



# Gleanings

a monthly newsletter from The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

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

Volume 2, Number 7

July 2011

Welcome to the latest issue of **Gleanings**! This issue includes photos from the 55th Annual Gesneriad Society Convention in Philadelphia hosted by the Liberty Bell Chapter and Conservation Conversations.

Hope you enjoy **Gleanings**!

Mel Grice, Editor

Betty Cessna, who lives in Pennsylvania, created a beautiful new hybrid she named *Streptocarpus* 'Liberty Belle' in honor of the convention in Philadelphia. Dale Martens contributed rooted leaves to the GHA raffle and to the Saturday auction.



*Streptocarpus* 'Liberty Belle'



Philadelphia truly loves interesting and unusual gesneriads!

See some of them beginning on the next page.

# Gesneriad Society 2011 Flower Show photos

Some of the special plants exhibited but not awarded class or special awards.

(Go to [www.gesneriadsociety.org](http://www.gesneriadsociety.org) to view photos of the award winners in each class)

*Nautilocalyx* species  
exhibited by Paul Kroll



\**Chirita* 'Destiny' exhibited by Nancy Kast

\*Note that recent publications will require name changes for the genus *Chirita*. The Chinese species of section *Gibbosaccus* will become species of *Primulina*.



*Streptocarpus johannis* exhibited by Bob Stewart



*Sinningia* 'John Fyfe'  
exhibited and hybridized by  
Dave Zaitlin



*Sinningia speciosa* var. "Serra da Vista"  
exhibited by Dave Zaitlin



*Sinningia araneosa* exhibited by  
Margaret Cass



*Gesneria celsioides* grown by Nancy Kast.  
According to her educational card — "This  
pretty little yellow flowered plant is endemic  
to Cuba and the Caribbean area. I grow this  
plant under cover on the light stand, in my  
regular African Violet soil with sponge rock  
in the bottom of the pot. It does go through  
dry spells in the wild, but the roots extend  
into limestone crevices to keep the plant  
from drying out completely."

*Drymonia microphylla* on the right exhibited by Nancy Kast. She says, "The species is endemic to eastern Panama, known only from the region of Cerro Jefe. This species appears to retain or revert to its juvenile form in cultivation. The leaves remain small and it flowers rarely. It is easy to grow and I hope to see the light yellow, hirsute flower in the future."



Photos courtesy of Mel Grice



*Sinningia* 'Prudence Risley' exhibited by Nancy Bruhns



*Kohleria* 'Peridots Rolo' exhibited by Gail Gray



*Achimenes* 'India' exhibited by Ben Paternoster



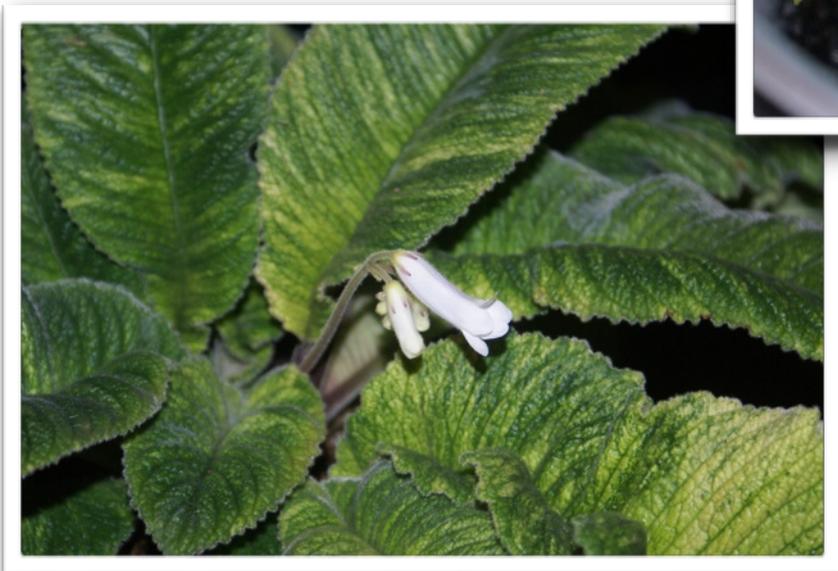


*Achimenes* 'Glory' exhibited by Eileen McGrath



*Petrocosmea* 'Keystone's Angora' exhibited by Tim Tuttle (cross between *P. forrestii* and *P. duclouxii*)

*Phinaea pulchella* on the right exhibited by Nancy Kast — "This rare rhizomatous species is endemic to the Caribbean Islands of Cuba and Haiti. It is easy to grow and has a beautiful little white flower that lasts only a few hours. It grows in wet areas where you find small clumps of vegetation near dry limestone."



