

GloxNews

The publication of the Greater New York Gesneriad Society

Volume 57, Number 6 – February 2022

<http://www.greaternygesneriad.org>

<http://www.gesneriadsociety.org>

Saturday, February 19, 2022

11am-2pm at the LGBT Community Center, 208 West 13th Street, New York

The 2021 Gesneriad Society Virtual Convention

a review with Paul Susi

This month's meeting is going to be something very special. Paul Susi, a long-time member of our chapter now living in California and a former president of the Gesneriad Society, will host a discussion of selected entries (both horticultural and artistic) in the 2021 Gesneriad Society Virtual Flower Show. Last year's convention received over 300 entries from all over the world, with amazing photographs of beautifully grown plants in our favorite family. He has lined up a number of special guests who will talk about their entries. We expect to have auditors dropping in from Toronto, Long Island, and other places. This should be another fantastic meeting, not to be missed! See you then.



Above, *Sinningia nordestina*; top right, *Aeschynanthus humilis*; center, *Nematanthus crassifolius* 'Carangola' (purple form) -- all from Carolyn Ripps. Right bottom, *Sinningia helleri*, from Tsuh Yang Chen.

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GLOX NEWS is the official publication of the Greater New York Gesneriad Society, a chapter of **The Gesneriad Society** (formerly AGGS). It is published monthly, except July and August. GNYC annual dues are \$30 for individuals, platinum memberships are \$40, and family memberships are \$60. Send dues and address changes to the Membership Chair. Article submissions should be emailed to the Editor.

Dues for the Gesneriad Society are separate from the NYC chapter dues. Membership to the Gesneriad Society includes subscription to GESNERIADS, the society's journal. For more information, visit gesneriadsociety.org.

NOTE TO EDITORS

Usage of material from the GLOX NEWS is permitted with the provision that credit is given to the publication and the original author and that no editing is done without permission from the original author.

PRINTING SCHEDULE AND DEADLINE INFORMATION

The deadline for submissions to the GLOX NEWS is the Saturday two weeks before the chapter meeting. Electronic submissions are encouraged and can be emailed to piabinha@yahoo.com.

President's Message – January 2022

It's become a GNYGS tradition to hold one program each spring devoted to the previous year's Gesneriad Society Convention Flower Show winners. In the past, we've eagerly awaited the Society's official release of the top exhibits' photos, and *ooh'ed* and *ahh'ed* as they are presented at a monthly meeting.

This year, thanks to GNYGS Vice President and Programs chair Gary Vellenzer, we're in for a very special Convention Flower Show presentation. The 2021 Virtual Flower Show Coordinator (and former longtime member of GNYGS) Paul Susi will join us via Zoom to show us the "best of the best" from last year's virtual Convention. Paul has promised to bring along some special guests, and the winners themselves are guaranteed to impress.

If you're a member of the Gesneriad Society (and if you aren't, you really ought to join!), you've likely already received the latest copy of *Gesneriads* journal and with it, all the details about the 2022 Convention in Tacoma, WA. If all goes as planned, this will be the first in-person Convention since 2019, and you can tell that the organizers are excited to welcome attendees from around the world.

If you are able to attend, this year's Convention promises to be one for the ages. Between plant sales, the live auction, sightseeing trips, educational seminars (including one from Sadie Barber, who presented at GNYGS a few years ago), and the flower show, there's so much to see and to learn.

If you can't make the trip, though, you can trust that GNYGS will bring the Convention winners to you at a future meeting.

Hope to see you on the 19th. Remember to bring your donations to the plant sales table, as well as your entries for the Little Show.

Megan

Do You Grow These *Petrocosmea* Species? by Beverley Williams

(reprinted from the *Toronto African Violet and Gesneriad Society Newsletter*, December 2021; Gillian Smith, Editor)

Do any of these *Petrocosmea* seem familiar? *Petrocosmea* names are very much confused. Over the past few years a number of species have been identified and renamed.



left: *Petrocosmea rotundifolia* (grown and photographed by Beverley Williams)

Many growers have been growing this *Petrocosmea* as *Petrocosmea minor* for several years. It was first introduced into cultivation from China in the 1990's where it grows on limestone rock faces in Yunnan. Recently it has been correctly identified and has been renamed. It is now called *Petrocosmea rotundifolia*.

Right: *Petrocosmea minor* (grown and photographed by Qiu Zhi-Jing)

This is the true *Petrocosmea minor* which was recently exhibited at the virtual Gesneriad Society Show in July 2021 by Qiu Zhi-Jing. It has also been known as *Petrocosmea menglianensis* and *Petrocosmea "yumebutai"*.



Left: *Petrocosmea cryptica* (grown by Nancy Ley; photographed by Ron Myhr)



Petrocosmea cryptica. This species has distinctively shiny leaves with a bumpy (bullate) texture. It has had a bit of tortuous taxonomic history, having been grown for years as *Petrocosmea rosettifolia* and *Petrocosmea G25KCOO*.

Right: *Petrocosmea glabristoma* (grown and photographed by Men-Qi Han)

Petrocosmea glabristoma has long been widely grown as *Petrocosmea barbata*. It has some floral variation, especially in the degree of lavender shading in the flower. Flowers vary in size and can be either pale lavender or white. In all cases there are two yellow splotches in the throat.



