

# SG & AC Chat

*Look what's up!!!*

## 61st ANNUAL BEGONIA SHOW



**SAT: SEPT 12 th**  
2 pm - 8 pm  
**SUN: SEPT 13th**  
10 am - 4 pm

- Judged Show and Plant Sale
  - Talks and Education Display
  - Sunday Tea at 1 pm to thank the public for its support.
- See story page 4

If you have any other question please email Paul at this address [tsamtsis@jps.net](mailto:tsamtsis@jps.net).

## California Native Plant Sale

**SAT: SEPT 19th**  
from 9 am-3 pm

For more information on a wide variety of activities, please check out our website: [www.SacValleyCNPS.org](http://www.SacValleyCNPS.org)



**DELTA GESNERIAD & AFRICAN VIOLET SHOW**  
**SAT & SUN**  
**SEPT 26th & 27th**  
Page 5 for full details

URL: [www.sacviolets.org](http://www.sacviolets.org)

## SG & AC FALL SALE -

- Books •Plants
- Treasures •Food

**SAT & SUN:**  
**OCT 17th - 18th**  
10 am - 5 pm



## CAPITOL CITY BONSAI SHOW & SALE

**SAT & SUN:**  
**OCT 24th - 25th**

- SHOW
- SALE
- DEMOS 1:30 pm (both days)
- WORKSHOPS



See page 2 for details



## CAMELLIA CITY PORCELAIN ARTS SHOW

**SAT & SUN:**  
**OCT 10th & 11th**

3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816 - Phone: 264-8800 - email: [mlotz@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:mlotz@cityofsacramento.org)



## Capitol City Bonsai Show:

*Please join us for a fun educational annual event!*

**Saturday: October 24th** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Sunday: October 25th** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Demonstrations at 1:30 p.m. on both days

Participating Capital City Clubs include:

- American Bonsai, • Bonsai Sekiyu Kai,
- Sacramento Bonsai • Satsuki Aikokai

Call for adult or child mini-workshop sign-ups:  
 Gary Judd 916- 630-1340

**Door & Raffle Prizes**  
**Mini-Workshops**  
**Free Admission & Parking**



MO.	S A T	S U N	EVENTS & SHOWS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
SEPT	12	13	BEGONIA 61st ANNUAL SHOW
SEPT	19		CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SALE
SEPT	26	27	DELTA GESNERIAD & AFRICAN VIOLET SHOW
OCT	10	11	CAMELLIA CITY PORCELAIN ARTS SHOW
OCT	17	18	SG & AC FALL SALE
OCT	24	25	CAPITAL CITY BONSAI SHOW
NOV	7	8	SACRAMENTO CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW
NOV	14	15	SACRAMENTO CENTER TEXTILE ARTS SHOW
DEC	5		FLORAL DESIGN GUILD TEA

## There's a New Editor in the Wings!

My first edition as Editor of the *SG & AC Chat.* was in August of 2007 so last issue marked the end of a two-year stint. Putting the newsletter together has been fun and it has been a pleasure getting to know many of you personally. Please join me in welcoming newly elected SG & AC Director, Mary Lou Brennan, [marylou2008@att.net](mailto:marylou2008@att.net) who will begin as *SG & AC Chat.* Editor with the Nov/Dec issue. Please support her by emailing her articles, photos, and general information she can use in the newsletter to promote your club events  
 Thanks!

Kathleen [koandh@surewest.net](mailto:koandh@surewest.net)

## Annual Meeting Tidbits:

Since official minutes are kept and Club Representatives in attendance are expected to snag the highlights to report to their respective clubs, I didn't take a lot of notes on July 11th.

Here's some of what I noticed:

- Attendees were provided options and then surveyed to see what they envisioned for future SG & AC Fall Sales. Mark your calendar for October 17th & 18th.
- The Board's accomplishments of the last year were listed to include getting the deadwood trimmed from the patio tree and the center's floors replaced.
- Ed Schroeder provided the Treasurer's report which detailed our sound status.
- Genelle Dwyer provided an excellent overview of the SG & AC test website. For more information you may reach Genelle at: [gwindwyer@juno.com](mailto:gwindwyer@juno.com)
- Elections took place. Ken Rothaus has been Acting President, filling a vacated seat that was abandon mid-term. Ken ran and was elected to his own two-year position as SG & AC Board President.

