



Gleanings

a monthly newsletter from The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

(articles and photos selected from chapter newsletters, our journal *Gesneriads*, and original sources)

Volume 9, Number 9

September 2018

Welcome to the latest issue of **Gleanings**! This issue includes Julie Thompson's article about the CNE Exhibition in Canada, photos of Molly Schneider's gesneriads grown outside in Nashville, and coming events for fall.

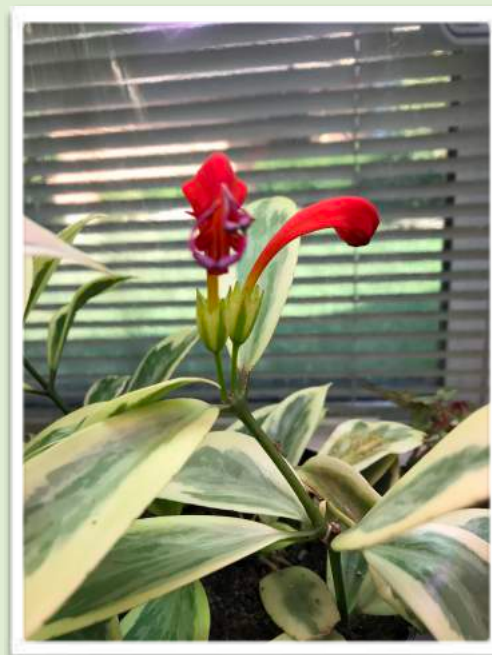
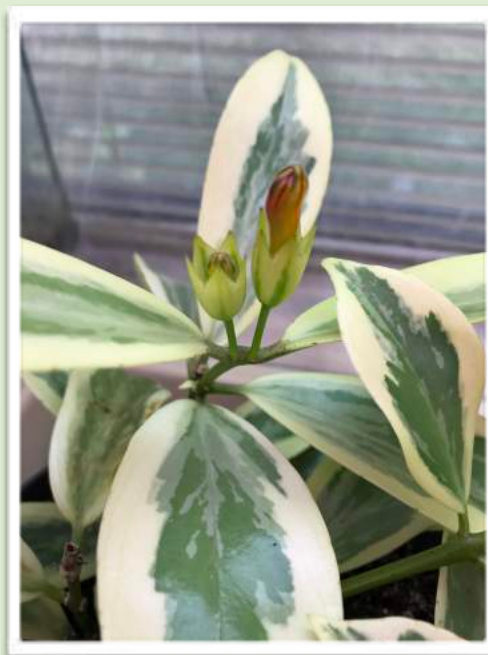
Hope you enjoy **Gleanings**!

Mel Grice, Editor

Aeschynanthus sp. 'Thailand' in the two photos on the right has finally bloomed for me. I eagerly checked the emerging blooms each day and was rewarded with the two colorful blossoms you see in the photos. I tried to pollinate it but was unsuccessful in my attempts. I grow it on a small light stand (24 inches wide) under two T-12 tubes. It also receives some natural light from the outside that is filtered by blinds.

I received a cutting of this beautiful plant from Bill Price several years ago. Thanks Bill!

Mel



The Canadian National Exhibition African Violet and Gesneriad Show 2018

Julie Thompson

One of the horticulture shows held at the Canadian National Exhibition each year at the end of August is the African Violet and Gesneriad Show. The shows are held in the Direct Energy building and run for three days each. The CNE is open for about two weeks which means there are several different horticultural shows.

This year's show was the result of seven exhibitors. Those who participated were members from our local clubs. The members who participated were Beverley Williams, Bruce Williams, Brett Flewelling, Alta Kotova, Emma Bygott, Julie Thompson and Julie Forbes. Liz Porquet from the Lakeshore African Violet Society came to help us with the set up.

The tables and risers are already in place when we arrive and the rest of the show set up is up to us to do. We confirm which part of the space is allotted to our show as there is another show happening at the same time. Doing all the work ourselves is a bit different than what most of us are used to with our local shows as at the CNE we take care of our own plant entries and place them in their classes ourselves. It is a great way to see what is involved in setting up a show and is fun at the same time. We each place our plants in their correct classes and then the staging begins. Staging is done to ensure the plants are spaced



nicely and evenly and also do any subdividing as needed. Bev and Brett did that very nicely. It doesn't take that long to transform empty white tables into a beautiful display. Once it's all done, we can take a step back, breathe, and enjoy the wonderful array of plants and colours that greet the eye.

