

THE PETAL

JANUARY 2019

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampaafricanviolets.com



WINTER LOVE

A Message from the President

Hello, Violet Friends,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope all of you enjoyed your Christmas and Hanukkah holidays with family and friends and are now ready to turn the page to a brand new year. As of now, the pages in 2019 are clear and uncluttered and we have no idea what will be thrown at us. But whatever we do encounter, the important thing is how we react to what comes our way. I pray that all of us will enter the New Year in good health and that we will be blessed with success in all our endeavors.

Doesn't seem possible that our show is just 8 weeks away! Our January and February meetings will focus on what we need to do to prepare for the show – from final weeks of plant grooming to the entries process. Although the show schedule was sent to all members by e-mail attachment, hard copies will be available at

Tampa African Violet Society, is an Affiliate of African Violet Society of America, Inc., Dixie African Violet Society, African Violet Council of Florida and The Gesneriad Society

the meetings. Hopefully all of you are growing plants for the show – that's what the show is all about and that's why people come to see the show. We also need entries in the design division – flower arrangements, plant arrangements, dish gardens, terrariums and natural gardens. If you've never entered a show before, now is the time to challenge yourself. If you have questions about any of your plants, don't hesitate to bring them to a meeting and we'll be glad to look them over and give you suggestions. If you'd like to do a design but have questions, please talk with me about what you have in mind. We're here to help! In the meantime, we'll be entering a display at the Florida State Fair which opens on Thursday, February 7, and runs through Monday, February 18. Our theme is the same theme as our show – DANCING WITH VIOLETS. We'll do our setup on Sunday, February 3, at 1 pm. It usually takes about 2 hours to set up the display. Then we'll go back on either Tuesday or Wednesday to add the plants.

HELP NEEDED! Members will be needed during the course of the Fair to greet the public at our booth to answer questions, talk about violets, pass out literature, and in general be a good-will ambassador for the Club. You'll also

have time to look around and check out all the amazing activities at the Fair. Entry tickets for free admission to the Fair will be available for those who help.

Mary Lou Harden, Club President

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE OF MEETING DATE FOR JULY:

The July 2019 Night meeting is July 11 – NOT the 4th

NIGHT MEETING – January 3rd, 2019 at 7 PM
Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603

Inspirational: Cece Lane

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE PLANTS:
Cece Lane, Mary Kay Ross and Elaine Onofrey

THE PROGRAM:

**“Final Show Preparations
And Completing Entry sheets”**
To be Presented by Angela Newell

DAY MEETING – January 18th, 2019 at 10 AM
Public Meeting Room
Seffner-Mango Library
410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584

Inspirational: Jim Matula

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE PLANTS:
Lynn Bandy, Jim Matula and Jim Boyer

THE PROGRAM:

“Got Questions??”
Everything you need to know about the show entries process

To be presented by Jim Boyer

“AFRICAN VIOLET BINGO”
To be presented by Cece Lane

RECENT PROGRAMS

NIGHT MEETING: December 6th, 2018

THE PROGRAM:

“Flower and Plant Arrangements”
Presented by Mary Lou Harden

DAY MEETING – December 14th, 2018

THE PROGRAM:

“How To Create Award-winning Container Gardens
Presented by Mary Lou Harden

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/6 Lucille Chester
1/13 Linda Baggett
1/14 Therese Lynam



Janice Jones- Plant City



Lynne Wilson is receiving treatment for a recently found lung tumor.

Therese Lynam had her second cataract surgery December 18th, 2018, and it was a success!

Lisa Villabol was involved in a car accident. She's ok, just a little shaken and sore. Having a hard time dealing with insurance companies.

Martha Morgan is being treated for a fracture at the base of her spine.

Terry Jordan spent several weeks in Marianna, FL, helping her daughter following the massive hurricane destruction.

To all our members feeling under the weather and battling serious illnesses. . . A warm hug and prayers for healing are coming your way.



Bonnie Smith's brother passed away on Friday, December 28.

COMING

EVENTS

February 7-18, 2019 – Florida State Fair, Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa

February 22-23, 2019 – Annual Show & Sale,



“Dancing With Violets,”

Tampa African Violet Society annual show and sale
Common Ground Christian Church, 4207 North Boulevard, Tampa FL 33603.
Mary Lou Harden, President
mlhard@verizon.net.
Information: Tampaafricanviolets.com

March 29-30, 2019 – Annual Show & Sale, Heart of Jacksonville AVS, Jacksonville, FL.
Sharon Gartner Gartner President:
svioletlady@yahoo.com, Information:
jacksonvilleviolets.org

May 26 – June 2, 2019



AVSA CONVENTION AND SHOW HOUSTON MARRIOTT

Put some *Violet Fun* in 2019!!

Plan now to attend the 73rd Convention

2019 National Show hosted by the Lonestar African Violet Council

Open to the public – Friday and Saturday, May 30 & June 1

Commercial Vendor Salesroom, with vendors from across the nation

Presentations, Tours, Food and Fun for All!

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Take a peek at the Houston Marriott
in the Galleria area

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/houwm-houston-marriott-westchase/>

October 2019 – DAVS Annual Convention & Show, Jacksonville, FL. Lynne Wilson, President

tpalynne@tampabay.rr.com. Information: DAVS.org

MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Evening Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2018
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Lou Harden at 7:05 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL: Mary Lou Harden

REFRESHMENTS: Everyone brought food to share

PROGRAM: Mary Lou demonstrated how to create flower and plant arrangements.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the November 1, 2018, meeting were approved as published.

ROLL CALL: Jean Krauchik

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. TAVS project plants are still available at \$3 each
2. TAVS 2019 show is February 22-23, with set-up on February 21. The show schedule will be available in December. All members should be growing plants to sell at our show.
3. Cece reminded everyone that awards are needed and are being accepted now.

NEW BUSINESS:

Members voted unanimously to send the charity donations to Trinity Café in Tampa.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

December Birthdays: Luetta Donalds, Maria Whidden, Celia Howe, Jim Boyer, Melody Burke, patsy monk, Elaine Onofrey, Carla Alter, Amanda Mendoza

Program for December 14 Day meeting –
Container Gardens by Mary Lou Harden

Program for January 3 Night meeting – Final
Show Preparations, Completing Entry Sheets,
by Angela Newell

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at
8:45 pm.

Mary Lou Harden, Secretary Pro Tem

**TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Day Meeting Minutes
December 14, 2018
Seffner-Mango Public Library
410 N Kingsway Rd, Seffner, FL**

The meeting was called to order by Vice
President Jim Boyer at 10:10 am followed by
the Pledge of Allegiance.

Refreshments: Christmas Brunch - All members
brought food to share.

**PROGRAM: Container Gardens, by Mary
Lou Harden**

Mary Lou demonstrated how she creates a dish
garden and encouraged all members to enter a
dish garden in our February show.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 16, 2018, day
meeting were approved as published in "The
Petal".

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Returning guest, Janice Jones, became
a member.

AVCF: The president reminded members that
the Council will join with Dixie AVS next
October for a jointly held show in Jacksonville.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The show schedule will be sent by email to all
members and copies will also be available at
January meetings. There was discussion

regarding our February show, "Dancing with
Violets" which will be held February 22-23,
2019, in Tampa. Jim reminded members that
we are in week 10 of the grooming schedule.

Florida State Fair. Members discussed ideas for
the display and Mary Lou will host a planning
meeting at her home between Christmas and
New Year's.

NEW BUSINESS:

Members voted unanimously to send their
Christmas donations to Trinity Café. Mary Lou
will inform Therese.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

December Birthdays: Luetta Donalds, Maria
Whidden, Celia Howe, Jim Boyer, Melody
Burke, patsy monk, Elaine Onofrey, Amanda
Mendoza, and Carla Alter.

January Day meeting – "Everything You Need
to Know About the Entries Process" by Jim
Boyer. Also, African Violet Bingo, by Cece
Lane.

January Night Meeting – "Final Show
Preparations and Completing Entry Sheets" by
Angela Newell.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned
at 11:45 am

Mary Lou Harden, Secretary Pro Tem

MEET THE MEMBER

Want to be the next member to be featured in
our newsletter???? Simply fill out a Biography
Interview Questions form or if you are so
inclined write up your own story. If you did not
get a form copy or want to submit your story
just email Lynn @ NYBLEB@aol.com.

RECIPE BOX



*This month's recipe submitted
by Lynn Bandy*

BEST HAM SANDWICHES

A GREAT recipe for finger (football) food!
SHARE this one it's a KEEPER!!!!

Ingredients:

- 2 -12 packages of sweet Hawaiian rolls (the small dinner roll looking ones)
- 1 1/2 lbs of Virginia ham (NOT honey ham)
- 12 slices Swiss cheese
- 1 stick of real butter
- 2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon Garlic Powder
- 1 teaspoon Onion Powder
- 1 teaspoon poppy seeds

Directions:

You will need two 9 x 13 pans. Place the bottoms of 12 rolls in each pan. Place ham (about 2 shaved slices or so) on the rolls. Cut the cheese slices into 4 parts and place 2 small pieces on each sandwich. Put the dinner roll tops on.

In a sauce pan, mix butter, Worcestershire sauce, onion powder, garlic powder and poppy seeds. Wait until all butter is melted and then brush the melted mixture over the ham sandwiches.

Cover with foil and let sit in fridge for 1 hour or overnight. (If you want to bake them right away, you can also.)

Preheat oven to 375 and bake for 15 minutes or until cheese is melted.

Serve. They are great hot and even at room temperature Enjoy!

AVSA Weekly Growing Tip

December 3rd, 2018



Cold winters are a part of life for many growers. Sometimes winter comes with dreaded power outages. What's happening to your violets when they get cold?

If the temperature in the growing area is colder than 65° F, cell division slows. The plant grows slower. Stems grow shorter. New leaves and flowers will be smaller than usual. Leaves may become cupped. Variegation becomes more extreme. The plant is less able to use fertilizer causing salts to accumulate and damage leaves. But, on the positive side, flower color often becomes more intense.

Below 50° F, there is no cell division. The more hours that temperatures remain so low, the more likely that violet plants will collapse and die. As you might guess, there is danger in shipping violets during cold winter temperatures.

Suggestions to Help Violets Survive the Cold:

Use a warming mat, especially for young violets which are more vulnerable.

Place violets on higher shelves in the room to take advantage of warm air rising.

Enclose violets inside clear domes where it's 3-4 degrees warmer than the open air.

Set timers to run fluorescent light at night when temperatures are the coolest. (This suggestion does not work with cool-running LED lights.)

Be prepared for power outages with blankets to wrap lighted shelves. Keep large plastic bags on hand to enclose violets normally grown on window sills.

Assemble a DIY Flower Pot Heat kit to have on hand for emergency heating. (It is wise to do a practice run with the kit to be sure it is working safely. Also, store the kit where it can be found quickly in the dark.)

Get your copy of the *African Violet Magazine* as a benefit of membership in the African Violet Society of America. **Join today!**

Anyone is welcome to sign up for this growing tip from the African Violet Society of America. Subscribers are not required to be members of AVSA. Please share it with your friends!
www.AVSA.org

Got Problems?

Any time you have a plant that has a problem and you can't identify the problem and would like some advice, bring the plant with you to a meeting and get some help. We can also help with repotting issues. Please be sure if you suspect insect/mite issues that you isolate the plant in a plastic bag

NEED SUPPLIES?

If you need supplies – pots, leaf support rings, perlite, vermiculite, soil, fertilizer, Marathon, charcoal, etc., please call or email Mary Lou Harden@ (813-689-8700 H 813-924-2686 C,) mlhard@verizon.net. Your order will be brought to the meeting.

HELP!!!!!! +

Mary Lou is looking for good articles, tips, professional quality pictures for the website. www.tampafricanviolets.com

Lynn Bandy is looking for interesting articles, member bios, and photos to publish in "The Petal". Submit these to: NYBLEB@AOL.COM

Become a MEMBER

WANT TO JOIN TAVS? Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Therese Lynam if you're interested in becoming a member:
THERESEJOAN@aol.com

Visit us at:

www.Tampafricanviolets.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Tampa African Violet Society

Kathy Glenn asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. kathybear555@gmail.com

Join us on Twitter:

[@AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets](https://twitter.com/AfricanViolets)

Glen has requested if anyone has photos they would like to share on our Twitter account to send them to him at shelgl@tampabay.rr.com

JOIN ONE OF OUR AFFILIATES

African Violet Society of America (AVSA). Subscription to the **African Violet Magazine** (6 issues per year) which includes AVSA membership, is \$35 per year. Send contact information and check payable to AVSA to: **AVSA Office, 2375 North Street, Beaumont, TX 77702.** www.AVSA.org

Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly color newsletter, **The Dixie News**, is \$15 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Johnnie Berry, Membership Chair, 287 Fennel Way, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.** johnniepearl@aol.com www.davs.org

African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly newsletter, **The Florida Connection**, is \$10 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Sharon Gartner, 1573 LaBaron Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207.** www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

Disclaimer: While the information and recommendations in this publication are believed to be correct and accurate, neither the authors or editor, nor the Tampa African Violet Society can accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. Tampa African Violet Society makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material herein.

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HEARTS AGLOW

A Message from the President

Hello, Violet Friends,

IT'S TIME!

