 'Adele'  
exhibited by Siwie Rohne



She has a vitality, interest and depth of knowledge which are a credit to her horticultural profession. Her department has a world-renowned collection of *Saintpaulia* species and has produced considerable research and publication of their work. She also has an extensive collection of gesneriads in her care including a wall of *Rynchoglossum gardneri* overlooking the Amazon waterlily pool. Åsa also exhibited a large hanging basket of *Aeschynanthus longicaulis* and *Aeschynanthus batakiorum*.

Sweepstakes was won by Siwie Rohne, who was only going to enter a few plants until persuaded otherwise. She quite capably carried off the grand prize with seven blue ribbons. Especially memorable were her entries of *Sinningia* 'Georgia Sunset', a beautiful plant with about twenty nodding blooms, a very floriferous *Eucodonia* 'Adele', and a well-grown *Streptocarpus* 'Chorus Line'.

Kristian Persson entered a number of *Saintpaulia* species. A particularly nice *Saintpaulia rupicola* won the first place ribbon. Ingrid Lindskog treated us to an extremely floriferous *Primulina tabacum* which won the Best Asiatic Species Award, not to be confused with her Best Artistic Award for a creative arrangement of gesneriads on the beach entitled "A Wasteland". It was a pleasure to see the photographic work of Rune Jagestad, photographer for *Gesneriasnytt*, printed in a nice large format. He wins a prize every time he takes a photograph!

An excellent educational display was compiled by the show committee with color photographs connected by colored yarn to a world geographical map showing the public where many genera of gesneriaceae grow. One of the most outstanding features of the show was a series of displays by the Uppsala Botanic Garden of gesneriads grouped naturally according to the continents on which they are found. There was a large grouping of Central and South American species, African species, Asian species, and even a *Boea hygrosopica* from Australia in a pan with a rubber snake. Åsa and her staff really showed their skills.

The large plant sales table was very popular with the public and even the judges found a few "need to have" cuttings and rhizomes. The show was extremely well attended by over 400 people, some having driven a distance of a few hours to see the show. Several new members joined the chapter, and we all met many new friends. Yes, it was "just another flower show" in the life of a judge, but I can assure you that these three judges felt that we left Sweden with the true rewards of the experience, and so many new friends.

The Judges reply with a resounding "*Tack, Tack, Tack*". ("Thank You"—*ed.*)

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# The Basics: Pots and Growing Media

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Monte Watler <monte.watler@sympatico.ca>  
240 Burnhamthorpe Rd, Etobicoke, ONT M9B 1Z5 Canada

## POTS

Normally two types of pots are used by the indoor gardener—plastic and clay. In recent years, plastic pots have taken precedence over those made of clay, and for many good reasons. Plastic pots are less expensive, much easier to clean, easier to store and not so easily broken. Another good reason is that the clay pot, being porous, dries out much more rapidly than the plastic pot, therefore more frequent watering is necessary.

Before using a pot one should make sure that it is clean and sterilized. This is easily done by placing the pots in a pail into which you have placed water and vinegar at a ratio of 10 ounces of vinegar to two or three gallons of water. Pots may be left to soak for several days, but should be ready after an overnight soaking. The vinegar will soften the salt build-up so that it may be easily removed. Any difficult spots may be removed with a scouring pad. There are also some commercial products available for this purpose which are most effective (CLR is one example which is available at most hardware stores). Once pots are cleaned, they should be sterilized by putting them in a strong solution of bleach for about 24 hours, after which they should be rinsed in clear water.

## SOIL AND SOILLESS MIXES

To grow gesneriads successfully there are certain rules that must be followed in order to create the ideal conditions. This strongly applies to the growing media that we use. Here are the essentials that should be provided in a good soil mix.