The exhibitors are given a pass that allows us to park for free and enter the show. We are also given entry cards, which we write up ourselves, and do as many as possible before we arrive as there isn't a lot of time to get the show set up and ready for judging. We pay \$1.00 for each entry but the prizes make it worthwhile. We each email Doris Brownlie our entries list a few days before the show, noting which entries are to receive large or small flags, so she can write them up for us and give a nice uniform touch to the display.

After the show is set up and all the boxes stowed under the tables, we can see what a lovely display we have prepared for the public to see. This year we didn't have Doris with us, but in spite of that we still had an impressive show with 108 entries! There were 117 plants actually on the table, but there were some collections, which is a group of three plants and counts as one entry. There were 67 African Violets (35 standards, 32 in the semis and minis section) and 41 "other gesneriad" entries. This show is a bit different than our society shows in that the show schedule has three sections in it, with the standards in one section, the semis and minis in another section and the other gesneriads makes the third section. The appearance is the same as our society shows.

The judging can be done as soon as we've got the show set up. Doris organizes who will judge. This year Paul Kroll and Judy Niemira judged the show for us, and they handled the task very well and in good time. Because it is a horticulture show, the judging is done by the competitive method. This method of judging has one first, one second, and one third ribbon in each class. Honourable mentions can also be awarded at the judges' discretion. Honourable mentions are typically awarded to an exhibit that was outstanding but didn't win one of the three top ribbons in its class. There are five rosettes that are also awarded. There are three Best in Show, one for the standards section, one for the semis and minis section, and one for the other gesneriads section. The other two rosettes are Judges Choice with one being awarded to an exhibit in the African violets overall, and the other is awarded to an exhibit in the other gesneriads section.



Saintpaulia 'Wild Irish Rose' - Alla Kotova

We aren't allowed to be in the show area while the judging is going on, so we wait off to the side, anxious to learn who and what won the top awards. It's always exciting to see who won the rosettes.

This year the top awards were won by four exhibitors. The Best in Show in standards was Saintpaulia 'Wild Irish Rose' by Alla Kotova. The semis and minis Best in Show was Saintpaulia 'Rob's Sticky Wicket' exhibited by Brett Flewelling. The other gesneriads Best in Show



Saintpaulia 'Rob's Sticky Wicket'
Brett Flewelling



Saintpaulia 'Morgan's Chutney Popcorn'
Bev Williams

was won by *Primulina linearifolia* that was entered by Brett Flewelling. The Judges Choice in the African violets overall was given to Saintpaulia 'Morgan's Chutney Popcorn' exhibited by Bev Williams. The Judges Choice in the other gesneriads was awarded to *Aeschynanthus lobbianus* exhibited by Julie Forbes.

We are privileged to have permission every year to set up an educational and sales table during the three days of the show. We greatly appreciate the opportunity and make sure we let them know. We get the table set up while the judging is going on with literature about plant care, our local clubs, our spring shows, and the parent societies. It's truly a great feeling to be able to answer questions and share our knowledge on how to grow these wonderful plants. Many were just admiring the plants but in spite of that we made \$180.75 for the African Violet Society of Canada.

The CNE is a wonderful venue for a show that allows us to educate the public about African violets and other gesneriads, and share our love and passion for this diverse family of plants!

All photos by Julie Thompson



Primulina linearifolia
Brett Flewelling



CNE Exhibition

Aeschynanthus lobbianus
Julie Forbes

Julie Thompson photo

Growing Gesneriads Outside in Nashville, Tennessee

Molly Schneider



All photos by Molly Schneider



Achimenes



Sinningias





More photos from Molly's patio.

Sinningias and *Nematanthus* grow well outside.



All photos by Molly Schneider

2019 Calendar

The Gesneriad Society full-color calendar is now available. It is full of pictures of award winning entries from the 2017 convention flower show. Individual calendars are \$17 and are available from the Gesneriad Society web store – <https://the-gesneriad-society.myshopify.com/>.