Do You Grow These Petrocosmea Species? (continued)



Left: *Petrocosmea yanshanensis*
(grown and photographed by Ray
Drew)



Right: *Petrocosmea yanshanensis*
(grown and photographed by
Beverley Williams)

The form of this species shown here was originally introduced as *Petrocosmea duclouxii* (image on the right) in the late 1990s, and has also been grown as *Petrocosmea grandiflora*, *Petrocosmea thermopunctata* and *Petrocosmea floribunda*. It has limited distribution in the wild, growing primarily in cracks in rocky limestone cliffs in southeastern Yunnan, China, at around 2000m. Han Meng-Qi, a botanical researcher in China who has published extensively on *Petrocosmea*, has identified plants on the GRW previously posted as *Petrocosmea duclouxii* and *Petrocosmea grandiflora* as actually ***Petrocosmea yanshanensis***. While there are differences among the three plants on the GRW site, Mr. Yan notes that these are within the normal variation seen within the populations of the species.



Left: *Petrocosmea ×longianthera* (grown and photographed by
Hung Nguyen)

Petrocosmea ×longianthera is a natural hybrid described formally in 2011. There is some uncertainty about this identification. Introduced into cultivation by Jim Roberts in 2011, who found it on a trip to China. It was originally distributed as *Petrocosmea* JR 2011 sp. 'A', and later as *Petrocosmea coerulea*.

Petrocosmea chiwui was previously distributed as *Petrocosmea iodoides*.
[grower and photographer unknown]



Do You Grow These Petrocosmea Species? (continued)



Left: *Petrocosmea chrysotricha* (grown by Nancy Carr; photographed by Ron Myhr)

This species has long been grown as *Petrocosmea begoniifolia*, but a recent paper has shown that the plant in cultivation is in fact ***Petrocosmea chrysotricha***.

Are you confused yet? As more species are found, more questions are being asked as to what the correct name is. Keep your renaming/labeling materials handy as I am sure that there will be more name changes as more of this genus's species becomes known and are identified correctly. I would like to acknowledge the work of Ron Myhr in consultation with Chinese botanists and growers

for his help in changing the names, information, and pictures on the Gesneriad Reference Web (<https://gesneriads.info/genus/petrocosmea/?ref-cat=species>).

SUMMARY OF PETROCOSMEA NAME CHANGES

As of October 2021 (Subject to Change)

Former or Previous Name	Correct Name
<i>Petrocosmea</i> JR 2011 sp. 'A' <i>Petrocosmea coerulea</i>	<i>Petrocosmea ×longianthera</i>
<i>Petrocosmea iodoides</i>	<i>Petrocosmea chiwui</i>
<i>Petrocosmea begoniifolia</i>	<i>Petrocosmea chrysotricha</i>
<i>Petrocosmea</i> species G25KCOO <i>Petrocosmea rosettifolia</i>	<i>Petrocosmea cryptica</i>
<i>Petrocosmea barbata</i>	<i>Petrocosmea glabristoma</i>
<i>Petrocosmea menglianensis</i> <i>Petrocosmea "yumebutai"</i>	<i>Petrocosmea minor</i>
<i>Petrocosmea minor</i> <i>Petrocosmea</i> 'Chinese No. 5'	<i>Petrocosmea rotundifolia</i>
<i>Petrocosmea duclouxii</i> <i>Petrocosmea floribunda</i> <i>Petrocosmea grandiflora</i> <i>Petrocosmea thermopunctata</i>	<i>Petrocosmea yanshanensis</i>

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Greater New York Gesneriad Society

36 Crooke Avenue #F7
Brooklyn, NY 11226-1149

Attention: Next Meeting:
February 19, 11am-2pm
(see first page)

Bulletin Board

Please contribute to *GloxNews* Members, please send articles, photos, questions, requests for plants/information and other submissions to your editor at piabinha@yahoo.com. Deadline is always two weeks before meeting date. Got suggestions, cultural questions or any requests for plants or supplies? Send them along as well. We also need photographers to take pictures at the meetings. Please see your editor at the meeting to volunteer.

Reminder Please check our society's FB page with more regular updates (including recent photos of members' plants and of our meetings) at: <https://www.facebook.com/NYGesneriad>. Please remember to send photos of your plants to your editor at piabinha@yahoo.com to be posted there. (You don't have to join FB to view our photos or posts.)

Gleanings *Gleanings* is a free monthly e-newsletter from The Gesneriad Society and includes articles and photos selected from chapter newsletters, the journal *Gesneriads*, and original sources. You can subscribe via email or download them from this page: <http://www.gesneriadsociety.org/current-gleanings>.

Membership Application – The Greater New York Gesneriad Society

I would like to ____join or, ____renew my membership.

Annual Dues: \$30 - Individual \$40 - Individual Platinum (plant sale priority)
\$45 - Family \$60 - Family Platinum

Please make check payable to **GNYGS** and mail to:
Brigitte Lifschitz, Membership Secretary
222 West 83rd Street, # 7C
New York, NY 10024

Or via Paypal (with credit card) at:
<http://www.greaternygesneriad.org/join-us>

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or email _____ (via email is faster)