- ◆ pH is important. pH is the measure of the acidity or alkalinity of the soil, on a scale from 0 (very acid) to 14 (very alkaline). Gesneriads perform best in soil with a pH in the range of 6.4 to 7.
- ◆ Soil must be sterile and free of insects and diseases that are detrimental to plants.
- ◆ Soil should be light and loose, not heavy. This condition provides good circulation for both water and air that are necessary to the development of your plant.
- ◆ It must contain some organic material that has the capacity to hold moisture as well as nutrients, and provides "buffering" capacity that helps maintain a stable pH.

Here are the components of a good growing medium and a detailed explanation of each element.

**Good Potting Soil**, which should be sterilized, is often found at garden centers. The composition is usually humus, sand, clay, and sometimes horticultural charcoal. Each of these components will possess some of the required minerals and nutrients that are important to the development of healthy plants.

**Sphagnum Moss** is gathered from bogs and marshes and is a wonderful source of organic matter. It comes in two forms, i.e., milled and long fiber. The milled type is normally used in mixing soils. It retains moisture and takes a long time to decompose. Acidity in the soil will increase as it disintegrates.

**Perlite** is a white, globular, gritty lava product, and is customarily found in coarse and fine grades. The coarse grade is best for soil mixes. It is inert and its function is to provide porosity to the soil.

**Vermiculite** is mica that has been "puffed" or exfoliated by exposure to heat. Somewhat wormlike in appearance, hence its name. It resists being compacted and therefore adds to the aeration and porosity of the soil. It is water retentive and provides potassium, calcium, and magnesium. It affords high fertilization rates and has a high buffering capacity which helps to retard any alterations in pH levels.

**Dolomite Lime** is limestone that contains 30% or more of magnesium. It is used to control the pH of the soil by balancing the acidity of the peat moss. Dolomite chips, which are not always easily available, are preferable to horticultural powdered lime, as the chips release calcium at a lower rate. Ground eggshells, which are quite effective, are sometimes used as a substitute.

**Charcoal:** Horticultural charcoal is supplied by most nurseries and acts as a sweetener by neutralizing acids and absorbing objectionable odors. It will also help to hold the pH at an acceptable level. Beware—do not use any other charcoal other than the horticultural type.

Other elements or minerals that must be provided will be explained in a future installment of this series dealing with fertilization.

**Soiless mixes**, et al: Other media for growing plants have been developed, and there are numerous formulas for soiless mixes. Some years ago Cornell University formulated a series of mixes for the purpose of growing indoors. The theory was that most plants do not require organic matter to flourish. They do perfectly well in a sterile mix provided the required elements and minerals are fed to them through a fertilization program. Many enthusiasts are now using various proportions of peat moss, vermiculite, perlite, and lime.

While many growers find a soiless medium quite suitable, I am not an advocate of its use. I found that it was inclined to dry out more rapidly than regular soil, and once dried out it is not easily dampened. I used it when I grew my plants on capillary matting. While that solved the problem of drying out, it created another problem: a black and white fungus on top of the soil which I presumed was a type of mildew. However, if you find that a soiless mix suits your mode of growing by all means use it. It does have its good points, i.e., there is no need for sterilization, it is not malodorous, and it is very light in weight. One must remember though that it is inert and contains very few, if any, nutrients, making continuous fertilization a necessity.

**Long-fiber sphagnum moss** is another substitute for soil. Planted in it, sinningias do very well. A small layer of sphagnum placed in a pot with a sprinkling of dolomite lime and covered with more sphagnum will be most successful.

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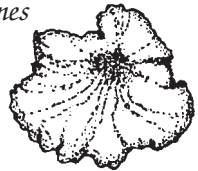
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# Awards of Appreciation

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Molly Schneider, Chair  
608 Hillwood Drive, Nashville, TN 37205

A maximum of three Awards of Appreciation certificates may be presented each year at the Convention Annual Meeting. Criteria for the selection of recipients include importance of service rendered, length of service, and any other duties of merit. Our three recipients this year easily met the requirements.