Time to get serious. . .about our show! It's definitely too late now to do any repotting but there are a few things you can do to get your plants ready for show. According to our grooming schedule, here's what you should do between now and February 21:

3 Weeks Before Show January 27-February 2

Lightly brush foliage to remove dust and dirt
Wash foliage
Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves
Remove spent blossoms and stubs
Prepare entry sheets

2 Weeks Before ShowFebruary 3-9

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Check for suckers and spent blossoms
Brush foliage

1 Week Before ShowFebruary 10-16

Remove spent blossoms

Make sure plants are well watered

Week of Show February 17-20

Remove plants from light

Pack plants in prepared boxes

February 21-23, 2019SHOWTIME!

At our January night meeting in Tampa, Angela Newell gave an excellent step-by-step talk about the entries process and encouraging all members to have at least one entry in the show. Jim Boyer likewise did a great job at the day meeting in Seffner, explaining the process and emphasizing correct procedures in filling out the entries sheet. **USE PENCIL ONLY!**

If you have questions about plants or designs you hope to enter, please don't hesitate to contact me or Jim Boyer. We're here to help! We'll be setting up for the show on Thursday, February 21, beginning at 10 am. Tom Schaefer and David Matthews will be there to set up tables. After the room is set up, the tables will need to be covered, the focal point and education table set up, and the sales room

prepared. When the room has been readied, the entries process will begin.

DON'T FORGET: When you come for set-up and entries on Thursday, please bring food to share for lunch. . .and dinner. We need to make sure that our workers who sometimes have to stay late have some food!

We'll need members volunteering during the show – both Friday and Saturday. Help will be needed in the sales room as well as in the show room. When the public comes, we need good will ambassadors to greet them and answer any questions. If you signed up to help with one of the committees, please honor your commitment.

Election of officers will take place at our February meetings, at which time nominations may be made from the floor. TAVS has been blessed over the years by many members who have served selflessly and donated many hours of service to the club. I feel confident this tradition will continue.

Meantime, we'll be setting up our display at the Florida State Fair. More about this elsewhere in this newsletter.

Hope to see you at our night meeting on February 7 or our day meeting on February 15.

Mary Lou Harden, Club President

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE OF MEETING DATE FOR JULY:

The July 2019 Night meeting is July 11 – NOT the 4th

NIGHT MEETING –February 7th, 2019 at 7 PM

**Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603**

Inspirational: Steve Whidden

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE PLANTS:
Angela Newell, Steve Whidden and Therese Lynam

THE PROGRAM:

“Growing Tips”

To be Presented by Cece Lane

Election of Officers

DAY MEETING – February 15th, 2019 at 10 AM

Public Meeting Room

Seffner-Mango Library

410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584

Inspirational: Celia Howe

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE PLANTS:
Jim Boyer, Kathy Kessler and Celia Howe

THE PROGRAM:

“Final Preparation for Show”

Leaf cleaning, removing suckers, filling out entry forms

To be presented by Angelina Grundhoff

Election of Officers

RECENT PROGRAMS

NIGHT MEETING: January 3rd, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

**“Final Show Preparations
And Completing Entry sheets”**

Presented by Angela Newell

DAY MEETING – January 18th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“Got Questions??”

Everything you need to know about the show entries process

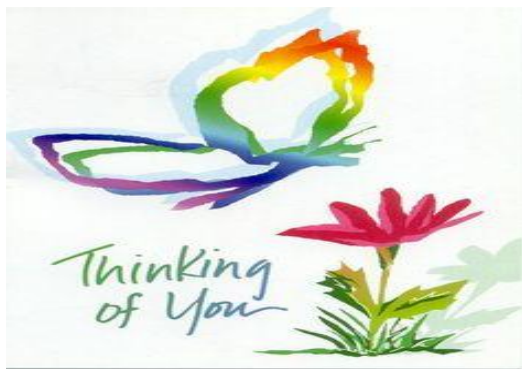
Presented by Jim Boyer

“AFRICAN VIOLET BINGO”

Presented by Cece Lane

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/8 Steve Whidden
2/11 Martha Morgan
2/20 Anita Adlin



To all our members feeling under the weather and battling serious illnesses. . . A warm hug and prayers for healing are coming your way.



LOVE IS

COMING

EVENTS



Florida State Fairgrounds
4800 U.S. Highway 301 North
Tampa, Florida 33610

FEBRUARY 7 - 18, 2019

TAVS is entering a display at the Florida State Fair which opens on Thursday, February 7, and runs through Monday, February 18. Our theme is the same theme as our show – DANCING WITH VIOLETS.

SETUP IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, AT 1 PM. It usually takes about 2 hours to set up the display. Come help us on Sunday! **Entry tickets for free admission to the Fair will be available for those who help with setup and throughout the course of the Fair.** Then we'll return on Tuesday, February 5, to add the plants and finish the display.

HELP NEEDED! Members will be needed during the course of the Fair to greet the public at our booth to answer questions, talk about violets, pass out literature, and in general be a good-will ambassador for the Club. You'll also have time to look around and check out all the amazing activities at the Fair.

February 22-23, 2019 – Annual Show & Sale,



“Dancing With Violets,”

Tampa African Violet Society annual show and sale
Common Ground Christian Church, 4207 North Boulevard, Tampa FL 33603.
Mary Lou Harden, President
mlhard@verizon.net.
Information: Tampaafricanviolets.com

March 29-30, 2019 – Annual Show & Sale,
Heart of Jacksonville AVS, Jacksonville, FL.
Sharon Gartner President:
svioletlady@yahoo.com, Information:
jacksonvilleviolets.org

May 26 – June 2, 2019



AVSA CONVENTION AND SHOW HOUSTON MARRIOTT

Put some *Violet Fun* in 2019!!

Plan now to attend the 73rd Convention
2019 National Show hosted by the Lonestar African Violet Council
Open to the public – Friday and Saturday, May 30 & June 1
Commercial Vendor Salesroom, with vendors from across the nation
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Come & Have Some *Violet Fun* in the Texas Sun!!

----- **By Plane, by Train or Automobile! – Two major Airports and Amtrak-----**

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www.visithouston.com

Take a peek at the Houston Marriott in the Galleria area
<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/hou-wm-houston-marriott-westchase/>

November 6-9, 2019 –

DAVS Annual Convention & Show,
Lexington Hotel and Conference Center-
Jacksonville Riverwalk, Jacksonville, Florida
32207. Lynne Wilson, President
tpalynne@tampabay.rr.com. Information:
DAVS.org

MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Evening Meeting Minutes January 3rd, 2019 4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL

The meeting was called to order at 7:04PM by President Mary Lou Harden, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

REFRESHMENTS: Refreshments were provided by Cece Lane.

PROGRAM: "Final Show Preparations and Completing Entry Sheets", presented by Angela Newell, along with some general guidance and suggestions on growing African Violets whether for show or just for their beauty.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes from the December 6, 2018, night meeting were approved as published in "The Petal".

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was not available to be presented.

ROLL CALL: Jean Krauchik

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DAVS – Lynne Wilson reported that the DAVS Annual Convention and Show will take place November 6-9, 2019, jointly with the AVCF at the Lexington Hotel and Conference Center - Jacksonville Riverwalk in Jacksonville, FL. (The AVCF will not hold its Annual Convention and Show in October for this year.) Lynne also stated that the DAVS annual dues are \$15.00 and are due in February of each year.

AVSA – Mary Lou Harden reported that the 2019 AVSA Annual Convention and Show will be held May 26-June 2, 2019, at the Houston Marriott Hotel in Houston, TX. Mary Lou also stated that the annual dues are \$35.00 for AVSA, which includes a bi-monthly subscription to the African Violet Magazine.

THE GESNERIAD SOCIETY – Mary Lou Harden reported that The Gesneriad Society

will hold its Annual Convention and Show July 2-4, 2019, in Cincinnati, OH. Mary Lou also stated that the annual dues to The Gesneriad Society are \$25.00.

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY – Mary Lou Harden reported that the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society holds monthly meetings in Tampa on the 3rd Saturday of each month at a location close by to where the TAVS night meetings are held. Mary Lou also stated that their annual dues are \$10.00.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Florida State Fair

Mary Lou Harden brought up for discussion the matter of the upcoming Florida State Fair and how TAVS's booth should be set up with the theme of "Dancing with Violets". Mary Lou also stated that the Florida State Fair will no longer be judging booths, but instead will increase the stipend given to exhibitors from \$250 to \$350.

Mary Lou Harden reported that the time for the TAVS booth set-up will be Sunday, February 3, 2019 at 1:00PM, and that we should be finished setting up the booth by 3:00PM.

Mary Lou Harden reported that the time to bring plants in to the booth for decorating the booth will be on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 10:00AM.

Mary Lou Harden requested that members sign up to volunteer to help set up the booth or for booth coverage during the Florida State Fair. A sign-up sheet was passed around for volunteering and Mary Lou will also be putting a sign-up sheet online for members to sign-up for booth set-up and coverage.

Mary Lou Harden stated that the plants will need to be ordered from Optimara for the TAVS booth at the Florida State Fair and that Therese Lynam will handle ordering the plants.

TAVS Annual Show

Mary Lou Harden reported that the TAVS 2019 Annual Show will be held February 22-23, 2019 at Common Ground Christian Church. Set-up

for the Show will be on Thursday, February 21, 2019. Mary Lou stated that she will get with Tom Schaefer as to what time he wants to set-up for the Show on Thursday, February 21st, and she will then advise members of the set-up time. Mary Lou stated that volunteers will be needed for set-up of the Show on Thursday, February 21st, coverage of the Show on Friday, February 22nd and Saturday, February 23rd, as well as break-down of the Show on Saturday, February 22nd.

Mary Lou Harden also reported that entries for the Show will take place from 2:30PM until 7:30PM on Thursday, February 21st. Show workers can bring their entries at 1:30PM on Thursday, February 21st. Mary Lou requested that club members bring a covered dish on Thursday, February 21st in order to have food for the Show workers and the judges on Friday, February 22 and Saturday, February 23rd. Mary Lou also stated that the club will purchase bottled water to provide for Show workers and for the Show judges.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported that the January 18, 2019 day meeting program will be on "Everything You Need to Know About the Entries Process", to be presented by Jim Boyer. She also stated that after Jim Boyer's presentation, Cece Lane will oversee the playing of "African Violet Bingo" at the day meeting.

Mary Lou Harden reported that the February 7, 2019 night meeting program will be on "Final Preparation for Show", to be presented by Jim Boyer, to be followed by some "Growing Tips" by Cece Lane.

SHOW AND TELL:

Susan Stringfellow brought in two plants that she needed help in diagnosing issues she is experiencing with her plants.

Lisa Villabol brought in one of her African violets, Opera's Paolo (standard), to show off that is doing very well for her. Members

present at the meeting encouraged Lisa to enter the plant in the TAVS Show.

RAFFLE PLANTS: Mary Lou Harden and Cece Lane provided plants for the raffle, and Mary Lou Harden also provided leaves for the raffle. Angela Newell held the plant raffle.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:08PM.

Angela Newell, Night Recording Secretary

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Day Meeting Minutes January 18th, 2019 Seffner-Mango Public Library 410 N Kingsway Rd, Seffner, FL

The meeting was called to order by Second Vice President Jim Boyer at 10:20 am followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATION: Jim Matula

REFRESHMENTS: Jim Boyer, Jim Matula and Lynn Bandy.

GUESTS: Carrie Homs

**PROGRAM: "Got Questions??"
Everything you need to know about the
show entries process**
Presented by Jim Boyer

"VIOLET BINGO"
Presented by Cece Lane

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:
The minutes of the December 14th, 2018, day meeting were approved as published in "The Petal".

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was not available to be presented.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Lynn Bandy, Nominating Committee Chairman, reported the positions that needed to be filled:

President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Correspondence Secretary. In lieu of any nominations previously submitted, nominations were accepted from the floor. Nominations from the floor:

President:
First Vice President: Jim Boyer
Second Vice President: Mary Lou Harden
Corresponding Secretary: Jim Matula

We will be taking additional nominations from the floor at the February meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was discussion regarding our February show, "Dancing with Violets" which will be held February 22-23, 2019, in Tampa. David Matthews brought up the lighting issue, Mary Lou explained the church board was meeting January 20th, 2019 and this was to be addressed.

A list was passed around asking members to sign up for supplies for the show. David Matthews suggested using the foyer for the plant sales rather than the small classroom, Mary Lou will check with the church to see if this is feasible.

It was suggested if using the small classroom, changing the layout of the room, with the cash register placed closer to the door rather than in the back corner.

Florida State Fair: Members discussed ideas for the display. A dancing couple silhouette was found on line and ordered. Members are encouraged to come out on February 3rd at 1pm to help with set up and to sign up for times to man the booth during the fair. Mary Lou will have tickets for those manning the booth.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ROLL CALL: Lynn Bandy: 18 members and 1 guest

SHOW AND TELL:

Annie Pirone brought in a Bromeliad which she then placed on the raffle table

RAFFLE PLANTS: Angelina Grundhoff, Carolee Carter (Thank you Peggy Waibel for bringing them), Terry Jordan, Annie Pirone

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:10pm

Lynn E Bandy, Day Recording Secretary

MEET THE MEMBER

Want to be the next member to be featured in our newsletter???? Simply fill out a Biography Interview Questions form or if you are so inclined write up your own story. If you did not get a form copy or want to submit your story just email Lynn @ NYBLEB@aol.com.