### The newly elected include:

**Mary Lou Brennan**, a retired Nurse who relocated to Sacramento from Southern California has joined the Board as a Director & Chat Editor.

**Paul Tsamtsis** who has an article in this issue of the Chat, and is on the National Board of Begonia Clubs was elected as Vice President.

**Genelle Dwyer** who has done so much good work on the SG & AC website and is a member of the Potter's Club was elected Recording Secretary.

**Roberta (Bobby) Frieze**, a native Sacramentan with the Perennial Plant Club, was also elected as a Director on the Board.

### The July 2009 - June 2010

#### SG & AC Officers and Directors are:

**President: Ken Rothaus**

**Vice President: Paul Tsamtsis**

**Treasurer: Ed Schroeder**

**Corresponding Secretary: Anne Fay**

**Recording Secretary: Genelle Dwyer**

**Directors are: Mary Lou Brennan,  
Alice Bowles, Roberta (Bobby) Frieze,  
MJ Kelly and Shelly Berlant**

## Special Events:

### American Bonsai Association:

**Tues: Sept 22nd 6:30 p.m.**

**Annual Bonsai Auction** Hundreds of Bonsai, Pots, Tools, Starter Trees, Accent Plants, Accessories, Suiseki Stones, and much More! Bonsai trees for everyone from Beginners to discriminating Collectors.



American Bonsai Association, Sacramento  
Proudly invites the public to our Annual

## Bonsai Auction

Bonsai trees for everyone, from beginners to discriminating collectors!  
Join us for this once a year chance to get great Bonsai and materials with your winning bid!



Hundreds of Bonsai,  
Pots, Tools, Starter Trees, Accent  
Plants, Accessories, Suiseki  
Viewing Stones, And Much More!

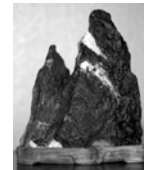
**Tuesday:  
Sept 22nd, 2009**

Preview begins at 6:00 p.m.  
Sales begins at 6:30 p.m.

Free Admission - Free Parking

New to Bonsai?...

Experienced club members will be  
on hand for free tips and advice.



The Auction will be held at:



Sacramento/Shepard  
Garden & Arts Center  
3330 McKinley Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
Contact?

### Fall Festival Sale: Sat Oct 17 & Sun Oct 18



## FALL FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 17 & 18, 2009

10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Shepard Garden and Arts  
Center - McKinley Park

- \* Plants for sale in time for Fall planting and gifting
- \* Wonderful hand-crafted items
- \* Decorations for Fall and Winter holidays
- \* Try our tasty Autumn Harvest gourmet treats!
- \* "Bargain Bonanza" - items for every budget

3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816 - Phone: 264-8800 - email: [mlotz@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:mlotz@cityofsacramento.org)

## Welcome to Begonia Country! Article by Paul Tsamtsis

People hear the word begonia and think many things: Grandma's angelwing, a fussy, hard-to-grow holdover from the Victorian era; or those big luscious blossoms you need to live on the coast to grow. Neither makes the average Sacramento gardener think of begonias as a possibility for them.

But that's not so. Hybridization took a few hundred species and turned them into sturdier, more beautiful hybrids that number in the thousands. Here in Sacramento there are begonias for every growing condition. There are landscape begonias for full sun. There are those that are cold hardy. They can be companion plants to the African Violets in the kitchen or grown under lights. And there are those that can be grown for eight or nine months on the patio and then spend the coldest part of winter in a well-lit room to brighten that sometimes dreary time of year.

Canes are the plants gardeners associate with someone's grandma. They are good garden candidates for container culture here. Different hybrids can vary in height from a foot or two to six or seven feet. They mostly bloom from June through fall, although there are some that are nearly everblooming.