*Streptocarpus candidus* 'Wahroonga' on the left exhibited by Paul Kroll rarely blooms. The blossom opened the day after judging was completed.



"Punxsutawney Phil" created by Barbara Festenstein



"Chinatown" created by Julie Thompson



"Boathouse Row" created by Jay Sespico



Photograph of *Chirita ronganensis* taken in China by Stephen Maciejewski



Pastel painting of *Columnea rubriacuta* from a photo taken in Ecuador by exhibitor Carol Ann Bonner



Tray landscape created by Karyn Cichocki



Natural Garden created by Tim Tuttle

## Conservation conversations...

The Conservation Meeting at convention could not take place as scheduled. However, a group of conventioners gathered at the appointed time to informally discuss their ideas for gesneriad conservation. Ingrid Lindskog kept track of folks' suggestions and is interested in hearing more. If you have ideas about how The Gesneriad Society and its members can further the cause of gesneriad conservation, please contact Ingrid. (The following comments were posted on Gesneriphiles internet discussion group and reprinted with permission of the authors.)

"Unfortunately, the conservation training that was scheduled for the recent Gesneriad Society convention in Philadelphia could not happen. Since a room was already booked, those of us interested met there to share hopes, fears and ideas. The little room was filled to capacity and I became some sort of leader for the conversations that I found to be pleasant and inspiring. Particularly the cooperation with a group in China.

My appointment was due solely to my response being the first when the news of the cancelled training was published. For now, I was also appointed collector of all conversation regarding the subject of conservation. Send all your propositions and concerns to my e-mail [ingrid.lindskog@telia.com](mailto:ingrid.lindskog@telia.com). Let us make sure that the subject is on the agenda next year in Seattle!" – *Ingrid Lindskog*

"After my trip to Ecuador in 2007, I would say that almost all the gesneriads that grow in that country as well as other plants and animals that live in the rainforest are threatened. I saw huge areas of rainforest that had been cut down and were being used to graze cattle or plant bananas. The natives have to survive and are doing whatever they can to do so." – *Karyn Cichocki*

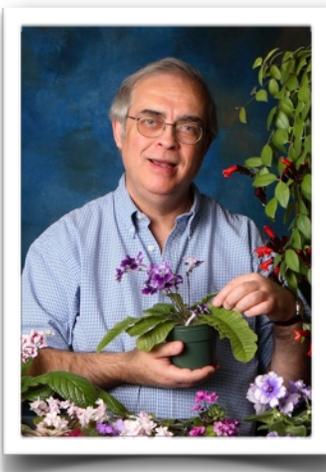
"Many of the Asian gesneriads, particularly those in China, are found only as a tiny population in a small area. The Chinese botanists consider that many of them are threatened with extinction in the near future.

In Central and South America, as more of the rainforest is cleared for agricultural use, we are losing habitat and species that may not have even been discovered and described.

Having gesneriads on a CITES list is a double edged sword. It could prevent collection for legitimate botanical study and conservation, while the local population is still free to destroy the area. As they say, Be careful what you wish for". – *Carolyn Ripps*

### Did you know? —

The electronic version of our journal, GESNERIADS Vol. 61, No. 3, Third Quarter 2011, available to members as a downloadable PDF has 12 additional pages of photos and articles that do not appear in the 56 page printed version of the journal. Another reason to become a member of The Gesneriad Society!



**From the editor –**

Thanks to the Liberty Bell Chapter and all of those who worked to make the Philadelphia Convention such a wonderful experience! Look for more photos in the next issue.

See more Convention photos on the Society's website – [www.gesneriadsociety.org](http://www.gesneriadsociety.org).

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](mailto:editor.gleanings@gesneriadsociety.org).

*Mel*

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**Membership and Changes of Address**

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**Changes of Address** — Send changes of address to the Membership Secretary [<membership@gesneriadsociety.org>](mailto: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 on the back cover 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, Slide Programs and Seed Fund. Membership begins upon receipt of dues.

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