



March 19, 2020

Gesneriad Friends,

We are currently living in unprecedented times, and some Gesneriad Society members have expressed concerns about our upcoming convention in St. Petersburg, Florida, scheduled to start in late June.

The Convention Committee and your Society officers have been monitoring the situation daily. Since our convention is still several months away, we encourage our members to register and make hotel reservations now, if they haven't already done so. We have extended the early-bird cutoff date to April 15 so that you will have more time to register at the discounted rates.

If we find that we must cancel the convention, or if you must cancel your registration for any reason, please understand that all registration costs will be refunded to you with no penalty. Hotel reservations can also be cancelled without penalty no later than two days before your planned arrival.

The Convention Committee has been in touch with the hotel, already suffering greatly with cancellations of rooms and activities that had been scheduled over the next few months. They are willing to work with us to possibly reschedule our convention to this fall or beyond in the event that we are not able to hold our convention this summer as planned. I am not saying this will happen but just that we are exploring possible options.

I will be in touch again regarding any changes as soon as any decisions are made... and am still very much hoping we can get together in St. Pete this summer for our annual family celebration of gesneriads!

**Mel Grice, President
The Gesneriad Society**