

# Gleanings

a monthly newsletter from The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

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

Volume 10, Number 1

January 2019

Welcome to the latest issue of **Gleanings**! This issue includes photos of gesneriads at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Dale Martens' article on convention fun, information about a new webinar, and 2019 convention information.

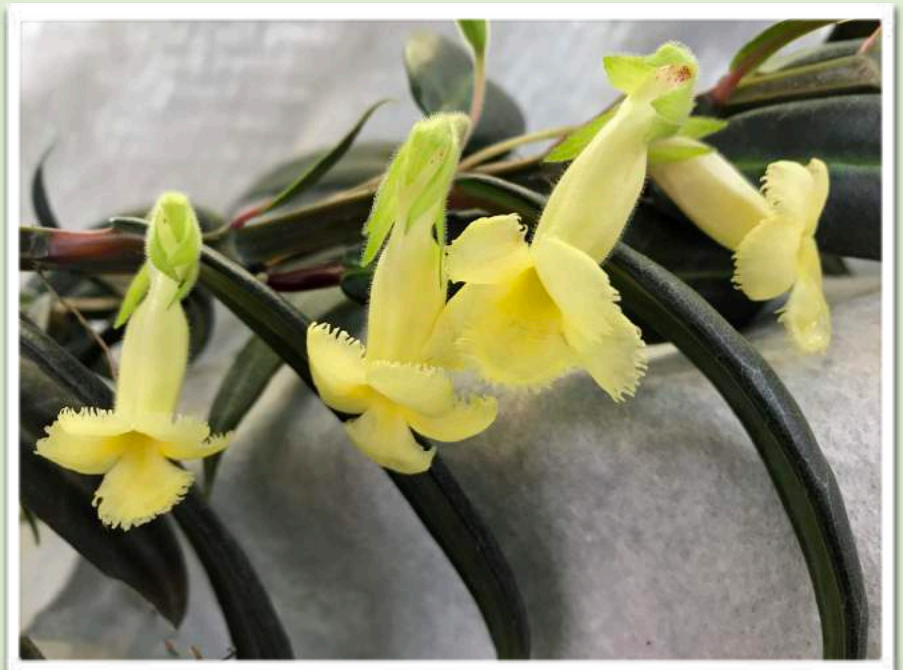
Hope you enjoy **Gleanings**!

**Mel Grice**, Editor

*Drymonia decora* is blooming at my house. I have been watching six buds forming along one stem. They surprised me by opening up all at once to make quite a show. The plant is growing under two T8 tubes and is covered by a tall dome for extra humidity. Hope that they decide to bloom again for the Cincinnati Convention show this coming July!

Mel Grice

Mel Grice photo





# A Visit to Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

<https://selby.org>



*Drymonia pendula*



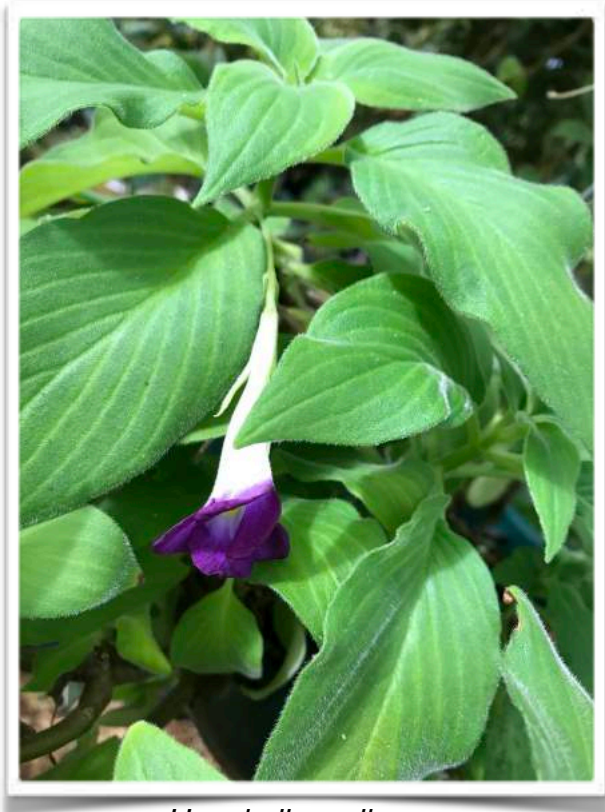
*Drymonia turrialvae*



*Drymonia alloplectoides*

Mel Grice photos





*Henckelia walkerae*



*Cobananthus calochlamys*



*Seemannia purpurascens*



*Gesneria celsioides*

Mel Grice photos





Thanks to Jay Sespico and Jeanne Katzenstein for making this visit possible.