RECIPE BOX



*This month's recipe submitted
by King James*

POLISH REUBEN CASSEROLE
12-14 servings

8 oz egg noodles
2 cans (14 oz each) Bavarian sauerkraut, drained
2 cans (10 3/4 oz each) condensed cream of mushroom soup, undiluted
1 1/3 cups milk
1 medium onion, chopped
1 tablespoon prepared mustard
1 1/2 lb Polish sausage or kielbasa, halved and cut into 1/2" slices
2 cups (8 oz) shredded Swiss cheese

1/2 cup soft rye bread crumbs
2 tablespoons butter, melted

Preheat oven to 350F.

Cook noodles according to package directions; drain. Spread sauerkraut in a greased shallow 4 qt baking dish. Top with noodles.

In a large bowl, combine the soup, milk, onion and mustard; pour over the noodles. Top with sausage; sprinkle with cheese.

Combine bread crumbs and butter; sprinkle over the top. Cover and bake for 30-35 minutes or until golden brown and bubbly.

NOTES: 1-18-19 Used rotini instead of egg noodles – great. Most any type of pasta will work.

AVSA Weekly Growing Tip

Beginners Column

Secrets to Blooming Success
Kent & Joyce Stork
African Violet Magazine, July/August 1992

There are many reasons why African violets are so dear to our hearts, but the fact that they bloom tops the list. Very few other plants in the world can live in our homes and bloom almost all the time – with minimum care. Sometimes, however, even violets can pout and not bloom as well as we might like. There are a few “**secret**” methods that anyone can use to encourage better blooming

SECRET #1 – LIGHT: It’s not much of a secret that an African violet will bloom better in good light. Light is one of the primary ingredients’ plants need to produce the energy necessary for the production of blossoms. In our experience, the most common reason why violets are not blooming is because they have not been placed in adequate light. Violets that do not receive enough light will often communicate their problem by reaching their leaves upward or growing toward the light

source. Often the petioles (the leaf stem) will elongate and the new leaves will grow to a smaller adult size. When violets are to be grown at a window, they need to be within 12 to 18 inches from the glass. If they are further away, in most situations, the light is too diffused. It also helps to place the plant at a large window. Tiny windows or heavily draped windows do not allow much light to enter. Windows that face the morning or midday sun are often the most desirable here in Nebraska because the plants are not receiving direct sunlight during the hottest part of the day. Be aware that violets love bright light but dislike extreme heat. The best window will be one which properly balances these factors. If there is no window which can produce enough light, then the grower may wish to consider purchasing a fluorescent light unit. These can be very inexpensive “shop lights” or beautiful and more costly light stands. But any fluorescent light (we use mostly cool white tubes, occasionally in combination with Gro - lux wide spectrum) will produce a light spectrum that will significantly increase the amount of bloom. As a rule, the light should be on 10 to 12 hours a day and be 10 to 12 inches from the violet plant with adjustments made according to the plant’s reaction. If there is too little light, the plant will stretch up toward the light; if there is too much, the plant foliage will show signs of bleaching (loss of green color) or the plants may grow with tight centers.

SECRET #2 – WATER: Another secret to getting a plant to bloom and to stay in bloom is to find a system of watering which allows the soil around the roots to stay evenly moist but not drenched. When tiny buds begin to set on the plant, they are extremely fragile, and if the plant should be allowed to become thoroughly dry at that point, the buds will wither and dry off. Furthermore, when a plant is in bloom it is transpiring more moisture into the air than usual, so the plant is liable to dry out more quickly when it is blooming, and the blossoms are likely to be the first part of the plant to suffer. There are many systems for constant watering that work well – wicking, capillary matting, “Texas” potting, and specially designed pots with water reservoirs. Violets can also be hand watered when the soil begins to feel somewhat dry to the touch but that requires a wary eye, since not all the plants will use water

at the same rate. We strongly recommend a constant water method. Be careful not to keep plants too wet, since the only way crown rot can get to your plant is if there is a waterway for the spores to swim in. Constantly moist does not mean soaking wet.

SECRET #3 – HUMIDITY: Along with even moisture around the soil ball, violets will bloom better if there is also enough moisture in the air. Again, the tiny buds will dry off very easily when humidity is scarce, and open blossoms will fade more quickly if the air is dry. Drafts of dry air seem to be especially hard on blossoms and buds. Growers in the Arizona desert find that it is impossible to bring violets into bloom without a constant water method that also allows water to evaporate into the air around the plant. And, don't forget that desert like interior conditions often prevail while we are heating our homes during the cold winter months. Wicking or capillary matting are both systems which will increase the amount of humidity around the plant as they also provide water to the roots. If you live in an area where humidity is constantly high, you will probably prefer a watering system that does not add to the humidity. If the violets aren't blooming in high humidity, there is probably some other problem.

SECRET #4 – Fertilizer: Starving violets cannot afford to waste energy on blossoming. Because violets grow indoors at near-constant year-round temperatures and often (when under fluorescent lights) at constant light levels, they also have a constant hunger for nutrients. The plant functions will only perform at peak levels when the plant is nourished. Therefore, violets need to be fertilized regularly. There are many excellent violet fertilizers available, but our favorites are the ones which give directions for use with every watering. Very few people are good at remembering when they last fertilized if they only do it monthly! These fertilizers are commonly mixed at a rate of ¼ teaspoon per gallon of water and used with every watering. These can be used in constant water systems also, but if the system allows for evaporation, mix the fertilizer at a weaker strength (perhaps 1/8 tsp. per gallon) to avoid concentration. Many growers prefer violet fertilizers that have a high phosphorous level, the middle of the three numbers on a fertilizer package. The phosphorous is said to strengthen roots and thus lead to greater

bloom. Healthy roots are critical to blooming! Some growers like to rotate different brands of fertilizers. We have found one that suits our water very well and use it constantly. (It is no secret formula and we'll tell you which brand it is if you ask, but we don't want to advertise for any product in this column.) If your violets bloom well with a specific formula, we suggest you don't mess with success!

SECRET #5 – Soil Texture: Healthy violet roots can only grow in potting mixtures that do not inhibit development. Violet soils should produce an environment for the roots that is approximately 1/3 water, 1/3 solids, and 1/3 air. This requires choosing and mixing a soil that will not absorb too much water and will always permit a lot of air to surround the roots. Dr. Charles Cole, in one of his speeches to a nearby violet group, pointed out that when a violet is removed from its pot the roots are often found all around the outside of the soil ball with little or no root development in the center of the soil. It is his belief that the roots were developing where there was air, in the narrow space between the soil and the pot. Adding water and solids to the mix is easy, but how do you add air? The secret is to use light perlite or vermiculite, which cannot pack together tightly, in combination with high quality peat moss (brown in color). Every successful grower has a favorite recipe which suits their growing conditions, so it may take some experimenting. Try to mix a soil that will not become packed down as time goes on. A good soil should be so loose that a grower can push a finger through the soil all the way to the bottom of the pot, months after the plant is potted there.

SECRET #6 – TEMPERATURE, pH and POT SIZE: This sounds like three secrets, but they all relate to healthy roots. Temperature extremes, pH levels that are away from the recommended standard of around 6.8, and over-sized pots can cause roots to deteriorate. Violet roots prefer to remain within a temperature range of about 65 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit. Colder nighttime temperatures can cause roots to die back. Higher temperatures will affect leaf growth and often cause blossoms to deteriorate, too. Fertilizers will not help if the soil pH is unbalanced, because the plant can only access or use nutrients within a narrow range of pH. If you have been fertilizing, but the plants appear sickly, check the pH. Over-sized

pots can cause real problems for roots, because the violet root ball will only grow to about 1/3 the span of the leaves. If the plant has reached it's maximum adult size, the roots cannot fill a pot that is larger than the ratio of 1/3 of the leaf span. For example, a mature plant with a 12-inch leaf span will have a root system that is about 4 inches across. If it is placed in a 6 -inch pot, there will be an inch of soil all around the root ball that has no roots in it. It is very easy to keep this "empty" soil too wet, which leads to other problems. The exception is the large show size varieties, which when given bigger pots, grow to very large mature diameters.

SECRET #7 – NO BUGS, NO FUNGUS: There are several insects and fungi which can keep plants from blooming, or cause blossoms to fade too quickly. Thrips live primarily on the blossom, inside the yellow pollen sacs. They are small, but definitely visible, especially when they move across the blossom after being disturbed by a probing finger or a puff of air. Soil mealy bugs sap the strength of the entire plant as they feed on roots. These pests, because they live in the soil, can be tricky to spot. Of course, plants under such attack will not burst forth with bouquets of flowers!

Cyclamen mites are impossible to see with the naked eye, but experienced growers quickly recognize their presence when blossoms become small and distorted and center foliage becomes hard and tight. Powdery mildew is probably the most common fungus to affect African violets. It looks like flour on the surface of the blossoms and leaves. Mildew is most commonly found growing when air is not moving and is humid. A less common fungus is blossom blight which appears inside the blossoms and almost seems to strip away the color of the blossoms. All of these require immediate attention, not just to promote blossoms, but to protect the health and very life of an entire African violet collection.

SECRET #8 – THE GENETICS: Some violets don't bloom because it isn't in their genes. Some violets bloom wildly in the worst of situations. The genetic make-up of a violet hybrid has a lot to do with its ability to bloom and the way in which it blooms. Some bloom occasionally; some keep a few blossoms up most of the time; some burst into heavy bloom on regular intervals. Some almost never bloom

at all. If everything else is correct, culturally speaking, and your violet refuses to bloom, it may be genetically at fault. We would throw it away. Choose new plants carefully and ask questions about a plants ability to bloom. Most violet growers are very willing to suggest plants that bloom especially well. We all love those plants the best.

HAPPY VIOLETS DON'T KEEP SECRETS: Happy violets will bloom. If conditions around your plants are properly maintained, your violets can be happily blooming most of the time. They brag to anyone who sees them that they are owned by a good violet grower!

Get your copy of the *African Violet Magazine* as a benefit of membership in the African Violet Society of America.

Join today!

Anyone is welcome to sign up for this growing tip from the African Violet Society of America. Subscribers are not required to be members of AVSA. Please share it with your friends! www.AVSA.org

Got Problems?

Any time you have a plant that has a problem and you can't identify the problem and would like some advice, bring the plant with you to a meeting and get some help. We can also help with repotting issues. Please be sure if you suspect insect/mite issues that you isolate the plant in a plastic bag

NEED SUPPLIES?

If you need supplies – pots, leaf support rings, perlite, vermiculite, soil, fertilizer, Marathon, charcoal, etc., please call or email Mary Lou Harden@ (813-689-8700 H 813-924-2686 C,) mlhard@verizon.net. Your order will be brought to the meeting.

HELP!!!!!! +

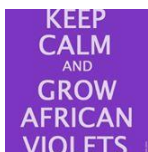
Mary Lou is looking for good articles, tips, professional quality pictures for the website. www.tampafricanviolets.com
Lynn Bandy is looking for interesting articles, member bios, and photos to publish in "The Petal". Submit these to: NYBLEB@AOL.COM

Become a MEMBER

WANT TO JOIN TAVS? Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Therese Lynam if you're interested in becoming a member: THERESEJOAN@aol.com

Visit us at:
www.Tampafricanviolets.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Tampa African Violet Society

Kathy Glenn asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. kathybear555@gmail.com

Join us on Twitter:

[AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets](https://twitter.com/AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets)

Glen has requested if anyone has photos they would like to share on our Twitter account to send them to him at shelgl@tampabay.rr.com

JOIN ONE OF OUR AFFILIATES

African Violet Society of America (AVSA). Subscription to the **African Violet Magazine** (6 issues per year) which includes AVSA membership, is \$35 per year. Send contact information and check payable to AVSA to: **AVSA Office, 2375 North Street, Beaumont, TX 77702.** www.AVSA.org

Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly color newsletter, **The Dixie News**, is \$15 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Johnnie Berry, Membership Chair, 287 Fennel Way, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.** johnniepearl@aol.com www.davs.org

African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly newsletter, **The Florida Connection**, is \$10 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Sharon Gartner, 1573 LaBaron Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207.** www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

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THE PETAL

MARCH 2019

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampaafricanviolets.com



IRISH MAIDEN

A Message from the President

Hello, Violet Friends,

We made it! February is a wonderful month – but for TAVS members, it's also a challenging month! We had a successful display at the Florida State Fair and we also had a successful show in Tampa! I must admit that I was a little concerned about both events. However, our members came through and we had sufficient plants for our booth at the Fair as well as for our show. We had good representation at the Fair – people helping with setup, with greeting the public each day and with the breakdown process.

We also had good representation at our show. Many thanks to everyone who came on set-up day. Special thanks to Jim Boyer who worked months in advance to get the entries program fine-tuned. All his hard work paid off and the entries process was successful! We also want

The Tampa African Violet Society, is an Affiliate of The African Violet Society of America, Inc., The Dixie African Violet Society, The African Violet Council of Florida and The Gesneriad Society

to thank Linda Bennett who helped transport supplies on Thursday and again on Saturday. Many others helped in various ways and their help was invaluable. Every worker deserves a Special Award Ribbon!

