

BYLAWS
National Capital Area Chapter
Of
The Gesneriad Society, Inc.
(Revised April, 2008)

Article I. Name and Purpose

Section 1. Name. This nonprofit organization shall be known as the National Capital Area Chapter of The Gesneriad Society, Inc.

Section 2. Purpose. The purpose of the Chapter shall be to afford a convenient and beneficial association of persons interested in gesneriads; to stimulate a widespread interest in the identification, correct nomenclature, culture, and propagation of gesneriads; and to encourage the origination and introduction of new cultivars.

Article II. Membership and Dues

Section 1. Eligibility. All persons interested in gesneriads shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Classes of Membership. There shall be three classes of membership: Individual, Family, and Honorary. A Family Membership shall cover two people residing in the same household who shall be entitled to two votes but shall receive only one copy of the Chapter newsletter. Honorary memberships, with full membership rights, may be granted upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and vote of approval by the membership.

Section 3. Dues. Annual dues for each class of membership, payable in advance for the calendar year, shall be recommended by the Board of Directors and voted on by the membership. Membership shall terminate if dues are not paid by March 1. Dues shall be prorated for new members who join after June 1.

Section 4. National Membership of Members. All members of the Chapter should become members of the parent organization, The Gesneriad Society, within one year after joining the Chapter.

Section 5. National Membership of Officers. All officers of the Chapter must be members in good standing of the parent organization.

Article III. Government

Section 1. Elected Officers. The elected officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two or three Directors, each being a different person. The officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Chapter. The officers shall hold office for two years or until their successors are elected. No officer, other than the treasurer, shall be eligible for more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 2. Board of Directors. The Chapter shall have a Board of Directors consisting of the elected officers and the chairmen of the standing committees.

Section 3. Standing Committees. The standing committees, whose two-year terms shall correspond to the terms of the elected officers, shall be Hospitality, Membership, Publications, Program, Propagation, and Ways and Means. Additional standing committees may be appointed by the President when necessary.

Section 4. Special Committees. Special committees to perform specific tasks shall be appointed by the President.

Article IV. Elections

Section 1. Officers. Officers shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast at the December membership meeting of the election year and shall take office at the close of the December meeting.

Section 2. Nominating Committee. The President shall appoint a chairman of the Nominating Committee in October of the election year and the Board of Directors shall appoint two additional members. At least one of these members should be selected from outside the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of officers to be published in the December issue of Petal Tones. Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the December meeting with the consent of the nominees.

Section 3. Vacancies. The Board of Directors, at a scheduled Board meeting, shall fill any vacancy among the officers for the unexpired term of office.

Article V. Duties of Officers, Board of Directors, and Committees

Section 1. President. The President shall act as general executive officer of the Chapter and shall preside at all meetings of the membership and the Board of Directors; shall appoint the chairmen of all committees; shall be ex-officio a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; and shall keep informed of all work of the Chapter and report thereon to the membership.

Section 2. Vice-President. The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President.

Section 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings; prepare official correspondence; and compile, maintain, and have custody of the Chapter's historical records. The Secretary shall file with the Recording Secretary of the parent organization a copy of the Chapter's bylaws and all subsequent amendments; the names and addresses of all Chapter members, and of all new members; and the names and addresses of all Chapter officers immediately following their election.

Section 4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipts and deposits of all monies of the Chapter and shall make authorized disbursements to cover the expenses of the Chapter. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all monies that are received or disbursed and shall render financial reports when required.

Section 5. Directors. The Directors shall serve in an advisory capacity, shall serve as committee

chairmen, and shall perform other duties requested by the President.

Section 6. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall plan Chapter activities, shall make recommendations for action to the membership, and shall transact Chapter business between regular membership meetings. The Board shall be subject to the orders of the Chapter and none of its acts shall be in conflict with actions of the Chapter.

Section 7. Hospitality Committee. This committee shall make arrangements for refreshments at the membership meetings.

Section 8. Membership Committee. This committee shall handle membership applications, collect dues, introduce new members and guests, provide name tags, and compile an annual roster of officers and members.

Section 9. Publications Committee. The chairman of this committee shall be the Editor of the Chapter's newsletter, Petal Tones, and shall be responsible for editing and publishing Petal Tones in accordance with the policies of the President.

Section 10. Program Committee. This committee shall schedule and prepare interesting and stimulating programs for the regular membership meetings.

Section 11. Propagation Committee. This committee shall propagate gesneriads and have them available for distribution to the members.

Section 12. Ways and Means Committee. This committee shall be responsible for fund-raising, including the sale of plants and supplies at Chapter meetings.

Article VI. Meetings

Section 1. Membership. Membership meetings shall be held monthly, September through May, unless otherwise ordered by the Chapter or the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Board of Directors. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at the call of the President at least four times a year.

Section 3. Quorum. A quorum shall be those present at a scheduled meeting.

Article VII. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Chapter may adopt. The bylaws of this Chapter shall not conflict with applicable bylaws of The Gesneriad Society.

Article VIII. Amendments

Proposed amendments to these bylaws may be adopted at any membership meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that written notice of such proposed amendments shall have been given to the membership prior to the meeting.