



Gleanings

a monthly newsletter from The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

(articles and photos selected from Chapter newsletters, our journal GESNERIADS, and original sources)

Volume 1, Number 5

August 2010

Welcome to the fifth issue of **Gleanings**! This issue of **Gleanings** includes photos from the 2010 Royal Horticultural Society Chelsea Flower Show in London and the 54th Annual Gesneriad Society Convention Flower Show in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Karyn Cichocki shares her thoughts about the convention. Also included are ideas for growing gesneriads outdoors.

Hope you enjoy **Gleanings**. Mel Grice, Editor



Photo on the left courtesy of Beverley Donsworth



Streptocarpus 'Harlequin Blue' has been chosen the 2010 Plant of the Year at the Royal Horticultural Society Chelsea Flower Show. Raised by Lynne Dibley of Dibleys Nurseries, North Wales, UK, "the flowers have yellow lower petals in striking contrast to the baby blue upper petals."

"This is the first year that the Plant of the Year competition has been run by the RHS. *Streptocarpus* 'Harlequin Blue' was on a shortlist of 20 new plants drawn up by top nursery people, breeders and plant experts."

Photo provided by Lynne Dibley



Beverley Donsworth from Sydney, Australia attended the 2010 Chelsea Flower Show and sent the following photos of *Streptocarpus* 'Harlequin Blue' and other displays created by Dibley's Nurseries.

(Dibley's Nurseries are only able to supply plants within the European Union)



2010 Chelsea Flower Show



Streptocarpus 'Hope'



Streptocarpus 'Frosty Diamond'



Streptocarpus 'Fleischle Roulette Azure' and
Streptocarpus 'Fleischle Roulette Cherry'



Beverly Donsworth also sent this photo taken in 2006 when she toured Dibley's glasshouses.

"Masses of flowers — was a sight to behold", she said.

Gesneriad Society 2010 Flower Show photos

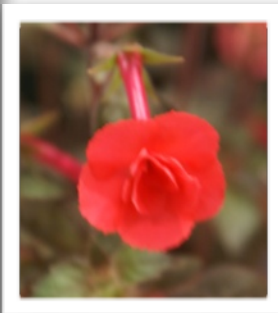
(Featuring some of the special plants exhibited but not awarded blue ribbons)

(Go to www.gesneriadsociety.org to view photos of the award winners in each class)



Pearcea schimpfii ABG 94-083 exhibited by Bill Price

Photos courtesy of Mel Grice
unless noted otherwise



Achimenes
'Stan's Delight'
exhibited by
Peter Shalit



Sinningia 'Deep Purple Dreaming'
exhibited by Beverley Williams
(photo courtesy of Dale Martens)



Kohleria (unknown) exhibited by Bill Price



Nautilocalyx glandulifer exhibited by Arleen Dewell



Underwater arrangement
— “Baby Beluga”
designed by Paul Kroll

Artistic arrangement
— “Quarry Garden”
designed by Mel Grice



Convention Musing

Karyn Cichocki <kdc05@ptd.net>
Lafayette, New Jersey, USA

I just finished potting up the plants that I bought at the Vancouver convention and while I was doing that I started thinking about the flower show, lectures, cruise, etc., that I experienced at convention.

I feel fortunate to have been able to attend the annual conventions since my first in Nashville, Tennessee in 1999. Attending these conventions has given me an opportunity to see parts of our continent that I probably would not have visited otherwise. I have been able to see cultural, historical, botanical and scenic sites, while doing some bird watching along the way. I have also enjoyed going to local nurseries to see what type of plants they have to offer.

I cannot say enough about the importance of attending convention. Many of the plants that have been in the shows, I have only seen in pictures prior to attending the conventions. It is great to see them in person. This gives you a better understanding of their cultural needs. Attending convention and being exposed to more of the plants from this huge plant family improves my judging skills. I also find it very educational to either judge or clerk on teams that consist of people from around the world who have different experiences in growing plants in their areas. This also improves your judging skills.

When you talk to Gesneriad Society members from all around the world, you learn about the plants that they grow, how they grow them, and successes and failures they have experienced. This education is priceless. Highlights of my convention experience this year included meeting Iain James, the hybridizer of the Kohleria and Sinningia 'Peridots' series, Ruth Coulson from Australia, who sends Gesneriphiles many wonderful pictures of the gesneriads she grows, and Kenji Hirose from Japan, who also posts on Gesneriphiles. It is great to meet the people whose posts you have been reading on Gesneriphiles or who you have been trading plant material with. What other opportunity would you have to do this than at a convention?

And last but not least, plant sales – where else can you find such a variety of plants in one place? Many people do not have a convenient way to get plant material and this is a great opportunity to get new species and hybrids and that old favorite that you can't find anywhere else. When I first walk into the plant sales room at convention, for a split second I come to a stop when I try to decide where I want to go first. If I am flying I think about how am I going to get these plants home, and then I think about where am I going to put them all!

So plan that family vacation to coincide with the convention next year in Philadelphia. What better opportunity is there that will allow you to see some of our country's great historical and cultural sites as well as take in a great convention? If you can't make the convention next year, there is always Seattle, Washington in 2012.



Ruth Coulson listening to judges' critique
(John T. Carter photo)

Adapted and reprinted with permission (original post on Gesneriphiles Internet Discussion Group.)

Growing Gesneriads Outdoors

A compilation of postings found on Gesneriphiles Internet Discussion Group. (Used by permission)
Visit the Gesneriphiles website for instructions about joining the list: <http://lists.ibiblio.org/mailman/listinfo/gesneriphiles>>



Karyn Cichocki from Lafayette, New Jersey, USA wrote the following –

“I usually plant two containers with an assortment of gesneriads. This year I used mostly Sinningias and Kohlerias. This photo features the pot that has *Sinningia brasiliensis* in it. This year there are four stems and they are going to have more flowers on them than they did last year. Although the flower is green, it is interesting and I would recommend it for our southern growers for their outdoor gardens.”

Daniel Steele from Columbus, Ohio, USA wrote the following –

“I bought one of those hanging plastic bags at a nursery. It had 10 slots for plants. Popped in some *Episcia* 'Silver Skies' x *Episcia* 'Tiger Stripe' seedlings and hung it on the west side of the house. Gets no direct sun and has been out since mid-May.

Some of the leaves are almost as big as my hand! Tried one with Streps, but high winds pretty much ruined them.

May try one with either African violets (in a shaded area) or Streptocarpellas next year.”





Sinningia 'Amizade' exhibited by Arleen Dewell, Vancouver 2010

From the editor —

The fall shows will soon be here and I can't visit all of them. Please continue sending photos and articles. If you have suggestions, comments, or items for possible inclusion in future issues, please feel free to contact me at

editor.gleanings@gesneriadsociety.org

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The Gesneriad Society Membership Secretary, Bob Clark,
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WELCOME – membership in our international society includes quarterly issues of *GESNERIADS – 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 Chapters, Flower Shows, Publications, Research, Slide Programs and Seed Fund. Membership begins upon receipt of dues.

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