I hope all members had opportunity to either participate in the show or come to see it. Both horticulture and design entries were outstanding. A list of the award winners is elsewhere in this newsletter. Congratulations to Carolee Carter of Ocala for her Best in Show standard plant, "Panda Paws."

I was pleased that we had several entries in the Container Gardens Section – natural gardens, dish gardens and one terrarium – all beautiful creations.

Awards will be presented at the March meetings.

Our next event will be the Spring Plant Festival at USF's Botanical Gardens on Saturday and Sunday, April 13-14. We will need member plants to sell and we'll need member participation both days.

Meantime, Jim Boyer is working on programs for 2019-2020. If you have an idea or would like to request a program on a certain topic, please let Jim know.

I hope to see you at one of the March meetings.

Thank You !

To every member who helped in any way at the Florida State Fair! We had great support this year for which we're truly grateful! When we put out the call for plants, you responded! Even though we had very few large standard plants, the plants we did have were nicely blooming and all together presented a lovely display. The added touch of Pat Rutzke's chandelier beside the dancing couple was just perfect. Amazingly, what could have turned out to be a disaster turned out to be just fine. Some of you witnessed the chandelier crashing to the floor during setup. Such a noise it created caused everyone to think the worst. However, not a crystal was broken, a couple of bent metal pieces were easily fixed, and the unscathed chandelier is now back in the safety of Pat's home.

Throughout the Fair, many of you spent some time at our booth, talking to the public, passing out culture folders and show information and simply serving as good will ambassadors on behalf of the club. Special thanks to Roselind Rovinsky who spent several days at the display and took care of watering the plants. Quite a few people signed up to receive the e-newsletter and a few stated they will attend a meeting. So even though it takes time and commitment to put in a display, it's well worth it if we educate the public and there's increased interest in learning how to successfully grow African violets.

So. . .thank you and hats off to the members of TAVS!

Mary Lou Harden, Club President

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE OF MEETING DATE FOR JULY:

The July 2019 Night meeting is July 11 – NOT the 4th

NIGHT MEETING –March 7th, 2019 at 7 PM
Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603

Inspirational: Jean Krauchik

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE PLANTS:
Kathy Glenn, Jean Krauchik, and Susan Stringfellow

THE PROGRAM:

“Presentation of Show Awards”
To be Presented by Angela Newell, Awards Chair

“Growing Tips”
To be Presented by Cece Lane

DAY MEETING – March 15th, 2019 at 10 AM
Public Meeting Room
Seffner-Mango Library
410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584

Inspirational: Martha Morgan

REFRESHMENTS AND RAFFLE PLANTS:
Angelina Grundhoff, Martha Morgan and Roselind Rovinsky

THE PROGRAM:

“Removing and Replanting Suckers”
Presented by Cece Lane

RECENT PROGRAMS

NIGHT MEETING: February 7th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“Final Preparation for Show”

Leaf Cleaning, removing suckers, filling out entry sheets

Presented by Jim Boyer



DAY MEETING – February 15th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“Final Preparation for Show”

Leaf cleaning, removing suckers, filling out entry forms

Presented by Angelina Grundhoff

To all our members feeling under the weather and battling serious illnesses. . . A warm hug and prayers for healing are coming your way.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3/7 Betty Wise

3/7 Carrie Homs

3/11 Nina Megginson

We were saddened to learn of the passing away of Angie Castellano on February 6, 2019. Mrs. Castellano was the mother of JoAnne Martinez, a long-time member and past-president of TAVS. Our thoughts and prayers are with JoAnne and her family.



Today we learned of the passing away of Richard King, husband of Phyllis King, of Seminole, Florida. Phyllis has frequently presented programs for us at TAVS and for many years led the Upper Pinellas AVS. Our thoughts and prayers are with Phyllis and her family.

Carrie Homs

Mary Beth Bryant

TAVS ANNUAL SHOW



“Dancing With Violets”

SPECIAL AWARDS

Best in Show: “Panda Paws” Carolee Carter

2nd Best in Show: “Lil Glimpse of Spring”
Angela Newell

Best AVSA Collection: “Cajun’s Freckleface Kid”, “Cajun’s Storm Watch”, “Rhapsodie Clementine” Glenn Shelton

Best Mini/Semi Collection: “Jolly Butterfly”, “Jolly Fun”, “Mac’s Misty Meadow” Carolee Carter

Best Standard: “Panda Paws” Carolee Carter

Best Mini: “Rob’s Fe Fi” King James

Best Semi: “Lil Glimpse of Spring” Angela Newell

Best Gesneriad: “Miriam” King James

Best Chimera: “The Alps” Angela Newell

Best Species: “Sp. Ionantha Subsp. Pendula”
Angela Newell

Best Streptocarpus: “Dibley’s Black Panther”
Terry Jordan

Best Project Plant: Carolee Carter

Best African Violet: Novice: “Jolly Orchid”
Mary Beth Bryant

Best in Class 41: “Wrangler’s Dixie Celebration” Carolee Carter

Best in Class 50: Columnea “Frosty Hills” Mary Lou Harden

Best Design: “Ballet”: Mary Lou Harden

Best Interpretive Design: “Viennese Waltz”
Mary Lou Harden

Sweepstakes: Horticulture: Carolee Carter

Sweepstakes Design: Mary Lou Harden

Best Optimara or Rhapsodies’ Optimara:
“My Love” Carolee Carter

Special Award Optimara: Optimara “My Love”
Carolee Carter

Special Award: Episcia “Kee Wee” Carolee Carter



To our Show Sponsors:

Jo's Violets

Lyndon Lyon Greenhouses

Neptune's Harvest

Wendy's

McDonalds

Selective Gardener

COMING

EVENTS

March 8-9, 2019 Springhill, FL

Fantasy AVS Show and Sale

Weeki Wachee Senior Citizens Club

3375 Susan Dr, Springhill, FL 34606

Contact Debbie Wesch 352-634-1564

Theme “African Violet Nature’s Gift”

March 9, 2019 Lakeland, FL
First Lakeland AVS will be participating in the **Spring Obsession** event
<https://springobsession.org/>

March 29-30, 2019 Jacksonville, FL
Heart of Jacksonville AVS Show and Sale
<https://jacksonvilleviolets.org/events/>
San Jose Church of Christ, 6233 San Jose Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32217
Contact Sharon
Gartner svioletlady@yahoo.com
Theme "Violet Paradise"

April 6, 2019 Jacksonville, FL
Heart of Jacksonville AVS will have a booth at Blooms Galore at the Garden Club of Jacksonville
<https://gardenclubofjacksonville.org/events/>

May 26 – June 2, 2019



AVSA CONVENTION AND SHOW
HOUSTON MARRIOTT
2900 Briarpark Dr, Houston TX

Put some *Violet Fun* in 2019!!

Plan now to attend the 73rd Convention
2019 National Show hosted by the Lonestar
African Violet Council
Open to the public – Friday and Saturday, May
30 & June 1
Commercial Vendor Salesroom, with vendors
from across the nation
Presentations, Tours, Food and Fun for All!

Come & Have Some *Violet Fun* in the Texas Sun!!

November 6-9, 2019

DAVS Annual Convention & Show,
Lexington Hotel and Conference Center-
Jacksonville Riverwalk, Jacksonville, FL
Lynne Wilson, President
tpalynne@tampabay.rr.com.
Information: DAVS.org

MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Evening Meeting Minutes
February 7th, 2019
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL

The meeting was called to order at 7:11PM by President Mary Lou Harden, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

REFRESHMENTS: Refreshments were provided by Angela Newell, Steve Whidden, and Therese Lynam.

PROGRAM: "Final Show Preparations: Leaf Cleaning, Removing Suckers, Symmetry, etc." and "Completing Entry Sheets", presented by Jim Boyer. Cece Lane also gave a presentation on "Growing Tips".

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes from the January 3, 2019, night meeting were approved as published in "The Petal".

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mary Lou presented the Treasurer's Report as follows:

The **January 2019**, Checking Account opening balance was \$4,347.47, income was \$568.00, expenses were \$429.41, with an ending balance of \$4,486.06. The Savings Account balance was not available.

Mary Lou Harden also stated that the club needs donations from our members for Show Awards.

ROLL CALL: Jean Krauchik

OFFICER REPORTS:

Nominating Committee Reports and Election of Officers

Mary Lou Harden gave a report from Lynn Bandy on behalf of the Nominating Committee for the slate of officers for the 2019-2020 year.

President: Nominating Committee did not have a nominee for President. Accordingly, Mary Lou Harden will continue in the position until a President is elected.

1st Vice-President: Jim Boyer

2nd Vice-President: Mary Lou Harden

Treasurer: Therese Lynam

Recording Secretary Day Meeting: Lynn Bandy

Recording Secretary Night Meeting: Angela Newell

Corresponding Secretary: Jim Matula

As there were no additional nominations from members for Board positions, the above members were elected for the 2019-2020 officer slate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AVCF – Mary Lou Harden reported that the AVCF 2019 Annual Show will be held jointly with DAVS, and will take place November 6-9, 2019, at the Lexington Hotel and Conference Center - Jacksonville Riverwalk in Jacksonville, FL.

DAVS – Mary Lou Harden reported that the DAVS annual membership dues are \$15.00 and are due in February of each year.

AVSA – Mary Lou Harden reported that the 2019 AVSA Annual Convention and Show will be held May 26-June 2, 2019, at the Houston Marriott Hotel in Houston, TX.

THE GESNERIAD SOCIETY – Mary Lou Harden reported that The Gesneriad Society will hold its Annual Convention and Show July 2-4, 2019, in Cincinnati, OH. Mary Lou also stated that their annual membership dues are \$25.00.

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY – Mary Lou Harden reported that the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society holds monthly meetings in Tampa on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Their annual membership dues are \$10.00.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Florida State Fair

Mary Lou Harden reported that the Florida State Fair will take place February 7-18, 2019, and requested that members sign-up to volunteer coverage of TAVS's booth at the Fair.

TAVS Annual Show

Mary Lou Harden reported that the TAVS 2019 Annual Show, "Dancing With Violets", will take place February 22-23, 2019. Mary Lou distributed copies of the Show Schedule to members present. Mary Lou stated that set-up for the Show will take place on Thursday, February 21, 2019, judging of the Show will take place on Friday morning, February 22, 2019 at 9:00AM, and that the Show will open to the public at 12:00 noon on Friday, February 22, 2019. Show exhibits need to be brought in on Thursday, February 21, 2019, from 1:00PM until 7:30PM. Mary Lou stated that the Show will also be open to the public from 9:00AM to 3:00PM on Saturday, February 23, 2019. Mary Lou stated that the club needs leaves and plants from our members to be sold to the public at our Show as most people that come to

our Show to purchase plants prefer member-grown plants to the Optimara. Mary Lou also suggested that members refer to pages 54-55 of our Yearbook under the Grooming Schedule for final preparations for getting plants ready for the Show.

Mary Lou Harden reported that Jim Boyer will be handling the computer entries program for our Show. Mary Lou also stated that Kathy Glenn will be handling entries classifications on Thursday, February 21, 2019, and Angela Newell will be helping her with this on Thursday night.

Mary Lou Harden reported that Angela Newell will be handling plant sales on Friday, February 22, 2019 and Saturday, February 23, 2019. Mary Lou requested for club members to assist with plant sales on both Friday and Saturday. Mary Lou reported that Angelina Grundhoff will be in charge of handling sales of member Show plants.

Mary Lou Harden also stated that we need members to bring donations of food for our Show judges and workers, as well as donations of hospitality items needed during the Show.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Boyer brought in a box of Oyama pots and Dandy pots that the club recently purchased from a source in Pasco County who is no longer growing violets. Jim Boyer stated that club members will receive special prices on purchases of these items.

Kathy Glenn reported that the club is now up to 1,300 followers on Facebook, 125 followers on Instagram, and that AVSA reports information posted to our Instagram account.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported that at the February 15, 2019 day meeting program, Angelina Grundhoff will give a presentation on "Final Preparation for Show: Leaf Cleaning, Removing Suckers, and Filling Out Entry Sheets".

Mary Lou Harden reported that at the March 7, 2019 night meeting, Angela Newell will present the 2019 Show Awards, and Cece Lane will give a presentation on "Growing Tips".

SHOW AND TELL:

Anita Adlin brought in one of her African violets, Harmony's Hot Flash (standard), to show off that is doing very well for her. Members present at the meeting encouraged Anita to repot the plant and to enter it in the TAVS Show. Anita also gave away leaves of Harmony's Hot Flash to members who wanted leaf cuttings.

RAFFLE PLANTS: Mary Lou Harden provided plants for the raffle and Jean Krauchik conducted the plant raffle.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:21PM.

Angela Newell, Night Recording Secretary

**TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Day Meeting Minutes
February 15th, 2019
Seffner-Mango Public Library
410 N Kingsway Rd, Seffner, FL**

The meeting was called to order by 1st Vice President Jim Boyer at 10:20 am followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATION: Celia Howe

REFRESHMENTS: Jim Boyer and Celia Howe

PROGRAM: Preparing plants for show by Angelina Grundhoff. Angelina explained the entries process and discussed grooming plants for show. She also stressed the importance of using clean pots, making sure your name and the name of the plant is on the inner pot, and removing any spent blossoms.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the January 18, 2019, day meeting were approved as published in "The Petal".