*Alsobia baroniae*

Mel Grice photos

“Tips for Growing Show Plants” is the newest webinar by The Gesneriad Society. See great photos while hearing Brandon Erikson and Dale Martens discuss fertilizing, lighting, grooming, disbudding and transplanting gesneriads such as: African violets, *Streptocarpus*, *Sinningia*, *Primulina*, *Petrocosmea*, *Episcia*, *Achimenes*, *Smithiantha*, and *Kohleria*. Order this 52-minute presentation for the price of a reference book that you download into your computer.

The Gesneriad Society  
**TIPS ON GROWING SHOW PLANTS**

with  
*Brandon Erikson*  
 and  
*Dale Martens*

© 2018 - The Gesneriad Society, Inc., Brandon Erikson, and Dale Martens

Even if you don't grow for show, you'll see and hear tips for successful growing.

With spring time shows and conventions in a few months, this is timely to show you (or your local AV or Gesneriad chapter) how to get your plants ready for show.

<https://the-gesneriad-society.myshopify.com/collections/frontpage/products/webinar-tips-on-growing-show-plants>

The Webinar Team



# Convention Fun!

Dale Martens

<dalemartens@mchsi.com>

Sherrard, Illinois, USA

I'd like you to understand what's so exciting about attending the Gesneriad Society's conventions, so I'm telling the story in photos from past conventions. They're a sampling of what to expect if you've never attended before. Many use these conventions as an annual vacation since each year's convention is in a different city, and there are so many places to explore. In order to determine the best day to arrive, look first at the "Convention Program" because it lists what activities are scheduled each day.



Ben Paternoster and Mel Grice (left) enjoyed Butchart Gardens in Victoria, BC, Canada. The society schedules amazing bus trips, often to botanical gardens. This year we have pre-convention trips, one on Monday and another on Tuesday. The tour bus ride is great because I'm able to sit with friends and catch up on the latest with them. If I sit with someone I don't know, then I make a new friend and learn what and how they grow gesneriads. The Opening Dinner is held that Tuesday evening along with a Conservation Meeting and Program.

Here I am with Vivian Liu and Dolly Yeh who attended from Taiwan. If you are on Facebook or e-mail chat with other growers, attending convention provides the opportunity to see them in person.



Wednesday evening is the Gesneriad Hybridizers Association (GHA) meeting and everyone is invited. I lead that program and there's a speaker followed by a free raffle. See the happy faces in the audience of a past meeting!



Photos by author unless noted otherwise





This is what a judging school looks like. Consider signing up for the novice judging school to learn how the judges point-score entries. It will help you grow better, too! If you are entering a plant, craft, or photo, the Show Entry Form must be turned in by 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Wednesday focuses on judges training and sessions. Photo: Peter Shalit



Thursday is a very busy day! If you have entries, you'll be guided through the process by a team of helpful people. This photo shows Nancy Kast and her entries with Bill Price assisting her.

Photos by author unless noted otherwise

The convention features lectures by accomplished gesneriad growers plus mini-presentations and poster displays by students who are studying gesneriads. This photo shows Laura Clavijo presenting a program on gesneriads in Colombia. Photo: Stephen Maciejewski







The highlight of Thursday evening is the grand opening of the Plant Sales Room. Entry into the room is based on your registration number, so register today if you haven't already! The tables are set up to feature individual genera, as seen in this photo of the achimenes table showing plants and rhizomes for sale. The sales room also has a large selection of the Society's Seed Fund packets. Photo: Peter Shalit

In the meantime, for my newly purchased plants I'm covering the soil with paper towel and tape that I brought from home. Then I put each into a plastic bag.



Friday features the Silent Auction that includes books, journals and live plants. Friday's main activity is the judging of the show. When the show first opens to the public, there will be ribbons on the tables, but no one knows the top awards until the evening Flower Show Awards Banquet. Meals are a fun way to enjoy the company of other gesneriad growers!







Early Saturday morning only photographers are allowed in the show room for about an hour. That's followed by Arleen Dewell's flower show judges critique. A fun activity is the luncheon and live auction where you will probably see show plants up for bid. After the show ends, there's a closing dinner where we share convention experiences and give our goodbye hugs. Be sure to take plenty of photos of the show!



