



PETAL TONES



Newsletter of the National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society

Volume 53 Number 9

September 2022

Going Green

Show Information from Bill our Chairman:

Important Information for the September 10th Event

Schedule for the Day

Show set-up 8:30AM

Entries 10:00AM

Judging 11:00AM

Members' Lunch 12:30PM

Show Opens to Public 1:00PM

Business Meeting 1:30PM

Tour of Show 2:30PM

Raffle #1 3:00PM

Raffle #2 4:00PM

Silent Auction Closing 4:30PM

Show closing, clean-up, and departure 5:00 to 6:00PM

The tour, raffles and silent auction are all open to the public.

Members, please RSVP to Bill Schmidt, Schmidt.wc@verizon.net, indicating the hours you will be attending, by September 7th. It will be presumed that you will engage in the activity that occurs in that time. For example, if you plan to be on site from 12:30PM to 3:30PM, we will anticipate you will be there for the members' lunch, the business meeting, the show tour, and raffle #1. You must also notify Peggy MacDonald bobpeggymac@gmail.com by September 7th if you plan to enter the show's Artistic Division.

Only members can enter the show, but anyone can put a plant on the non-judged exhibit table. We encourage you to bring many of your beautiful plants to insure a good show for the public. Please, no infected or infested plants. If you are not planning to remain until the end of the show, you can either put your plants in the silent auction or arrange for another member to return them to you after the show.

← NCAC Member Meeting in Person
Saturday, September 10, 2022
See schedule of times to the left

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

Sept 10th Mini Show (Raffle & Auction)
Oct 8th Jim Roberts "Grow Gesneriads in Florida"
Nov 12th Webinar or field trip to MAAVS
Dec 10th Holiday Celebration



Dena's *Saintpaulia* 'Cherries 'n Cream'

Plants can be placed on the non-judged exhibit table whenever you arrive, but are most welcome before the show opens at 1:00PM. We hope that members will bring some plants for all the activities. Plants for the silent auction, and the raffles must be donations. Please indicate if you will be bringing plants or other items specifically for show exhibits when you RSVP.

We Love Our Gesneriads: Plants, Friends, and Sharing

By Bill Schmidt, Show Chairman

On September 10th we shall hold a very special event for the National Capitol Area Chapter of The Gesneriad Society. It will be an opportunity for us to meet in person, to renew our friendships, show what we have been doing with our plants, share plants with one another, and get some new plants for our collections. This event has been planned by our show committee, and will be successful only if you "show" up. See the full schedule for the day elsewhere in this newsletter.

The afternoon will kick off with **"Going Green"** official gesneriad show, judged by our own judges. Advertised in the national gesneriad media, it will demonstrate that we are committed to growing great plants. It will also assist our judges by providing an opportunity to show plants and judge a show. Of course, the show will include exhibits that demonstrate some of our other skills, like photography, crafts, and flower arranging. Be sure to check out the full show schedule attached to this newsletter.

You will have an opportunity to socialize with others during the Members' Lunch provided by the Chapter and supplemented by our own Peggy MacDonald who will be leaving us, moving to her new home in North Carolina.

Immediately, following lunch we will hold a Business Meeting where we will discuss important issues regarding the future of our Chapter. This will include some changes to our Bylaws and an exploration of meeting sites. Although that discussion can continue informally, we will next move into an interpreted Tour of the Show conducted by our Vice President and Master Judge, Barbara Stewart.

Then the Raffles begin. The first raffle will be for individual plants. Perhaps you will see a plant that you have never seen before or one that you used to grow and would like to have the opportunity to grow again. The second raffle will be run the same way we always do at our meetings. The drawing will be for the order in which you can select plants or cuttings from the table. The tickets for the raffles will be the same price as at the meetings, three for \$1. Members attending the meeting will get a free ticket.

Finally, there will be a number of show plants that will be offered in a Silent Auction that began when the show opened. Perhaps there will be a plant in the show that you just have to have. That may require a healthy bid on your part. Or you may just not have a lot of competition for a plant that you would like to own. If you win, these plants will be yours at the end of the show.

We will also have a chance to provide plants for our President, Minh Bui, who lost his entire collection due to a mechanical failure of his AC unit, while he was out of town. See his wish list elsewhere in this newsletter. Where are all these plants and cuttings coming from? From you, the members, who will be donating them to defray the cost of the day's events. Any income in addition to those expenses will bolster our treasury for possible future expense increases.



Dave's *Achimenes* 'Aimee Saliba'

Achimenes is a genus of 25 species in the [Gesneriaceae](#) family native to the West Indies, Mexico and Central America. Plants are summer growing and winter dormant, pulling back to "scaly rhizomes" that are distinctive to some Gesneriaceae.. Species and hundreds of hybrids in this genus are often grown as a house plants, with many of them grown outdoors in summer in shade. They respond well to fertilization and constant watering. After a period of growth and flowering, the plants produce rhizomes that are formed below the soil, but sometimes smaller sized rhizomes may also appear on stems or leaves. During dormancy, the rhizomes should be kept dry in moderate temperatures until started back into growth in late winter or spring. When stored cool with higher air humidity, the rhizomes do not need extra water, but when stored in a heated space, a touch of supplemental water to keep the soil from going completely dry is recommended. Growers of the genus noted that the rhizomes perform best when left in their pots during dormancy.
<https://www.pacificbulbsociety.org/>

Bloomin' Now



Jim Roberts: *Gesneria glandulosa* "Here's the plant with its first open flower.. Seems to have lots of buds coming so I guess it's getting enough light."
Six months ago I removed half a dozen different Gesneria seedlings from my terrarium and gave them to Drew to try to grow in his humidity tent. All failed except *G. glandulosa*. It survived the tent has been growing in the shade house out on the lanai where he grows his Aroids and Carnivorous plants. Today I noticed that it's budding up! I love the way it looks."



Dena's mini *Saintpaulia* 'Shirl's Purple Passion'

Dena's *Sinningia* 'Party Dress'

Bloomin' Now



Dave Anderson's *Sinningia micropoda*



Dave's *Sinningia* 'Spill The Wine'



Dave's *Primulina* 'Stardust'



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

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NCAC website: www.nationalcapitalgesneriads.org
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NCAC Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/174442276299173/?ref=bookmarks>

The National Capital Area Chapter of the Gesneriad Society welcomes all interested Gesneriad growers. The most familiar Gesneriad is Saintpaulia, more commonly known as the African Violet.

Dues are \$10 per year You can send your payment to NCAC into our Assistant Treasurer, Andy Meier via PayPal using the email address: ncacotqs-gesneriads@yahoo.com. Please include a note with your Name, Address, Phone number & email address.

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

The international Gesneriad Society is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the study, growing and enjoyment of the gesneriaceae. Membership dues are \$25 /year for individuals and \$26 for a family. Benefits include seed fund of hard-to-find plants, reference materials, yearly convention & cultural webinars.

National membership requests should be sent to:

Bob Clark, 1122 E Pike Street, PMB 637,
Seattle, WA 98122-3916.

Membership includes a subscription to the society journal, Gesneriads. You can subscribe on line also.
<http://www.gesneriadsociety.org/>



**Virginia is for Gesneriad Lovers
July 3 to July 8, 2023**

The Richmond area convention team invites you to attend The Gesneriad Society's 66th Annual Convention "VIRGINIA IS FOR GESNERIAD LOVERS" to be held July 3-8, 2023, at the Westin Richmond Hotel in the Near West End of town.