**Dr. Miriam Logsdon Denham** of Longmont, Colorado, is currently Chair of the AGGS Research Committee. She has been a member of AGGS for over 40 years and attended the Society's second convention in Kansas City in 1956. As a member of the Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers Chapter in Denver, she is a Master Judge and has been very active in promoting gesneriads. She is presently working on "Colorful Columnea", a complete description of all species in cultivation in the genus *Columnea*. Miriam has a PhD in Biology, and she is Director of Gesneriad Gardens Herbarium and a small research greenhouse. She and her late husband, Dale, made several trips to Mexico and two to Central America, studying gesneriads where they grow, and making a few collections. She and a son plan to return to an area they visited in Mexico in 1962 with Thomas Baillie MacDougall in the fall of 2001 to catalog changes. She continues her goals to promote science education, gesneriads and Colorado native plants in all her life interests.

**Bonita Hutcheson** of Sheridan, Colorado, has been a member of AGGS since 1977 and is now a Life Member. She was recently Recording Secretary and Director on the AGGS Board. Bonita has also served the Gloxinia Gesneriad Growers Chapter in Denver with care for 25 years. In 1997 she was Local Convention Chair. Bonita is an AGGS Master Judge. To pursue her goal to grow prize-winning plants and educate the public on our wonderful gesneriads, Bonita is also a judging school teacher, speaker with the Denver Botanic Garden, and winner of numerous flower show awards. Bonita is also involved with the Rocky Mountain African Violet Council.

**Elizabeth Varley** of Arden, Delaware, has been an AGGS member-at-large since 1981. She is a past member of the AGGS Board of Directors and former Chair of the Review and Standing Rules Committees as well as having served as Parliamentarian and Bylaws Chair. Elizabeth is an AGGS Life Member and Master Judge. She is also an accomplished botanical artist, and at the 1988 Convention was awarded Best in the Arts for her watercolor painting of *Corytoplectus cutucuensis*. As a member of the Gesneriad Research Foundation, she has twice traveled to Ecuador as well as to Mexico to study gesneriads in their native habitats. Elizabeth worked for 21 years at Longwood Gardens in Tropical Horticulture developing the gesneriad collection there among others. She has an MS in Public Horticulture and served an internship at the Wilson Botanic Garden in Costa Rica.



Miriam Denham, Bonita Hutcheson, Elizabeth Varley

## Past Recipients of Awards of Appreciation

1977	Paul Arnold Charlotte Rowe	1988	Maryann Delaune Felicia McCann Dr. Hans Wiehler
1978	Frances Batcheller Carol Saylor William Saylor	1989	Judy Becker Anthony Crisafulli Jessie Crisafulli
1979	Florence Messick Mel Sater Martin Tanner Renee White	1990	Chris Kunhardt Michael Riley Nellie Sleeth Ellen Todd
1980	Albert Buell Erica Clayberg Emma Lahr Ruth and Lyndon Lyon	1991	Earl Deroche Molly Schneider Alan Wojcik
1981	Alice Courage Helen Kavanaugh Henry Peterson Laura Progebin	1992	Diantha Buell Anne Crowley
1982	Michael Kartuz	1993	Stanley Schwartz Margaret Waugespack
1983	Dr. Robert E. Lee Dr. Margaret H. Stone	1994	Jeanne Katzenstein
1984	S. Cleopatra Kohm David R. Masterson Martin Mines	1995	Mary Bozoian Ben Paternoster Monte Watler
1985	C. A. Cruikshank Lee Linett Dr. Laurence E. Skog	1996	Celine Chase Betty Tapping Beth Weissman
1986	Margaret Belanger Jimmy Dates Isla Montgomery	1997	Maryjane Evans Ron Myhr Darrell Trout
1987	Joseph Batcheller Ted Bona Ruth Webster	1998	David Turley M.J. Tyler Dave Tyler

# Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund

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Doris Carson, Chair  
1702 Joplin Ave., Joplin, MO 64804-0649

The 14th annual silent and live auctions held at convention to benefit the Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund were a great success. We exceeded the amount received at any previous convention by raising \$5532 in the silent and live auctions there in Nashville. In addition, the Internet Communications Committee chaired by David Turley earlier held the fourth online auction netting an additional \$1094 for a grand total of \$6626. WOW!

