

The Gesneriad Society
2026 Annual Report to the Board

Awards of Appreciation

Date: February 20, 2026

Name: Molly Schneider

Position/committee: Chair Awards Appreciation

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Committee Members: Michael Riley, Elizabeth Varley , Julie Mavity-Hudson, Bob Clark

Back up person to chair: Elizabeth Varley

Current properties: AOA files from inception 1977. Gesneriad Society Embosser & seals used on all GS certificates...replacement value \$200.00

How my committee process works: The AOA committee requests all nominations to be turned in to the committee before the first of the year of the award. Beginning of each convention year the Chair contacts committee members by email & telephone to discuss possible Awards of Appreciation candidates. A list is compiled from suggestions from past years, committee, and Gesneriad Society members. Awardees are decided by the committee /no more than 3 a year. Standing rules state the criteria for selection. The candidates are contacted that they have been chosen for AOA and asked to fill in an AOA form giving us information to better present them with the award. At the Gesneriad Society Annual Membership meeting at convention the committee presents the AOA. The award is kept a secret until presented. AOA certificates personalized are given having been signed by GS president, secretary and AOA chair and embossed with the GS logo. All AOA are given life memberships, if not already life members! A report on the AOA awarded, including a short biography of recipients, is prepared to be printed in "Gesneriads". A complete list of Awards of Appreciation is kept up to date on Gesneriad Society website. The chair shall buy a gift for the outgoing president.

The job description/committee process is up to date: yes

Current Suppliers and Contact Information: none

Activities/accomplishments during past year (2025): An Award of Appreciation was presented at the 2025 Gesneriad Society Convention, during the Annual Membership meeting in Parsippany, New Jersey, to Yi-Gang Wei

The job description/committee process is up to date: yes

Green activities/possible actions: Communication between committee and award candidates via Email rather than expensive phone calls and US postage as we had done in the early years. Now also we have a Zoom committee meeting to discuss nominations and make the decisions together. The award certificates are done by computer each year, at minimal cost, before printed.

Future plans/goals: Continue as per Gesneriad Society standing rules and job description to find qualified Gesneriad Award of Appreciation candidates each year.

Last year's expenses (2025): Life member for 1 awardee international = \$450. Printing of certificate = \$12.00. Mailing to China = \$259.44. Total = \$721.44.

Proposed budget for next year (2027): Expenses: ??? life membership for awardees as needed = \$375 US, \$450 other ... printing, art supplies and postage = \$100. **Proposed budget:** \$1,000.

Income: none

Expected convention dates: June 28 - July 5, 2026