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was discussion regarding our February show, "Dancing with Violets" which will be held February 22-23, 2019, in Tampa. Jim stated that show setup will be Thursday, February 21, beginning at 10 am. Members were encouraged to review cash register instructions. Members should bring food to share.

Jim requested that members give him suggestions for any programs they would like during 2019-2020. One suggestion was using video programs.

NEW BUSINESS: None

ROLL CALL: Roselind Rovinsky: 15 members were present

RAFFLE PLANTS: Jim Boyer, Celia Howe, Carolee Carter

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 pm

Pat Rutzke, Secretary Pro Tem

MEET THE MEMBER

Want to be the next member to be featured in our newsletter???? Simply fill out a Biography Interview Questions form or if you are so inclined write up your own story. If you did not get a form copy or want to submit your story just email Lynn @ NYBLEB@aol.com

RECIPE BOX



This month's recipe submitted by King James

French Onion Tater Tot Casserole

1-10 servings

1-30-32oz package frozen tater tots
1-10 3/4 oz can cream of chicken soup
1-16 oz container French onion dip
8 oz shredded cheddar cheese

Bake tots fully per pkg directions.

Preheat oven to 350F. Lightly spray a 9x13" pan with cooking spray. Set aside.

In a large bowl, combine potatoes, soup, dip and cheddar cheese. Pour into prepared pan.

Bake for 45 minutes or longer, until bubbly.

As a special request from several members I am Adding King James Sausage Stew that was served at our show. Original recipe from Therese Lynam submitted by King James

CREAMY SAUSAGE STEW

10-12 Servings (about 1 1/2 cups each)

10-12 small to medium red potatoes, cut into quarters
1 large sweet onion, cut into eighths
1 large green pepper, cut into 1" pieces
1 large sweet red pepper, cut into 1" pieces
2 packages smoked Polish sausage (26 oz), cut into 1" slices
1/3 cup vegetable oil

1 tablespoon basil pesto or dried basil
2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon pepper
1 pint heavy whipping cream
3 tablespoons cornstarch
3 tablespoons water

Preheat oven to 350F.

Place potatoes in a 5 qt roasting pan. Add onions, peppers and sausage; toss gently. Combine oil, basil, salt and pepper. Pour over the meat and vegetables; toss well.

Cover and bake 45 minutes; stir. Add the cream; cover and bake 30-40 minutes longer or until potatoes are tender. May need additional liquid (1/2 & 1/2).

Combine cornstarch and water; stir into stew. Place on stovetop and bring to a boil, stirring constantly until thickened.

NOTES: 6-23-13 Added 1 link of mild Italian & 1 of linguica (a mild Portuguese sausage). Don't think it improved the stew. Cut the potatoes into quarters next time. Use a very large red pepper or 2 small ones. Had to use a large casserole dish & transferred to a pot at the end. 2-25-16 Used combo of new potatoes, Yukon Golds & russets. Worked fine. Kielbasa works best. 7-30-16 Used the small stock pot. Took a LOT longer to roast the veggies. Put on baking sheet & cover. Add to pot with cream. 2-20-18 Added leftover fresh mushrooms & green onions. Worked fine.

AVSA Weekly Growing Tip

February 4th, 2019

Winter & the White Stuff



Powdery mildew is a common disease of African violets, especially in the winter months. Powdery mildew spores may be removed mechanically (by washing affected leaves or removing affected flowers), or chemically. Spectracide Immunox is one product often recommended for chemical control. Growers find that increasing air movement and carefully controlling temperature changes and humidity reduces outbreaks, but the white stuff may persist.

Harvey Schneider, an engineer and violet grower in Connecticut, explains, "The underlying problem is that the temperature of the leaves lags behind the temperature of the air as the temperature of the room cycles. During the day, the warm air extracts moisture from everything. [During the night, air cools and relative humidity increases.] Then as the air starts to warm, when the leaves are slightly cooler, moisture condenses on the leaves. This provides an excellent condition for mildew to grow. Adding air circulation can minimize that effect by getting the leaves up to air temperature more quickly. It cannot, however, eliminate the problem entirely."

Harvey found a way to win the battle. The only way to stop mildew is by removing the air borne spores. About two years ago, I started using a

small electrostatic air cleaner that also has a UVC lamp to sterilize the air. Last year I saw minimal powdery mildew on my plants, and this year I see none. The growing conditions are, otherwise, the same as I have always had." This unit is suggested for a 100-150 square foot area.

Get your copy of the *African Violet Magazine* as a benefit of membership in the African Violet Society of America.

Join today!

Anyone is welcome to sign up for this growing tip from the African Violet Society of America. Subscribers are not required to be members of AVSA. Please share it with your friends! www.AVSA.org

Got Problems?

Any time you have a plant that has a problem and you can't identify the problem and would like some advice, bring the plant with you to a meeting and get some help. We can also help with repotting issues. Please be sure if you suspect insect/mite issues that you isolate the plant in a plastic bag.

NEED SUPPLIES?

If you need supplies – pots, leaf support rings, perlite, vermiculite, soil, fertilizer, Marathon, charcoal, etc., please call or email Mary Lou Harden@ (813-689-8700 H 813-924-2686 C,) mlhard@verizon.net. Your order will be brought to the meeting.

HELP!!!!!! 

Mary Lou is looking for good articles, tips, professional quality pictures for the website. www.tampafricanviolets.com

Lynn Bandy is looking for interesting articles, member bios, and photos to publish in "The Petal". Submit these to: NYBLEB@AOL.COM

Become a MEMBER

WANT TO JOIN TAVS? Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Therese Lynam if you're interested in becoming a member:

THERESEJOAN@aol.com

Visit us at:

www.Tampafricanviolets.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Tampa African Violet Society

Kathy Glenn asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. kathybear555@gmail.com

Join us on Twitter:

[AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets](https://twitter.com/AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets)

Glen has requested if anyone has photos they would like to share on our Twitter account to send them to him at shelgl@tampabay.rr.com

JOIN ONE OF OUR AFFILIATES

African Violet Society of America (AVSA).

Subscription to the **African Violet Magazine** (6 issues per year) which includes AVSA membership, is \$35 per year. Send contact information and check payable to AVSA to: **AVSA Office, 2375 North Street, Beaumont, TX 77702.** www.AVSA.org

Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS).

Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly color newsletter, **The Dixie News**, is \$15 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Johnnie Berry, Membership Chair, 287 Fennel Way, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.** johnniepearl@aol.com www.davs.org

African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF).

Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly newsletter, **The Florida Connection**, is \$10 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Sharon Gartner, 1573 LaBaron Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207.** www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

Disclaimer: While the information and recommendations in this publication are believed to be correct and accurate, neither the authors or editor, nor the Tampa African Violet Society can accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. Tampa African Violet Society makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material herein

OUR SHOW IN PICTURES



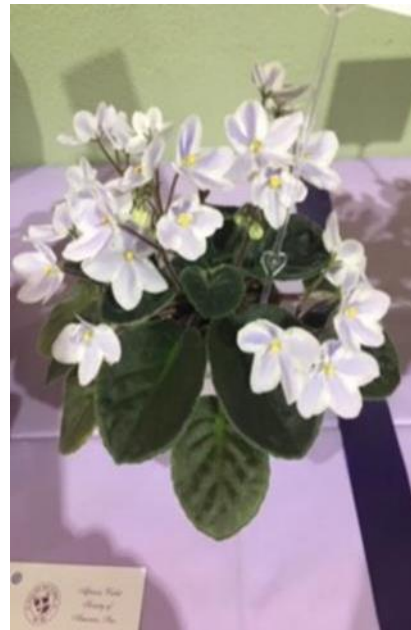
Best in show: "Panda Paws " Carolee Carter



Best Dish Garden: Pat Rutzke



Best Terrarium: Pat Rutzke



"The Alps" Angela Newell



Best Design: "Ballet" Mary Lou Harden



Best Streptocarpus: "Dibley's Black Panther"
Terry Jordan



Best Optimara: "O My Love" Carolee Carter



Columnnea: 'Frosty Hills' Mary Lou Harden



2nd Best in Show: "Lil Glimpse O Spring"
Angela Newell



Best Natural Garden: Peggy Waibel



Focal Point

THE PETAL

MAY 2019

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampaafricanviolets.com



MAY MAIZE

A Message from the President

Hello, Violet Friends,

As you know, TAVS just celebrated its 49th anniversary – which means – we’re now entering our 50th year! While each of those 49 years has been special, with special people and special programs, we’re looking forward to making this 50th year extra special! So how do we do that? It depends on YOU! Each member brings his or her own unique background, ideas and talents to the club. Our members have always been generous in contributing their time, resources and talents to whatever project the club is involved in – whether a plant sale at USF, a soil-mixing party, preparing supplies for our sales, or participating in our annual show and plant sale. So we say THANK YOU to each member who willingly and happily volunteers! YOU are what makes our club great!

The Tampa African Violet Society, is an Affiliate of The African Violet Society of America, Inc., The Dixie African Violet Society, The African Violet Council of Florida and The Gesneriad Society

Next on our club’s agenda is the Dixie AVS Convention and Show in Jacksonville November 6 through 9. The theme is “Cruising With Violets.” I’m hoping that several of our members will register for the convention and enter plants or designs in the show. The show schedule has just been approved. If you would like a copy of the schedule, please let me know.

Elsewhere in this issue is a list of the workshops being offered at the convention. In the meantime, the AVSA’s convention and show at Houston, TX, takes place May 26 through June 2. Terry Jordan, Carolee Carter and I are planning to attend. There are some vibrant African violet clubs and councils in Texas and there are many fine growers, so this will no doubt be an outstanding show.

This month’s meetings will feature soil mixes and plant food. Hope to see you at one of the meetings.

Mary Lou Harden, Club President

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE OF MEETING DATE FOR JULY:

The July 2019 Night meeting is July 11 – NOT the 4th

NIGHT MEETING: May 2nd, 2019 at 7 PM
Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603

Inspirational: Lynne Wilson

REFRESHMENTS and RAFFLE PLANTS:
Terry Jordan, Angela Newell and Lynne Wilson

THE PROGRAM:

“Which Soil Mix Should I Use?”
To be presented by Kathy Glenn

DAY MEETING: May 17th, 2019
at 10 AM
Public Meeting Room
Seffner-Mango Library
410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584

Inspirational: Pat Rutzke

REFRESHMENTS and RAFFLE PLANTS:
Karen Cavanaugh, Pat Rutzke and Patsy Monk

THE PROGRAM:

“Don’t Starve Your Plants”
To Be Presented by Patsy Monk

RECENT PROGRAMS

NIGHT MEETING: April 4th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“Presidents Annual Message”
“Historian’s Report”
“Installation of Officers”

“Growing Tips”
Presented by Cece Lane

DAY MEETING: April 19th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“Lets Talk About The Relatives: Gesneriads and Episcias”
Presented by Robert Cameron



MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/9 Mary Beth Bryant
5/13 Robert Cameron
5/17 Jerry Kast
5/24 Angelina Grundhoff



Lee Roberts, Therese Lynam's husband, is in Brandon Regional Hospital. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

To all our members feeling under the weather and facing serious illnesses. . . A warm hug and prayers for healing are coming your way.

COMING EVENTS

May 4th, 2019
AVCF Spring Meeting
Golden Corral 10AM
897 W Town Parkway
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
All Invited

May 26 – June 2, 2019



AVSA CONVENTION AND SHOW
HOUSTON MARRIOTT
2900 Briarpark Dr, Houston TX

Put some *Violet Fun* in 2019!!

Plan now to attend the 73rd Convention
2019 National Show hosted by the Lonestar
African Violet Council
Open to the public – Friday and Saturday, May
30 & June 1
Commercial Vendor Salesroom, with vendors
from across the nation
Presentations, Tours, Food and Fun for All!

Come & Have Some *Violet Fun* in the Texas Sun!!

October 12th and 13th
USF Fall Plant Sale
USF Botanical Gardens
12210 USF Pine Drive
Tampa, FL

November 6-9, 2019

DAVS Annual Convention & Show,
Lexington Hotel and Conference Center-
Jacksonville Riverwalk, Jacksonville, FL
Lynne Wilson, President
tpalynne@tampabay.rr.com.
Information: DAVS.org

WORKSHOPS - Speakers & Topics
Friday, November 8 - 2:00-3:30 pm. Beth Baker. "The Weird Ones."
Beth has become an expert on the wasps, the bells, the bustles, and all the other weirdos that some of us love and some of us disdain. In addition, she knows the hybridizers and knows the hybrids' stories.

Friday, November 8 - 3:30-5:00 pm. Becky McMeel. "Interpreting Design Themes and Pulling It All Together While Maintaining Your Sanity." Becky begins the creative process of Design as soon as her show schedule arrives. In this workshop you will learn her other techniques as well for creating original yet stress-free designs.

Saturday, November 9 - 11:00-12:30 pm. Gesneriad Forum with Marian and Greg

Zoller, Travis Davis, and Jim Boyer. "Fibers and Rhizomes and Tubers. Oh My!" The Zollers grow and sell hard-to-obtain Achimenes and other rhizome plants. Travis hybridizes and is a vendor of African violets, Episcias and Streptocarpus. And Jim has discovered the secret of winning Best awards with his Sinningias.

Saturday, November 9 - 1:30- 3:00 pm.
Johnnie Berry. "How I Care for New Plants I Purchase at Convention." Johnnie successfully grows about 400 violets, which is proof that she knows what it takes to keep her new and old flower children happy and thriving.

MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Evening Meeting Minutes
April 4th, 2019
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL

The meeting was called to order at 7:08PM by President Mary Lou Harden, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

GUESTS: One guest attended.

REFRESHMENTS: The April meeting was in honor of TAVS's 49th Anniversary and all members attending provided a dish to share for the covered dish dinner.

INSPIRATIONAL: Provided by Angela Newell.

PROGRAM: Cece Lane presented a program on "Growing Tips", which consisted of Cece demonstrating the use of reservoirs for watering plants and the use of disposable plastic liners in the reservoirs to eliminate algae growth and cleaning of the algae residue from the reservoirs.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes from the March 7, 2019, night meeting were approved as published in "The Petal".

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was not available to be presented.

ROLL CALL: Jean Krauchik

OFFICER REPORTS: The President's Annual Message for 2019, "Looking Back and Looking Forward", was presented by President Mary Lou Harden.

The Historian's Report for 2019 was presented by Jim Boyer. Jim reported that The Petal and all awards given out by TAVS are put into our online Dropbox account. TAVS Meeting Minutes and our monthly Newsletters are also there going back into the 1970's.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Mary Lou Harden reported that the TAVS yearly membership dues of \$15.00 are due now (April 1st of each year).

AVCF – Mary Lou Harden reported that the AVCF Spring Meeting will be held May 4, 2019 at the Golden Corral in Altamonte Springs, FL. (Mary Lou reported that she will not be able to attend this meeting.) Mary Lou also reported that the 2019 AVCF Annual Show will be held jointly with DAVS, and will take place November 6-9, 2019, at the Lexington Hotel and Conference Center - Jacksonville Riverwalk in Jacksonville, FL.

AVSA – Mary Lou Harden reported that the 2019 AVSA Annual Convention and Show will be held May 26-June 2, 2019, at the Houston Marriott Hotel in Houston, TX.

DAVS – Mary Lou Harden reported that the yearly membership dues of \$15.00 to DAVS are due in February of each year, and that any member who wanted to join DAVS or pay their renewal membership dues could give their money to Mary Lou and she will forward it to DAVS.

THE GESNERIAD SOCIETY – Nancy Kast reported that The Gesneriad Society will hold its Annual Convention and Show July 2-4, 2019, in Cincinnati, OH. Nancy also reported that The Gesneriad Society's 2020 Annual Convention and Show will be in St. Petersburg, FL at the Hilton Hotel. Nancy stated that the annual membership dues to The Gesneriad Society are \$25.00.

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY – Mary Lou Harden reported that the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society holds its monthly meetings in Tampa on the 3rd Saturday of each month in Tampa. Their annual membership dues are \$10.00.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS: Kathy Glenn presided over the installation of the new officers to serve TAVS for the 2019-2020 year with a short program as part of the installation of the new officers. The new officers present at the night meeting are as follows:

Mary Lou Harden: President
Jim Boyer: 1st Vice-President
Angela Newell: Recording Secretary

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

USF Spring Plant Festival - Mary Lou Harden reported that the USF Spring Plant Festival will take place in five weeks, Saturday April 13- Sunday April 14, 2019. Mary Lou stated that we will need volunteers to help set-up our booth on Thursday, April 11, 2019. We will meet at 1:00PM at USF Botanical Gardens for the set-up which takes about one hour. Mary Lou also stated that we need volunteers to help with plant sales, booth coverage, and to run the cash register for both days of the Festival. Mary Lou requested that members sign-up for booth coverage in shifts, either in the morning or in the afternoon. Mary Lou also requested that members bring their plants to sell at the

booth as visitors to our booth prefer to purchase member-grown plants.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported that the program for the April 19, 2019 day meeting will be presented by Robert Cameron and will be on "Episcias".

Mary Lou Harden reported that the program for the May 2, 2019 night meeting will be presented by Kathy Glenn and will be on "Which Soil Mix Should I Use?"

Mary Lou Harden reported that the program for the May 17, 2019 day meeting will be presented by Patsy Monk and will be on "Don't Starve Your Plants".

SHOW AND TELL:

Anita Adlin brought in Jolly Butterfly (a semi-mini) and Georgia Lover (a standard) for help and growing advice. Anita also gave away leaves of these plants to members who wanted leaf cuttings.

Nancy Kast brought in Deep Purple Dreaming (a sinningia) and a petrocosmea to show off. Jerry Kast brought in Ness' Crinkle Blue (a semi-mini) to show off.

RAFFLE PLANTS: There was no raffle tonight, but Terry Jordan brought in streptocarpus leaves to give away to members present who wanted leaves.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:38PM.

Angela Newell, Night Recording Secretary

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Day Meeting Minutes
April 19th, 2019
Seffner-Mango Public Library
410 N Kingsway Rd, Seffner, FL

The meeting was called to order by 2nd Vice President Jim Boyer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATION: Jim Boyer

REFRESHMENTS: 49th Anniversary Member Pot Luck

PROGRAM: "Episcias"

Presented by Robert Cameron. Robert brought many varieties as examples. When planting he uses loose soil; 60% peat moss & 40% perlite, no vermiculite. Plants can be grown for blossoms or ornamental foliage. Best propagated by rooting stolons.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 15th, 2019, day meeting were approved as published in "The Petal".

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's Report was not available to be presented.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Jim Boyer reminded everyone that annual dues of \$15 are due.

Jim also informed everyone that he is the Society Historian and that all articles are archived in a drop box.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AVCF: Jim Boyer invited everyone to their Spring Meeting May 4th at the Altamonte Springs Golden Corral

ROLL CALL: Roselind Rovinsky: 14 members were present.

SHOW AND TELL: patsy monk brought in "My Dream"

RAFFLE: conducted by patsy monk

RAFFLE PLANTS: patsy monk

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 pm

Linda Bennett, Secretary Pro Tem

MEET THE MEMBER

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RECIPE BOX



*This month's recipe submitted
by King James*

SANDWICH CAKE

5 stalks celery with leaves, divided
1 bunch fresh chives, divided
5 cups finely chopped cooked chicken (about 2 lb)
1 cup mayo
1 cup seedless red grapes, divided
1 tsp curry powder
1/2 cup shredded sharp cheddar
4 slices cooked bacon, finely chopped
1 loaf Hawaiian round bread (1 lb), unsliced
16 oz cream cheese, softened
2 tbsp milk

Remove leaves from celery stalks, reserve leaves for later use. Chop celery stalks; place in medium bowl.

Cut 20 (6-inch) lengths from chives; reserve for later use. Chop remaining chives. Add to chopped celery along with the chicken and mayo; mix lightly. Spoon half the chicken mixture into separate bowl.

Chop 1/2 cup grapes, then cut remaining grapes lengthwise in half. Reserve grape halves for later use. Add chopped grapes to chicken mixture in 1 bowl along with curry powder; mix lightly. Stir cheddar and bacon into remaining chicken mixture.

Cut bread loaf horizontally into 3 layers. Stack layers on plate, filling each layer with different chicken salad.

Mix cream cheese and milk until blended; spread onto outside of sandwich. Refrigerate 6 hours. Decorate with reserved celery leaves, chives and grape halves before serving.



Just send it to nybleb@aol.com

AVSA Weekly Growing Tip

March 25th, 2019

Imitating Mother Nature Getting the Light Just Right

Mother Nature provided the original African violets in nature with a deep forest canopy to shelter the delicate plant from the intense rays of the sun at the equator. Those rays are less intense at more distant latitudes but direct light, especially in summer months may still be too

intense for violets. Some light fixtures may also be too bright. And some violets seem to prefer gentler light. How do you know if the light is too bright? Watch for short petioles (leaf stems), unusually compact growth, and foliage which is bleaching to a lighter green.

What can a grower do when light is too bright? Here are some relatively inexpensive solutions:

- Sheer curtains on windows are time-tested, effective and attractive
- Bubble-wrap secured to glass will filter the light and also insulate from cold or heat
- Parchment paper secured to window glass or around light fixtures will filter the light gently and won't deteriorate if it gets damp.



Sunlighter Light Stand by Indoor Gardening Supplies

Get your copy of the *African Violet Magazine* as a benefit of membership in the African Violet Society of America.

Join today!

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HELP!!!!!! +

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Become a MEMBER

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Tampa African Violet Society

Kathy Glenn asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. kathybear555@gmail.com

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Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly color newsletter, **The Dixie News**, is \$15 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Johnnie Berry, Membership Chair, 287 Fennel Way, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.** johnniepearl@aol.com www.davs.org

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Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

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Sinningia 'Deep Purple Dreaming'
Photo courtesy of Mary Lou Harden

THE PETAL

July 2019

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampaafricanviolets.com



FIREWORKS

A Message from the President

Hello, Violet Friends,

Here we go again. . .it's the beginning of what looks like will be a long, hot summer! But then, it's summertime, so what can we expect!? Thankfully, all of us have air-conditioned homes and we're happy to share our space with our African violets.

Last week I met a lady who told me she is growing her African violets on her screened-in porch where the temperature sometimes is in the low to mid 90's. She asked me why her plants seemed to look a little droopy as though stressed. I assured her that I would look droopy and stressed if I had to live in 90+ degree temperatures. Lesson to be learned: African violets like the same temperatures that humans do – and most of us have our thermostats set at

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80 degrees or lower – some people, much lower!

We're working on our 2019-2020 Yearbook and one of the items we need to take care of before we can publish is to choose a theme for our 2020 show. Please take a look at pages 49 and 50 of your current Yearbook for a list of themes the Club has used since 1976. Hopefully you will have some ideas for a theme for next year's show. If you have a theme to suggest, please send me an email or bring your suggestion to our next meeting.

Also, if you would like to serve as a co-chair for the 2020 show so you can "learn the ropes," please don't hesitate to volunteer.

The USF Fall plant sale will be Saturday and Sunday, October 12 and 13 at USF Botanical Gardens. That's just 3 months from now. If you grow Episcias, now is the time to pot them up and by the time of the USF sale, they will be

perfect. Please be growing plants, whether African violets or any of the other gesneriads, for the sale and plan to donate some leaves for the Club to sell.

At our June night meeting, we learned about our affiliates – AVSA, DAVS, AVCF and GS. At the day meeting, Carolee Carter presented an informative meeting about insects that can be a problem with African violets.

At the July night meeting, we'll have some fun learning African violet terminology as we play African violet BINGO! And at the July day meeting, we'll learn about African violet trailers. Hope to see you at one of the meetings!

Mary Lou Harden, Club President

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

NIGHT MEETING: July 11th, 2019 at 7 PM
Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603

Inspirational: Annie Pirone

REFRESHMENTS and RAFFLE PLANTS:
Susan Buys, Annie Pirone and Therese Lynam

THE PROGRAM:

“AFRICAN VIOLET BINGO”

Lots of fun, informative and there will be Prizes!
To be presented by Cece Lane

DAY MEETING: July 19th, 2019 at 10 AM
Public Meeting Room
Seffner-Mango Library
410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584

Inspirational: Lynn Bandy

REFRESHMENTS and RAFFLE PLANTS:
Amanda Mendoza, Lynn Bandy and Betty Wise

THE PROGRAM:

“AFRICAN VIOLET TRAILERS”

Not the kind with wheels!
How they are grown and how they are shown
To Be Presented by Cece Lane and Mary Lou Harden

RECENT PROGRAMS

NIGHT MEETING: June 6th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“Introducing Our Affiliates”
Presented by Mary Lou Harden

DAY MEETING: June 21st, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“INSECTS, BUGS AND MORE”
Presented by Carolee Carter



JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/3 Nancy Kast
7/12 Pat Rutzke
7/12 Lynne Wilson
7/22 Roselind Rovinsky
7/26 Dang Williamson

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

Gladys Cook is in the process of rebuilding the Club's website and is looking for a volunteer or volunteers who would like to work with her and learn the process. Gladys can do "on the job" training. Please contact Gladys directly at gladyscook9320@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.



OCTOBER 12TH AND 13TH

USF Fall Plant Sale

USF Botanical Gardens
12210 USF Pine Drive
Tampa, FL

November 6-9, 2019

DAVS Annual Convention & Show "CRUISING WITH VIOLETS"

Lexington Hotel and Conference Center-
Jacksonville Riverwalk, Jacksonville, FL
Betty Ferguson, President
Bettywithviolets@gmail.com
Information: www.DAVS.org

WORKSHOPS AT DAVS CONVENTION, Speakers & Topics

Friday, November 8 - 2:00-3:30 pm. Beth Baker. "The Weird Ones."

Beth has become an expert on the wasps, the bells, the bustles, and all the other weirdos that some of us love and some of us disdain. In addition, she knows the hybridizers and knows the hybrids' stories.

Friday, November 8 - 3:30-5:00 pm. Becky McMeel. "Interpreting Design Themes and Pulling It All Together While Maintaining

Your Sanity." Becky begins the creative process of Design as soon as her show schedule arrives. In this workshop you will learn her other techniques as well for creating original yet stress-free designs.

Saturday, November 9 - 11:00-12:30 pm.

Gesneriad Forum with Marian and Greg Zoller, Travis Davis, and Jim Boyer. "Fibers and Rhizomes and Tubers. Oh My!" The Zollers grow and sell hard-to-obtain Achimenes and other rhizome plants. Travis hybridizes and is a vendor of African violets, Episcias and Streptocarpus. And Jim has discovered the secret of winning Best awards with his Sinningias.