This article appeared originally in GESNERIADS Vol. 68, No. 2, Second Quarter 2018, Peter Shalit, editor. Read other interesting articles like this about gesneriads by becoming a member of The Gesneriad Society and receiving our quarterly 64-page journal.



# The 63rd Annual Convention of The Gesneriad Society July 1 to July 6, 2019

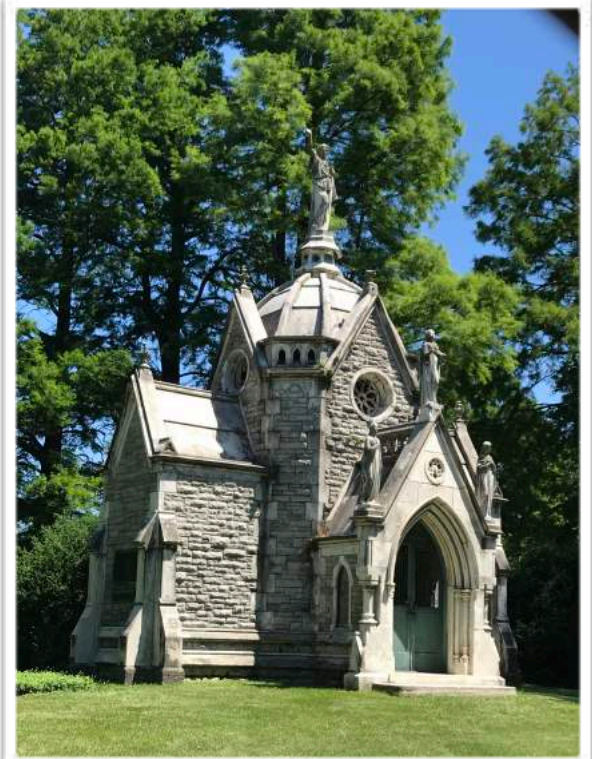
**Online Registration Now Open**



On **Monday, July 1**, we will board our air-conditioned bus for a morning tour of the 733 acres of towering trees, 15 lakes, and 44 miles of roadways that are found in Spring Grove Cemetery and Arboretum. Spring Grove is currently a level 3 Arboretum and working on becoming a level 4 (the highest level). A local horticulturist will describe the 28 Ohio State Champion Trees and over 1200 labeled plants found there. Along with the renowned distinction of being the second largest cemetery in the United States, Spring Grove Cemetery is also proud of its designation as a National Historic Landmark. Spring Grove is one of only seven cemeteries to hold this national honor. Forty-one Civil War Generals are buried on its grounds. Established as a non-profit cemetery in 1845, this is NOT your typical cemetery. The beautiful landscape was designed by the internationally renowned landscape architect Adolph Strauch. No headstones are found here. Strauch encouraged families to purchase large plots of land and to erect one grand monument on each plot. There are Gothic cathedrals, Greek temples, and other interesting buildings, each with a beautiful view made for photography.



This is only the morning part of the Monday tour. See [convention trips](#) for more information about other tours offered.



Mel Grice photos





**From the editor —**

Looking forward to seeing you all in July 2019 at the 63rd Annual Gesneriad Society Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio! I have registered and so have many others.

If you have suggestions, comments, or items for possible inclusion in future issues, please feel free to contact me at [melsgrice@gmail.com](mailto:melsgrice@gmail.com)

Mel

Consultants Alcie Maxwell  
Judy Zinni  
Vicki Ferguson  
Mary Jo Modica

Internet Julie Mavity-Hudson  
Communications Paul Susi

Newsletter Mel Grice  
Editor 2019 Crosswind Ct.  
Englewood, OH  
45322 USA  
[melsgrice@gmail.com](mailto:melsgrice@gmail.com)

Permission to reprint from **Gleanings** is granted, provided that credit is given to the author and the publication.

**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](http://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](mailto: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 \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET

\_\_\_\_\_ 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"/> <b>Individual</b>	\$25	\$70	\$30	\$85
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Household</b>	\$26	\$73	\$31	\$88
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Journal Subscription</b> <small>(organizations, chapters, affiliates)</small>	\$25	\$70	\$30	\$85
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Individual Life</b>	Mailing in USA \$375		Mailing outside USA \$450	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Green Option</b>	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](http://www.gesneriadsociety.org)