



Gleanings

a monthly newsletter from The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

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

Volume 17, Number 8

August 2026

This issue includes photos of gesneriads blooming now and
photos from the recent Gesneriad Society Convention
Flower Show in Chicagoland.

Hope you enjoy **Gleanings**!

Mel Grice, Editor



Sinningia 'Elvin's Diamond Jubilee' was
hybridized by Dale Martens and
introduced at the 2026 Convention
Flower Show to honor Elvin McDonald
who founded The Gesneriad Society.

Other photos from The Gesneriad
Society Flower Show begin on page 3.

All photos in this issue by Mel Grice
unless otherwise indicated



Blooming now...

Sinningia 'Apricot Bouquet'
Vicki Ferguson

Photos by the growers



Primulina dryas 'Pretty Turtle'
Erika Schroedersecker

Gesneriads at The Gesneriad Society Convention Flower Show 2026

A full display of prize-winning plants can also be seen on the main Gesneriad Society website, with information about class ribbons and other awards, at <https://gesneriadsociety.org/conventions/2026-convention-wheeling-illinois/2026-blue-ribbon-and-special-awards-entries/>.

Sinningia bullata 'Florianopolis'
x *S. eumorpha* 'Jacarezinho'
Dave Zaitlin



Sinningia speciosa 'Dale's Silver Lining'
Dale Martens



Primulina ophiopogoides
Jim Vlasic

All photos in this issue by
Mel Grice unless otherwise
indicated



Pearcea rhodotricha
David Turley



Kohleria 'Bud's Strawberry Shortcake'
Brandon Erikson

Saintpaulia 'Optimara Little Intermezzo'
Roy Roberts



Saintpaulia 'Zhemchuzhnyi Vastorg'
Karyn Cichocki



Primulina hybrid & species collection
Linda Hall



Sinningia 'Fu's Pink Sweety'
Lan Wu



Streptocarpus 'Dale's Wee Wasp'
Dale Martens

In celebration of **The Gesneriad Society's 75th Anniversary**, a special, one-year **Diamond Tier** donation level is being recognized. There are limited magnets left for donors at this level. The magnet is a beautiful commemoration of the Anniversary year and would be a great gift for any gesneriad enthusiast! This initiative honors our founder, Elvin McDonald, while directly supporting one of the Society's most active endowments, which funds multiple researchers each year exploring the world of gesneriads.

A donation of **\$75 per person**, made by December 31, 2026, qualifies donors as Diamond Tier members, includes a **Gesneriad Society 75th Anniversary magnet**, and recognition in the journal of The Gesneriad Society, *Gesneriads*. We invite you to join us in honoring our founder and advancing gesneriad research during this milestone year.

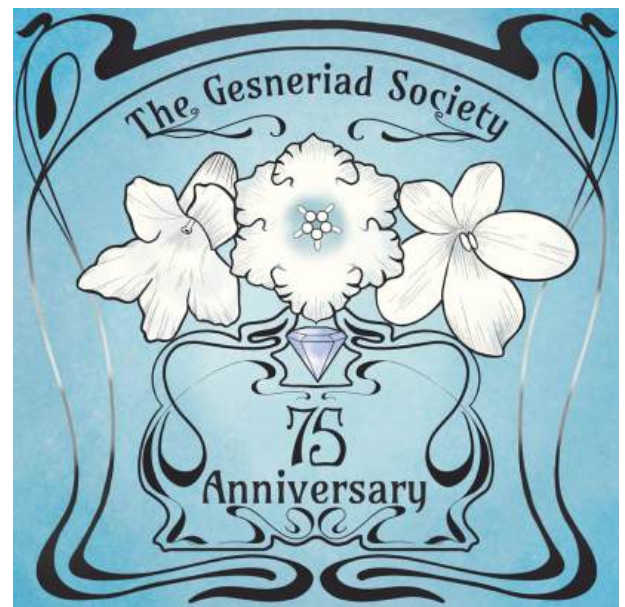
Diamond Tier donation link:

<https://shop.gesneriadsociety.org/products/75th-anniversary-donation>

Questions? Please contact me!

Thank you for your generosity,

Colleen Turley
Development Committee Chairperson
gesneriaddevelopment@fastmail.fm



Coming Events

September 19-20, 2026 — Boylston, MA
Flower Show & Plant Sale

New England Chapter of The Gesneriad Society combined with Buxton Branch American Begonia Society

New England Botanical Garden at Tower Hill, 11 French Drive, Boylston, MA

Show and sale is free but there is admission to the New England Botanical Garden

Adults \$22, Seniors \$19, Children (4-12) \$12 (age 3 and under free), Dogs \$8

Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm

Sunday: 10 am. to 4 pm

Contact: Phyllis Savage phyllis.savage@verizon.net

**THE STERLING RURITAN & THE
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA CHAPTER
OF THE GESNERIAD SOCIETY**



Gesneriad Show & Sale

African Violets, Streptocarpus, Episcia,
Asian Violets, Tropicals, Succulents,
Bromeliads and more!!

Native Plant Sale

Shop from locally grown plants to start
or add to your native outdoor garden!

SEPTEMBER 12: 10AM - 4PM

STERLING RURITAN CLUB - 183 Ruritan Road - Sterling, VA 20164

**We invite you to learn more about
gesneriaceae and native plants.**

**Guest speakers throughout the
day!**

**Plants for Sale
Concessions for Sale**

About The Gesneriad Society

The Gesneriad Society is an international
not-for-profit corporation dedicated to
the study, growing and enjoyment
of the gesneriaceae.

About The Sterling Ruritan Club

Celebrating 75 years helping neighbors
and friends through Fellowship, Goodwill
& Community Service to the Sterling and
Loudoun County communities!

Come & Find Your Favorites!



BLUE-EYED GRASS



PRIMULINA



OBEDIENT PLANT



AFRICAN VIOLET

📞 **703-444-6039** 🌐 SterlingRuritan@gmail.com

🌐 PetalTones@gmail.com

NOTE - the gesneriad show will be open from 10-3. (Outdoor plant sales ends
at 4 PM, as stated in the flier)

Contact Jill Fischer jill.g.fischer71@gmail.com for more information



From the editor —

I am still trying to recover from the wonderful convention! Please keep your submissions coming so I can share with others.

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

Mel

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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.gesneriads.org. You may also send your donation (check payable to The Gesneriad Society) to:

Colleen Turley
8404 West Harrison Court, Fredericksburg, VA 22407 USA
For additional information, contact: [<colleenturley@pobox.com>](mailto:colleenturley@pobox.com)

Membership and Changes of Address

The Gesneriad Society Membership Secretary, Bob Clark,
1211 East Denny Way, #28B, Seattle, WA 98122-2516 USA

Changes of Address — Send changes of address to the Membership Secretary [<gesneriadsocietymembership@gmail.com>](mailto:gesneriadsocietymembership@gmail.com) 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 _____
Chapter Affiliation (list only one) _____

(Rates in US\$)	Mailing in US 1 year	Mailing in US 3 years	Mailing outside US 1 year	Mailing outside US 3 years
☐ Individual	\$25	\$70	\$30	\$85
☐ Household	\$26	\$73	\$31	\$88
☐ Journal Subscription (organizations, chapters, affiliates)	\$25	\$70	\$30	\$85
☐ Individual Life	Mailing in USA \$375		Mailing outside USA \$450	
☐ 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 ☐ _____ servation 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,**
1211 East Denny Way, #28B, Seattle, WA 98122-2516 USA

For application online: www.gesneriads.org