Bidding was very active on the unusual and new plant material. Approximately \$1500 was received from the silent auction on leaves from Japan donated by Toshijiuro Okuto. There was so much bidding activity on the *Chirita* and *Streptocarpus* species and hybrids that the tables displaying the leaves had to be moved to the hall to accommodate the bidders.

The auctions are successful because of the donors, the bidders and the commitment of many willing members that work and help bring everything together. This practice has continued year after year by loyal supporters of AGGS.

The live auctions were just awesome. For those of you who could not attend the convention, you missed out on the opportunity to bid and obtain some new and rare plant material. You also missed the anticipation, excitement and determination of committed plant lovers to obtain a gesneriad species or hybrid donated by John Boggan, Mary Bozoian, Maryjane Evans, Sue Hodges, Charles Lawn, Connie Leifeste, Dale Martens, Toshijiuro Okuto, and Masaki Yamagata, or one of the many plants donated by Jon Dixon, the Strybing Arboretum and the Suncrest Nursery. Thank you bidders and donors for making this another successful year. In total, 260 items were donated by 52 generous individuals and organizations:

African Violet Gesneriad  
Society of NSW  
AGGS Judges Interest Group  
Frances Batcheller  
Marlene Beam  
John Boggan  
Mary Bozoian  
Leslie Brothers  
Tom Bruning  
Doris Carson  
Cheekwood Botanical Gardens  
Carolyn Conlin-Lane  
Miriam Denham  
Jon Dixon  
Veronica Duncan  
Gary Dunlap  
Maryjane Evans  
Gussie Farrice

Thelma Foster  
Gesneriad Research Foundation  
Jo Hawley  
Sue Hodges  
Connie Holland  
Sharon Holtzman  
Bonita Hutcheson  
Hans Inpijn  
Michael Kartuz  
Jeanne Katzenstein  
Charles Lawn  
Connie Leifeste  
Dale Martens  
Cheryl Meyer  
Ron Myhr  
Toshijiuro Okuto  
Norah Otto  
Vera and Ken Parker

Elsie Quarterman  
Michael Riley  
Carolyn Ripps  
Molly Schneider  
Peter Shalit  
Strybing Arboretum  
Suncrest Nursery  
Darrell Trout  
Jerry Trowbridge  
David and Colleen Turley  
MJ and Dave Tyler  
Vancouver AV Society  
Elizabeth Varley  
Monte Watler  
Wallace Wells  
Patrick Worley  
Masaki Yamagata

The Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund was established fourteen years ago and was chaired by Molly Schneider. This committee had the vision, the wisdom, and the dedication to institute the silent and live auctions as a solution to providing financial support and security for AGGS. Only the interest received from this fund is used to supplement the expenditures that provide quality services to our membership. Thank you, Molly, for thirteen years of dedication in this endeavor. Thanks to all of you for your support—you made this year a great success.

# Gesneriads, The Internet, and You

---

David Turley <webmaster@aggs.org>  
6118 Windsor Dr., Fredericksburg, VA 22407

Now that it is winter for many of us, I am sure you are appreciating even more the pleasures of having blooming plants indoors to get us through the winter months. If your plants aren't blooming right now, you can turn to AGGS' virtual world and enjoy gesneriads that way. If your plants require less care this time of year, now's a good time to share your experiences with others via the Message Forums on the AGGS web site, or through the gesneriphiles mailing list, or the many other online gesneriad-related activities. Check out the related links page on the web site for more places to visit to get your gesneriad "fix" this winter.