Shrub types are similar to canes, but can successfully be used in the ground as a landscape plant. Unlike the shiny, smooth leaves of canes, this group's leaves can be hairy or velvety. The outsides of flowers can also have hairs of a contrasting color.

Thick-stems, as the name implies, are plants that grow with a thick stem that is covered in a bark-like material. This group is also drops lower leaves on their stems leaving a distinctive topknot of four or five leaves.

Semperflorens are the 'wax leaf' plants we find in six-paks at local nurseries. This group belies the shade plant classification given to begonias because they will perform spectacularly in full sun flower beds. But also in this group are hybrids that have double flowers, like little ½ inch roses. The only other group with double flowers are the tuberous types.

Tuberous begonias are more associated with the coast. They thrive in the cooler conditions and occasional fog baths that are part and parcel of the climate there. These beauties can have blossoms two to eight inches in diameter and are more of a challenge here.

Rhizomatous begonias make the best houseplants. Where all the previous groups have stems that grow upright with a noticeable space between the leaves, this group has stems that sprawl along the ground with no space between each leaf. This group has the greatest variety of leaf sizes and shapes. They can be as little as an inch in size to two feet in diameter. In shape they can be round, lobed, or be cut so deep as to look like individual palm fronds. The edges can be deeply crested so as to look like the leaf has fringe attached. Some have spiral curls, single or double. Foliage color in this group varies from light to dark green, or can be reddish, bronze, brown or nearly black.



B. 'Hot Stuff' is a rex hybrid whose color captures the allure of this begonia group.



B. *leathermaniae* is a cane-like species from the rainforests of Brazil.

The rex begonia is the colorful king of the family. It is actually separated out from rhizomatous types because of its colorful foliage and its ability to trace its heritage back to a single species that grows in the foothills of the Himalayas, a plant named *Begonia rex*. This group is also a good candidate as a houseplant.

The last group are trailing-scandents. It is made up of plants that in nature sprawl through trees searching for light. This group is good for hanging baskets or for training up trellises and sphagnum or orchid bark poles.

With this great variety of plant types to choose from, there is little reason that every gardener cannot have at least one begonia that gives them pride and pleasure when visitors marvel over its eye-catching color, beauty, and exoticness.

3330 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816 - Phone: 264-8800 - email: [mloetz@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:mloetz@cityofsacramento.org)

*Delta Gesneriad & African Violet Society's Annual Show & Plant Sale*  
*Sat. & Sun. September 26th & 27th*

**Show Details:**

- **Who:** Delta Gesneriad and African Violet Society
- **What:** African violet and gesneriad show & sale.
- **Where:** Shepard Garden & Arts Center  
3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento (in McKinley Park)
- **When:** Saturday, September 26th (1 pm - 4 pm)  
Sunday, September 27th (11 am - 3 pm)
- **Cost:** Free Parking and Admission
- **Contact:** Lynn Lombard
- **Phone:** 530-637-9000
- **Email:** [lynn\\_lombard@att.net](mailto:lynn_lombard@att.net)
- **URL:** [www.sacviolets.org](http://www.sacviolets.org)

The Delta Gesneriad and African Violet Society welcomes everyone to its annual show and plant sale. Gorgeous show plants and hundreds of sale plants, including streps, chiritas, and episcias will be on display and for sale.

African violets and their gesneriad cousins bring color and beauty to home interiors and outdoor living areas. They enjoy the same temperature range as we humans do, and just need bright, filtered light and even moisture to thrive.

Supplies and educational materials are available and members of the society will be on hand to answer questions and provide growing advice. Potting and propagation demonstrations will be ongoing throughout the weekend.

Hundreds of plants and leaves will be on sale at very reasonable prices. Rarely are these cultivars found in nurseries. Be there when the doors open for the best selection of new and vintage cultivars to add to your collection.

*All photos are the work of David Wyatt and are shown with his permission. The article was submitted by Lynn Lombard.*