Saturday, November 9 - 1:30- 3:00 pm.

Johnnie Berry. "How I Care for New Plants I Purchase at Convention." Johnnie successfully grows about 400 violets, which is proof that she knows what it takes to keep her new and old flower children happy and thriving.

MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

Evening Meeting Minutes

May 2nd, 2019

4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by president, Mary Lou Harden, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL: Lisa Villabol.

REFRESHMENTS: Anita Adlin, Lisa Villabol and Mary Lou Harden

PROGRAM: "How do I get my African Violets to Bloom?"

Mary Lou explained the need for proper light -- whether artificial or natural, as well as Fertilizers. She suggested using a 20-20-20 such as Peter's or Jack's is good since the plants need high nitrogen for overall growth. She also suggested occasionally changing fertilizers. During summer, you may need to use a clip-on fan for good air circulation. Also, repot every 3 to 6 months, especially if growing for show. If plants are grown in natural light, make sure to turn plants each day.

Mary Lou also explained each of our affiliates: AVSA, DAVS, AVCF, GS, TBGS

BUSINESS MEEING

Minutes of the May 2, 2019, meeting were approved as published.

ROLL CALL: Jean Krauchik

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

TAVS: Dues are \$15

AVCF: Dues are \$10

AVSA-: Dues are \$35. Mary Lou gave a brief report on the Houston Convention

DAVS: Dues are due in February each year-- Annual Dues are \$15. 2019 Show will be held November 6-9 at the Lexington Hotel and Conference Center Jacksonville Riverwalk, Jacksonville Florida. TAVS will be responsible for Goodie Bags.

The Gesneriad Society: Annual Dues are \$25. 2019 convention/show is July 2-4 in Cincinnati Ohio

TBGS: Dues are \$10- Meeting 3rd Saturday morning monthly in Tampa

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences to Therese Lyman on the passing way of her husband, Lee Roberts.

Karen Cavanaugh--in rehab due to a recent fall and knee injuries

June Birthdays: Jean Krauchik, David Matthews, Barbara Lopez, Mary Kay Ross, Barbara Smith

June 21 Day meeting: "INSECTS, BUGS AND MORE" Carolee Carter

July 11: (date change) "African Violet Bingo"

SHOW AND TELL: Jerry Kast brought Rocky Mountain Trail. Nancy Kast showed Sinningia Calcaria and Begonia Melana bullata.

RAFFLE PLANTS: Mary Lou Harden

ADJOURNMENT: 8:50 pm.

Jean Krauchik, Secretary pro tem

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

Day Meeting Minutes

May 17th, 2019

Seffner-Mango Public Library

410 N Kingsway Rd, Seffner, FL

The meeting was called to order by 2nd Vice President Jim Boyer at 10:12 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL: Barbara Lopez

REFRESHMENTS: Delores Areias, Barbara Lopez and Betty Wise

PROGRAM: "INSECTS, BUGS AND MORE"

Presented by Carolee Carter

Carolee gave us a very factual, informative and fun power point presentation on the many "critters" that can infest our plants. She had a plethora of information and we are trying to obtain it in a format that we will be able to share with all.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the May 17th, 2019, day meeting were approved as published in "The Petal".

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Dues are now due \$15

AVSA: George and Angelina Grundhoff, Carolee Carter, Terry Jordan and Mary Lou Harden attended the AVSA Convention May 26-June 2nd at the Houston Marriott in Houston TX.

Carolee Carter asked that all members go to the AVSA website and vote for your favorite "Best Variety"

DAVS: Annual Convention and show will be held November 6-9 in Jacksonville.

The Gesneriad Society: The 2020 convention will be held in St. Petersburg, FL!

TBGS: Dues are \$10- Meeting monthly every 3rd Saturday in Tampa.

TWITTER: Glenn Shelton reported that the Twitter site is growing!

FACEBOOK: Kathy Glenn is doing a splendid job on our Facebook account.

OFFICER REPORTS: Mary Lou Harden reported the July 11th evening meeting will be African Violet Bingo, Presented by Cece Lane. Therese Lynam has redone the Bingo sticks and playing cards.

The July day meeting will be African Violet Trailers to be presented by Cece Lane and Mary Lou Harden.

Jim Boyer reported that ALL programs for next year have been set.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mary Lou Harden questioned whether or not the club wanted to do a Project Plant for our 2020 show. It was suggested we get the plants from Laura Perdomo at the Peacock Cottage in Ocala.

ROLL CALL: Lynn Bandy: **20** members were present.

NEW BUSINESS: Mary Lou Harden moved and Glenn Shelton seconded that the Club pay a portion of the President, or designee's, expenses to attend AVSA's Annual Convention, the amount to be determined by the Executive Committee and recommended to the members for approval. Motion carried.

BIRTHDAYS: Jean Krauchik, David Matthews, Barbara Lopez, Mary Kay Ross and Bonnie Smith

RAFFLE: conducted by Mary Lou Harden

RAFFLE PLANTS: Carolee Carter

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 pm

Lynn Bandy- Day Recording Secretary

MEET THE MEMBER

This month's meet the member is from new member Carrie Homs

Early Childhood

1. **Where were you born?**

New Jersey

2. **Any childhood memories?**

I enjoyed motorcycle hill climbs

3. **Who was the most influential person to you as a child?**

My Grandmother

4. **Did you have any pets?**

Yes **What kind?** A dog

5. **What did you do during the summertime?**

I enjoyed going barefoot

6. **Did you have any nicknames?**

Carrie

Grade School/High School

7. **What was your favorite subject?**

Art

8. **What was your favorite sport?**

Archery

9. **How would you describe yourself as a student, both socially and academically?**

Quiet

10. **What extracurricular activities did you participate in as a teen?**

Helping my Mother and Grandmother

11. **What was your favorite music/band/dance in high school?**

Jazz and all 50's music

College

12. **Did you attend college?**

No

Career

13. Describe your work career – jobs.

Office work at Mack Motors
Factory and Mail room for M&M Mars

Family

14. Do you have children?

Yes

How many and what gender are they?

1 Son and 2 Daughters

Are they adults now?

Yes

African violets – Plants

15. When and how did you become interested in growing African violets?

I was always interested in African Violets

16. How many violets do you have?

Just a few

17. What do you like most about growing African Violets?

When they flower

18. Do you grow any other types of plants?

Yes

19. What do you like to do in your spare time?

Yard work and Baking

Thanks Carrie and Welcome!

Want to be the next member to be featured in our newsletter???? Simply fill out a Biography Interview Questions form or if you are so inclined write up your own story. If you did not get a form copy or want to submit your story just email Lynn @ NYBLEB@aol.com

RECIPE BOX



*This month's recipe submitted
by Lynn Bandy*

LEMON SQUARES

For the crust:

1/2 pound unsalted butter, at room temperature
1/2 cup granulated sugar
2 cups flour
1/8 teaspoon kosher salt

For the filling:

6 extra-large eggs at room temperature
3 cups granulated sugar
2 tablespoons grated lemon zest (4 to 6 lemons)
1 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice
1 cup flour
Confectioners' sugar, for dusting

Directions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.

For the crust, cream the butter and sugar until light in the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment. Combine the flour and salt and, with the mixer on low, add to the butter until just mixed. Dump the dough onto a well-floured board and gather into a ball. Flatten the dough with floured hands and press it into a 9 by 13 by 2-inch baking sheet, building up a 1/2-inch edge on all sides. Chill.

Bake the crust for 15 to 20 minutes, until very lightly browned. Let cool on a wire rack. Leave the oven on.

For the filling, whisk together the eggs, sugar, lemon zest, lemon juice, and flour. Pour over the crust and bake for 30 to 35 minutes, until the filling is set. Let cool to room temperature.

Cut into triangles and dust with confectioners' sugar.



Just send it to nybleb@aol.com



Two lighted plant stands for sale — both are professional plant stands. One is 3-shelf for \$50 and one is 4-shelf for \$75. Lights included. Contact Mary Lou Harden at mlhard@verizon.net.



AVSA Weekly Growing Tip

July 1st, 2019

Wick Watering Tricks

Wick watering is an effective constant-water method for growing violets. It requires less time if you have a large collection and allows freedom to travel. But there are tricks to doing it successfully.

What makes wick-watering work?

Capillary action is the science behind wick-watering. It allows water to move against the force of gravity and travel upward in the pot. Water molecules have cohesion - they stick to each other - and adhesion - they stick to other materials - such as the sides of a pot, a wick, and soil particles. The system works best when 1) the wick is moist, 2) the potting mix is moist, and 3) a reservoir of water is present to replace the water molecules taken up by the violets or evaporated from the surface of the soil.

Trick to replace wicks

Sometimes wicks get clogged with roots or minerals and need to be replaced. If you prefer not to repot, Lisa Hutton, a member of the African Violet Nerds Facebook group, recommends adding a new wick using a large eye lacing needle. She prefers plastic ones which are less likely to stab hands.



Ann-Marie Keene shows the basics of wick watering in a 5:40 minute **video** from the AVSA Violets 101 page.

Get your copy of the *African Violet Magazine* as a benefit of membership in the African Violet Society of America.

Join today!

Anyone is welcome to sign up for this growing tip from the African Violet Society of America. Subscribers are not required to be members of AVSA. Please share it with your friends! www.AVSA.org

Got Problems?

Any time you have a plant that has a problem and you can't identify the problem and would like some advice, bring the plant with you to a meeting and get some help. We can also help with repotting issues. Please be sure if you suspect insect/mite issues that you isolate the plant in a plastic bag.

NEED SUPPLIES?

If you need supplies – pots, leaf support rings, perlite, vermiculite, soil, fertilizer, Marathon, charcoal, etc., please call or email Mary Lou Harden@ (813-689-8700 H 813-924-2686 C,) mlhard@verizon.net. Your order will be brought to the meeting.

HELP!!!!!!



Lynn Bandy is looking for interesting articles, member bios, and photos to publish in "The Petal". Submit these to: NYBLEB@AOL.COM

Gladys Cook is in the process of rebuilding the Club's website and is looking for a volunteer or volunteers who would like to work with her and learn the process. Gladys can do "on the job" training. Please contact Gladys directly at gladyscook9320@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

Become a MEMBER

WANT TO JOIN TAVS? Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Therese Lynam if you're interested in becoming a member:

THERESEJOAN@aol.com

Visit us at:

www.Tampaafricanviolets.com

Mary Lou is looking for good articles, tips, professional quality pictures for the website. www.tampaafricanviolets.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Tampa African Violet Society

Kathy Glenn asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. kathybear555@gmail.com

Join us on Twitter:

[AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets](https://twitter.com/AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets)

Glen has requested if anyone has photos they would like to share on our Twitter account to send them to him at shelgl@tampabay.rr.com

JOIN ONE OF OUR AFFILIATES

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membership, is \$35 per year. Send contact information and check payable to AVSA to: **AVSA Office, 2375 North Street, Beaumont, TX 77702.** www.AVSA.org

Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly color newsletter, **The Dixie News**, is \$15 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Johnnie Berry, Membership Chair, 287 Fennel Way, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.** johnniepearl@aol.com www.davs.org

African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly newsletter, **The Florida Connection**, is \$10 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Sharon Gartner, 1573 LaBaron Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207.** www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

Disclaimer: While the information and recommendations in this publication are believed to be correct and accurate, neither the authors or editor, nor the Tampa African Violet Society can accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. Tampa African Violet Society makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material herein

THE PETAL

August 2019

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampaafricanviolets.com



Powder Keg

The Tampa African Violet Society, is an Affiliate of The African Violet Society of America, Inc., The Dixie African Violet Society, The African Violet Council of Florida and The Gesneriad Society

A Message from the President

Hello, Violet Friends,

You'll notice this is an abbreviated issue of The Petal. Our faithful editor, Lynn Bandy, has been in West Palm Beach with her sister who will soon be having surgery. Trusting that all will go well with the surgery and recovery, Lynn will be able to return home in the next week or two and we'll be back on track with the September newsletter.

Did you notice that summer is quickly moving along and will soon be gone!? Seems like it just started! **So here's something important we need to do NOW.** We need a theme for our 2020 show! TAVS has many creative and talented members so I know we can select a theme **BY AUGUST 16!**

To give you a clue and an idea – the 2019-2020 year is our club's 50th ANNIVERSARY! I hope

that helps and you'll have some good ideas! So, come prepared at next week's night meeting on August 1 as well as the day meeting on August 16 with your suggested theme. I would tell you that the winner of this theme contest will receive One Million Dollars! However, as you already know, that's not going to happen. But. . .you will receive great satisfaction from having named our 2020 show as well as lots of praise!

In the meantime, you can send me an email at mlhard@verizon.net with your suggestions.

Now, a reminder of what's coming up on our calendar. The USF Fall Festival is October 12 and 13 at the Botanical Gardens. If you plan to sell any of your plants at USF, they should not be repotted after this week. You know what happens at plant sales when there are newly or recently potted plants on the table. When the plant gets knocked over on the table or a customer accidently drops the plant, the fresh

soil does not cling to the root ball but is dumped out on the table or floor, making a big mess.