In order to make it easier for AGGS members to share photos of their plants, I've added a new feature to the AGGS web site. AGGS members can submit photos of plants to share with other members. These could be photos of new hybrids, plants for which you need identification help, or just interesting plants you'd like others to see. You may submit digital photos by email. Standard prints may also be sent to me and I will scan them for you. Feel free to write me for details on submitting your photos. And be sure to visit the "Members' Corner" frequently.

By the time you read this, our online ordering system for AGGS publications should be set up as well. Now it is easier than ever to order these valuable references.

Complete details about the AGGS Convention in Tampa, Florida will also be available online. As was possible last year, you may also register for the convention online. There's no need to put off registering until the process of copying the registration form, filling it out, writing the check, and stuffing the envelope can be fit into your busy schedule. Just take a few minutes out from enjoying the gesneriad message forum and register online. You'll save the cost of postage, and you'll make the convention registration committee's job easier too!

The "Gesneriad Message Forum" continues to be very active. Here are some recent posts to the Gesneriad Message Corner for the enjoyment of those who do not have Internet access.

The "Florist gloxinia" is one of the most popular gesneriads and there are always many queries about these plants. **Krystal Webb** had a question about her new gloxinia:

"I got my first gloxinia about 3 weeks ago and have it in a sunny window potted in a peat soil mixture. It is a double bloom with what looks like three stalks. Today I noticed one whole stalk grouping is turning brown at the base. It is mushy, the leaves are limp and so are the new buds that it has. The other two bunches are growing, firm and green and the buds have bloomed.

"What is wrong? How do I fix it? I water my gloxinia from the base so that I do not get it too wet. Please help, I've had her for a short while, but she's the most beautiful plant I've ever owned!"

AGGS President **Jon Dixon** responded:

"This sounds good. Your plant grows from a tuber located just below the soil line. A young plant may have a small tuber until after the blooming is over. It sounds like your plant has three stems from the tuber, each with a crown of leaves and flower buds.

"This stem has probably developed a rot at a point on the stem, hopefully not involving the tuber. Remove the stem with a sharp knife. Gently dig around the soil to make sure the tuber, if you can feel it, is not also mushy. You may be able to save the stem you remove: cut out the bad parts and set it in a bowl of water overnight; next day it should be turgid again and you can pot it in a sterile moist potting mix in a small pot enclosed in a plastic bag. The cutting will root and produce a new tuber. Eventually the tuber will sprout new shoots which can be grown to blooming. You will probably lose the buds on the current stem, but one or two may make it. It's better to remove them before potting up the cutting.

"Meanwhile, enjoy the flowers on the two remaining healthy stems. When they finish, continue to let the plant grow. It may not actually look like it's growing, but it will be building its tuber which will eventually sprout with new shoots. You may lose all foliage before the new shoots emerge from the tuber. Don't worry—that's normal. Feed lightly and with luck you will enjoy many cycles of bloom from your tuber. You can also root these shoots or individual leaves to produce more plants."

**Don Pomeroy** asked for advice on growing them outdoors in deep South Florida. Jon helped out here as well.

"Coming from California I can't give you a definitive answer—it's an interesting question. They are native to Brazil, from warm humid tropical forests. They can tolerate temperatures down into the low 30's but freezes could kill the tuber. They grow in bright light in greenhouses and window sills but outdoors they probably need light shade or sun in the morning only."

**Deena Strickland** was concerned for her new plant as well.

"I bought a gloxinia and within one week the blooms died and the leaves started curling. It is a beautiful plant and I hate to lose it. Any ideas on how to bring it back to life?"

Ever helpful, **Jon** replied.

"They often get shocked if brought into a low light, low humidity setting. They grow from a tuber and put up new growths from the top of it. Give your plant good light, keep lightly moist and feed when new growth is evident. You may well find your plant reblooming for many years."

**Don Farmer** expressed a need for information as well.

"A very nice client gave each of us a gloxinia plant which we keep on our desks—we water them but they never seem to bloom (apart from the original)—they receive adequate light—is there a secret?? Do they need 'food'? No one in the office seems to know anything about gloxinia."