Gesneriads 2019



Coming Events

September 28-29, 2018 – Kansas City, MO. Flower Show & Plant Sale

Heart of America Gesneriad and Mid-America Begonia Society
Loose Park Garden Center Building, 5200 Pennsylvania Ave., Kansas City, MO
September 28: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. PLANT SALE ONLY open during show judging
September 29: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Show and Sale open
Contact: sagro@mac.com 913-638-5097

September 29, 2018 – Wilmington, DE. Flower Show & Plant Sale

Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society
Delaware Center for Horticulture, 1810 North DuPont Street, Wilmington, DE
September 29: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Show and Sale open
Primulina workshop, pre-registration and fee required – click to **register**:
Contact: schaeffermary@yahoo.com website: www.davgs.org

October 7, 2018 – Morristown, NJ. Exhibit & Plant Sale

Frelinghuysen Arboretum Gesneriad Society
Haggerty Education Building, 353 E. Hanover Ave., Morristown, NJ
October 7: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Contact: kdc05@ptd.net

October 13-14, 2018 – Tampa, FL. USF Fall Plant Sale

Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society will be joining other vendors at the USF
University of South Florida, 12210 USF Pine Drive, Tampa, FL
October 13: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
October 14: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Contact: kates@tampabay.rr.com
<http://www.gesneriadsociety.org/tampa-bay-gesneriad-society/>



2019 Gesneriad Society
Convention in Cincinnati, OH.
July 1 -6, 2019
Save these dates! More
information to follow in later
issues.

Contact:
melsgrice@earthlink.net



From the editor —

The fall shows are beginning as you can see by the coming events page. Please take photos for me at those shows that I cannot attend in person.

If you have suggestions, comments, or items for possible inclusion in future issues, please feel free to contact me at melsgrice@earthlink.net

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Donations

The Gesneriad Society, Inc. is a tax-exempt organization with an IRS section 501 (c)(3) status for donations. You can make your donations online at www.gesneriadsociety.org. You may also send your donation (check payable to The Gesneriad Society) to:
 Betsy Gottshall, Development Chairperson
 108 Godshall Road, Collegeville, PA 19426
 For additional information, contact: gottshb@verizon.net

Membership and Changes of Address

The Gesneriad Society Membership Secretary, Bob Clark,
 1122 East Pike Street, PMB 637, Seattle, WA 98122-3916 USA

Changes of Address — Send changes of address to the Membership Secretary <membership@gesneriadsociety.org> 90 days prior to moving to avoid missing an issue. The Society is not responsible for replacing issues missed because of late notification of address changes. Back issues may be ordered from The Gesneriad Society Publications.

Renewals — Send dues to the Membership Secretary. A Renewal Notice is sent two months prior to the expiration date of your membership. (The expiration date is printed on your mailing label/membership card received with each copy of *Gesneriads*.) Please remit your dues prior to the expiration date to avoid missing an issue as we are not responsible for replacing issues missed because of late payment of dues. Back issues may be ordered from Publications.

Application for Membership — *The Gesneriad Society, Inc.*

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, programs and seed fund. Membership begins upon receipt of dues.

New Member Date _____

Renewal Membership # _____

Name _____
FAMILY NAME GIVEN NAME MIDDLE INITIAL

Address _____
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_____ CITY STATE ZIP CODE COUNTRY

Email _____ Telephone _____

(Rates in US\$)	Mailing in US 1 year	Mailing in US 3 years	Mailing outside US 1 year	Mailing outside US 3 years
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25	\$70	\$30	\$85
<input type="checkbox"/> Household	\$26	\$73	\$31	\$88
<input type="checkbox"/> Journal Subscription <small>(organizations, chapters, affiliates)</small>	\$25	\$70	\$30	\$85
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Life	Mailing in USA \$375		Mailing outside USA \$450	
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Option	Electronic journal copy (no print copy) for Individual or Household Members \$20 (one year), \$55 (three years) anywhere in the world			

I wish to make a tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

Elvin McDonald Research Endowment Fund Nellie D. Sleeth Scholarship Endowment Fund

Frances Batcheller Endowment Fund Students and Speakers Convention Fund Conservation Fund

In Honor Memory of _____

Please make checks or money orders payable in US\$ on a USA bank to: **The Gesneriad Society**

Or, charge my VISA, or MasterCard

Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature _____ Amount _____

Mail to: **The Gesneriad Society Membership Secretary, Bob Clark,**
 1122 East Pike St., PMB 637, Seattle, WA 98122-3916 USA

For application online: www.gesneriadsociety.org