Guess who helped out? **Jon**, of course!

"Hi Don, you found the right place to ask about your gloxinias. This is the plant that started our society 48 years ago. Now our society is devoted to all of the thousands of species and hybrids related to gloxinias in the gesneriad family. Your gloxinias (actually *Sinningia speciosa*) grow from a tuber with new growths that sprout from the top of the tuber and grow upward set-



ting flower buds, blooming and eventually dying. But new shoots from the tuber replace the old ones. There are several reasons why a plant will not rebloom after its initial show produced in the wholesale greenhouse where it was started. They need good light, even moisture without excessive drying out and, yes, they need to be fed. To feed I suggest using any well-balanced fertilizer designed to be mixed with water. Use it at about 1/4 strength with each watering. Or you can use slow release fertilizers like Osmocote beads which you mix into the upper layer of soil. Most houseplant fertilizers will work as long as they are fairly evenly balanced, such as Dyna-Gro, Schultz, Rapid-Gro, etc.

"Good light is necessary for buds to set and bloom. You can get this by growing at the windowsill or by placing under fluorescent lights. But to bloom under lights they need to be kept close to the light such as within a maximum of 12 inches and the lights need to be on for a minimum of 10 hours a day; 12 hours would be better. So, many of us have indoor light stands with 4-foot fixtures and two, three, or four shelves with plants. For gloxinias we calculate one tube for every six inches of width of the shelf. So, for a two-foot deep shelf, we use either a four-tube fixture or more commonly 2 two-tube shop lights. Forty-watt cool-white tubes work well. It may seem strange to suggest a small fluorescent light set-up in an office situation, but it can be a pleasant diversion from work to have a few plants under a fixture on a counter or over a row of file cabinets. Many other gesneriads would also grow well and bloom alongside the gloxinias such as African violets, streptocarpus, episcias, and kohlerias. Check out our site's photo section to see some of these. Also our links page will take you to sites like the Gesneriad Reference Web where there are over 1000 photos of our plants.

"But, to get back to your question: good bright light, even moisture, and fertilizer—and then come back and tell us how your plants are doing."



*Sinningia speciosa* hybrid

**Kelly Romain** was also concerned about her new plant.

"I recently acquired a "gloxinia". I have inherited my granny's green thumb (she could grow ANYTHING!!) but I confess, I am totally ignorant about gloxinias. The many flowers are mostly white with the most wonderful purple-blue streaks on the fluted edges. The thing is growing like crazy and seems to like me. The question being, how does one winter the thing? Does it die back (tuber) and have to be put away, or can I maintain it over the winter and through the coming years? Any info would be helpful."

This time **Laura** provided help.

"Your "gloxinia" (the correct name is *Sinningia*) has a period of dormancy. It will slowly start to die back and look ratty. Once the foliage is completely gone, allow the tuber to rest. Light and water are not necessary at this point, although it is good to check the soil occasionally. The soil should not be allowed to get "crispy" dry. When the pot shows signs of new growth (small leaves poking up at the surface), return the pot to good light and begin watering normally."

**Kip Turley** (no known relation, but I like the name) posted his query:

"Help—I left my favorite gloxinia with friends while we went on vacation; they forgot to water it. It wilted badly and isn't recovering after watering for several days. The leaves are still green, but very limp. What can I do to save this plant? Should I trim all the leaves and buds off, or just let it recover?"

**Elke** responded,

"Be careful not to give it too much water. It will need to recover slowly. When my plants are wilted, I just give them a good watering and leave them alone (this goes for all my houseplants). Keep us posted!"

**Laura** offered hope as well.

"I usually support the wilted leaves if they don't respond to water. Cut a hole in the center of a paper plate, then cut the plate in half. Slide the halves up under the leaves, so they rest on the pot edge, sort of like a collar. The plate sometimes needs tape or staples to hold the halves together once they're in place.

"I'll also loosely cover the plant with a plastic bag to retain some extra humidity until the leaves firm up."

**Kip** updated everyone,

"Four weeks later—all of the foliage has dried off including about 15 buds. But now there are six good strong shoots coming from the tuber.

"Thanks to all who replied with comments and suggestions!"

Keep those suggestions coming and be sure to visit the AGGS web site often. Point your browser to <<http://www.aggs.org>>. You can email me at <[webmaster@aggs.org](mailto:webmaster@aggs.org)>.

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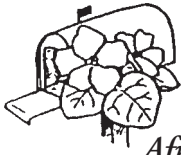
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Oh, I didn't tell you, I won Best Gesneriad with *Sinningia* 'Teddy'.



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*Eucodonia* 'Woolly Morrión' exhibited by Arleen Dewell  
at the 1999 Nashville Convention Flower Show  
(photo by Stan Schwartz)

## New Slide Programs

**1999 Convention Flower Show** – Continuing our slide programs featuring the best of the entries at the Convention Flower Show, we are offering another program again this year. You are invited to tour the show to see some of the 167 entries that "Topped the Charts" in Nashville this year.

**The Genus *Streptocarpus*** – A new slide program has been put together to reflect some of the recent changes and additions to this fascinating genus. 1999 brought the publication of a new *Streptocarpus* Register as well as two special issues of THE GLOXINIAN which concentrated on this genus. To focus even more and to add to your visual enjoyment of this genus, this new program includes many new pictures donated by Toshijiro Okuto.

*To request either of these new slide programs with typed commentaries, send a check for \$20 payable to AGGS to Marlene Beam, 1736 S. Oakland Street, Aurora, CO 80012. Specify the date when the program will be shown and give as much lead time as possible. Your request will be acknowledged and the program will arrive at least one week in advance of your date. You must return the program via UPS insured for \$100 or via First Class Priority Mail within five days after your show date.*

GRF Brazil trip photos in black and white courtesy of Wallace Wells,  
Carolyn Ripps, Nagahide Nakayama and Jeanne Katzenstein.

Sweden flower show photos in black and white courtesy of Maike Lundberg,  
Jeanne Katzenstein and Michael Riley.



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# Coming Events

**February 12-13 — Florida** — Upper Pinellas African Violet Society 41st annual show and sale, Clearwater Mall, 20505 U.S. Hwy 19 North, Clearwater. Open mall hours – show/sale opens at 1:00 pm on Saturday. Prize-winning violets plus many others on sale as well as supplies. Visit the education table. Contact Phyllis King (727-398-7450) <phyllisk@gte.net>.

**March 18-19 — Illinois** — Northern Illinois Gesneriad Society annual show and sale at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe. Saturday 12:00 to 4:00 pm; Sunday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Contact Nancy Maybloom (847-882-4652) <hsmay@aol.com>.

**April 7-9 — Washington, D.C.** — "Houseplants for the Millennium" National Capital Area Chapter AGGS judged show and plant sale, U.S. National Arboretum, 3501 New York Ave. NE. Entries Friday 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Show and sale Saturday 1:00 to 5:00 pm; Sunday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Sale of many rare and unusual species as well as new hybrids. Free admission and parking. Handicapped accessible. Activities include slide presentations and tours of the Smithsonian's research greenhouses and the National Arboretum. Visit NCAC's chapter website at <<http://members.aol.com/aggsncac/>> or contact Nell Hennessy <erisaweb@aol.com> or John Boggan (202-328-8145) <bogganj@yahoo.com>.

## Application for Membership — *American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society*

WELCOME – membership in our international society includes quarterly issues of THE GLOXINIAN – *The Journal for Gesneriad Growers*, a copy of *How to Know and Grow Gesneriads*, a packet of gesneriad seeds and a wealth of information about our AGGS Chapters, Flower Shows, Publications, Research, Slide Programs and Seed Fund. Membership begins upon receipt of dues.

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