Following on the heels of USF is the Dixie AVS convention and show in Jacksonville – November 6-9. So, get your plants and designs ready!

Also, take advantage of the **AVSA Judging School** which will be on Wednesday morning, November 6. Jim Boyer will be teaching the class. Even if you don't have a desire to be a certified judge, the class is a great way to learn all about growing and showing African violets.

Hope to see you at one of our August meetings.

Mary Lou Harden, Club President

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

NIGHT MEETING:

**Thursday, August 1, 2019 at 7 PM
Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603**

Inspirational: Jean Krauchik

REFRESHMENTS and RAFFLE PLANTS:

Jean Krauchik, Mary Lou Harden

THE PROGRAM:

“Nancy’s Fancies”

Introducing some of the less-known or unusual Gesneriads

To be presented by Nancy Kast

DAY MEETING

**August 16, 2019 at 10 AM
Public Meeting Room
Seffner-Mango Library
410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584**

Inspirational: Karen Cavanaugh

REFRESHMENTS and RAFFLE PLANTS: Robert Cameron, David Matthews

THE PROGRAM:

“How These Soil Supplements Can Help Your Violets: Fulvic Acid, Humic Acid and Mycorrhizae”

To Be Presented by Tom Schaefer



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/1 Linda Bennett
8/9 Cece Lane
8/27 Mary Fisher



Lynn Bandy, our Editor, is currently in West Palm Beach with her sister who will be having surgery.

Anita Adlin is recovering from recent surgery.

Please keep Lynn's sister and Anita in your thoughts and prayers.

PT-Luiza
(Louise)



COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 12 AND 13

USF Fall Plant Sale
USF Botanical Gardens
12210 USF Pine Drive
Tampa, FL

NOVEMBER 6-9, 2019

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Glenn Shelton has requested if anyone has photos they would like to share on our Twitter account to send them to him at shelgl@tampabay.rr.com



Kissaway Trail

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NOTE AVSA'S NEW ADDRESS SHOWN HERE. Subscription to the **African Violet Magazine** (6 issues per year) which includes AVSA membership, is \$35 per year. Send contact information and check payable to AVSA to: **AVSA Office, 1310 IH-10 S, Suite 100, Beaumont, TX 77707.** www.AVSA.org

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Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
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THE PETAL

SEPTEMBER 2019

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampaafricanviolets.com



Photo by Cynthia
SCHOOL BELLS

A Message from the President

Hello, Violet Friends,

WOW! Where did summer go??? I had so many plans for the summer months, but most of them remain just that – PLANS! I haven't even gotten all of my plants repotted although I had promised myself that I would get that done during the summer. Oh well, forgetting the past, I'm moving on.

September signals the beginning of many of our activities. And this year it means the beginning of Tampa African Violet Society's 50th year as a club! So congratulations to us! Over the years, the club has grown in number and it has matured beautifully. We've tried hard to educate the public about the wonderful world of African violets. We've done our best to encourage new club members on how they can grow better and more beautiful violets.

The Tampa African Violet Society, is an Affiliate of The African Violet Society of America, Inc., The Dixie African Violet Society, The African Violet Council of Florida and The Gesneriad Society

We've also tried to encourage our local, state, regional and national affiliates by supporting them at their meetings and shows as well as giving our financial support.

Program Chair Jim Boyer has planned some great programs for the year – practical, educational programs that will help all of us be or become highly successful growers and showers of African violets. The September night program will be a Design workshop in which everyone will get a chance to create a design. The program for the day meeting will focus on rooting and potting. There will be a surgical demonstration! If you have a plant with a too-long neck, bring it with you and Jim will show you what needs to be done to the plant.

The Fall Plant Festival at USF's Botanical Gardens will be October 12 and 13. We need member support for this event, including member-grown plants for the sales tables. You don't have to be an expert on growing violets in

order to help. We need a few members to work the cash register at designated time slots, and we need people to assist with checkout at the register. We will be selling supplies and will need help with pricing and organizing the supplies. It will be up to all of us to greet the people who come to us and answer their questions.

Look elsewhere in this issue for information about the Dixie AVS Convention and Show in Jacksonville beginning November 6th.

The 2019-2020 Yearbooks, as well as the 2020 Club Project Plants, will be available at the September meetings. I hope to see you at the September 5 night meeting!

Mary Lou Harden, Club President

CAN YOU HELP?????

TAVS relies on its members to stock and replenish paper and plastic goods used for refreshments and packaging supplies and soil. Thanks to Bonnie Smith for her recent donation of paper plates, cups, plastic ware and napkins. We are still in need of gallon plastic Ziplock bags and 13-gallon trash bags. And we can always use plastic table covers and additional supplies for refreshments. Any and all donations are appreciated. THANK YOU!

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

NIGHT MEETING: September 5th, 2019
at 7 PM
Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603

THE PROGRAM:

“Design Workshop”

To be presented by Mary Lou Harden

Inspirational: Sheryl Herold

REFRESHMENTS and RAFFLE PLANTS:
Sheryl Herold and Mary Lou Harden

DAY MEETING: September 20th, 2019
at 10 AM

Public Meeting Room
Seffner-Mango Library
410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584
THE PROGRAM:

“PROPAGATING LEAF CUTTINGS & CROWNS
ROOTING & POTTING”
”

To Be Presented by Jim Boyer and Mary Lou Harden.

If you have a plant with a long neck bring it along and they will show you how to correct that!

Inspirational: Carolee Carter

REFRESHMENTS and RAFFLE PLANTS:
Carolee Carter and Martha Morgan

SOIL MIXING PARTY

Immediately after the September 20 day meeting, we will meet at Mary Lou Harden’s home to mix and package soil for our upcoming sales. Please come and help! With enough help, it will take about an hour.

RECENT PROGRAMS

NIGHT MEETING: August 1st, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“Nancy’s Fancies”

Presented by Nancy Kast

DAY MEETING: August 16th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“HOW These Soil Supplements Can Help
Your Violets”

Presented by Tom Schaefer



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/12 Sandra Kerns
9/13 Sheryl Herold
9/28 Karen Cavanaugh



USF FALL PLANT FESTIVAL October 12 – 13, 2019

Set-up is Thursday, October 10, at 1 pm

HOURS:

Saturday, October 12: 10 am to 3 pm
Sunday, October 13: 10 am to 2 pm

NEEDED:

Member-grown plants for the event
Members helping at the event
Helping with set-up on October 10
Working shifts at the cash register

ASSISTING CUSTOMERS:

Selling plants and supplies
Pricing and organizing supplies
Greeting the public



NOVEMBER 6th-9th, 2019

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WORKSHOPS AT DAVS CONVENTION, Speakers & Topics

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6th 8AM-4PM
Jim Boyer will be conducting a Judging school

This is a great opportunity for Floridians to take a judging school. Please download and complete the registration form attached if you would like to attend.

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Beth Baker. "The Weird Ones."

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The Convention Packet, including copies of the Show Schedule, Hotel Registration form and Judging School Registration forms have been sent in a separate email.

SHOWTIME

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WE HAVE A SHOW THEME **"TAVS IS A NIFTY FIFTY"**

Mary Lou Harden and Steve Whidden are co-chairs.

Carolee Carter will be writing the Show Schedule.

Committees will be selected and published in the 2019-2020 Yearbook.

Project plants will be available for \$3 at September and October meetings - members can select a standard or a miniature.

All members are encouraged to purchase and grow for show a Project Plant.

Further details will be presented at future meetings.

Remember this is a GROUP event.

MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY **Evening Meeting Minutes** **August 1st, 2019** **4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL**

The evening meeting minutes are not available for publication. They will be read at the meeting for approval.

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY **Day Meeting Minutes** **August 16th, 2019** **Seffner-Mango Public Library** **410 N Kingsway Rd, Seffner, FL**

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Lou Harden at 10:15 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL: Karen Cavanaugh

REFRESHMENTS: David Matthews, Bonnie Smith and Carrie Homs

GUESTS: Joshua Young, Fred Matthews

PROGRAM: "How These Soil Supplements Can Help Your Violets-Mycorrhizae, Fulvic and Humic Acids"

Presented by Tom Schaefer

Tom gave us a very factual, informative and fun power point presentation on the various soil supplements along with a lesson on how to pronounce all of them!

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the July 19th, 2019, day meeting were approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Was presented by Mary Lou Harden

ROLL CALL: Lynn Bandy: **16** members and **2** guests were present.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Dues are now due \$15

AVSA: Dues are \$35

DAVS: Dues are \$15

Annual Convention and show will be held November 6-9 at the Lexington Hotel and Conference Center in Jacksonville. TAVS is responsible for "Goodie Bags".

The Gesneriad Society: Dues \$25

The 2020 convention will be held in St. Petersburg, FL!

TBGS: Dues are \$10- Meeting monthly every 3rd Saturday in Tampa at the offices of Dr. Robert Martinez.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A suggestion was made to change the December day meeting from December 20th to December 13th. Day members agreed this would be a good idea. Mary Lou Harden to check availability of Seffner-Mango Library.
2. Selection of theme for 2020 show-TAVS's 50th Anniversary. Members suggested:
 - a. Memories are Made of This
 - b. Treasure Trove of Memories
 - c. TAVS is a Nifty Fifty
 - d. 50 Years of Violets
 - e. Share, Love, Pass it On with Violets
 - f. Let it All Hang Out with African Violets
 - g. The Golden Years/Bridge to The Future

TAVS is a Nifty Fifty was the overall winner.

Mary Lou Harden and Steve Whidden will serve as co-chairs.

Carolee Carter volunteered to write the Show Schedule again this year.

Various members volunteered for committees which will be published in the 2019-2020 Yearbook.

3. Project plants are available. There are a standard and a miniature. Project plants are \$3 and will be available for purchase at the next two meetings.

4. Jim Boyer will be conducting a Judging school November 6th in Jacksonville.

5. The USF plant sale is scheduled for October 12th and 13th. Members are encouraged to sign up to work the show and grow plants for sale.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lynn Bandy's sister passed away last week. Peggy Waibel is currently at the Doctors for a broken toe.

Anita Adlin will be undergoing heart valve surgery -date not scheduled

BIRTHDAYS: Linda Bennett, Cece Lane and Mary Fisher

RAFFLE: conducted by Roselind Rovinsky

RAFFLE PLANTS: Carolee Carter

ADJORNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 pm

Lynn Bandy- Day Recording Secretary

MEET THE MEMBER

Want to be the next member to be featured in our newsletter???? Simply fill out a Biography Interview Questions form or if you are so inclined write up your own story. If you did not get a form copy or want to submit your story just email Lynn @ NYBLEB@aol.com



Primulina Grown by Susan Stringfellow

RECIPE BOX



*This month's recipe submitted
by Mary Lou Harden*

ML's POTATO – EGG BAKE

Use glass baking dish – cake size – spray with Pam

Cover with hearty layer of frozen hash brown potatoes with onions and peppers

(I use 1 pkg. of frozen Ore Ida O'brien)

Salt and pepper lightly

Bake at 350 for 30 minutes or so – long enough to thaw and heat them thoroughly – it's ok if they brown a tad, but not necessary

Remove from oven

Cover potatoes with shredded sharp cheddar cheese – maybe 2 cups

Then add a layer of cubed ham (or previously cooked and drained sausage)

If you want more pepper/onion flavor, you can slightly pre-cook chopped pepper and onion and add that

In mixing bowl, break one dozen eggs – depending on size of your bake dish, you may need up to 1 ½ dozen eggs (I use 16)

Beat eggs until frothy

Add about a cup of milk or cream

Add salt and pepper

Pour egg mixture over your casserole. Sprinkle top with shredded cheese

Bake at 350 for about 45 minutes – will get slightly puffy and a little brown. sugar.



Just send it to nyleb@aol.com



Four-shelf professional lighted plant stand for sale for \$75. Lights included.

Contact Mary Lou Harden at mlhard@verizon.net.



AVSA

Weekly Growing Tip

August 26th, 2019

Tammy Dubois's violets were tall and leggy. Having grown for only 14 months she needed help. LED lights were added to supplement the window light, but the violets were still growing up.

African Violet Buddies suggested that her violets were "so crowded, they can't lay flat, no matter what the light." Tammy tried that advice and admitted, "Not repotting sooner was also a problem."

Limited space for different varieties makes it tempting to crowd. But crowded violets fight for space. In Tammy's case, the only space left to grow was up.



Annie Rieck, host of the podcast *All About African Violets*, suggests that growers should **limit their collection**. In other words, grow fewer varieties to improve culture. That's critical for Annie who keeps ample space around her violets and gesneriads.

The advantages of fewer plants with ample room to grow? Violets grow to full potential. There's less disease. Grooming and monitoring growth change is easier.



Annie has a two part series that we will publish in upcoming issues of the Petal.

Part I in the October issue and Part II in the November issue of The Petal.

Get your copy of the *African Violet Magazine* as a benefit of membership in the African Violet Society of America.

Join today!

Anyone is welcome to sign up for this growing tip from the African Violet Society of America. Subscribers are not required to be members of AVSA. Please share it with your friends! www.AVSA.org

Got Problems?

Any time you have a plant that has a problem and you can't identify the problem and would like some advice, bring the plant with you to a meeting and get some help. We can also help with repotting issues. Please be sure if you suspect insect/mite issues that you isolate the plant in a plastic bag.

NEED SUPPLIES?

If you need supplies – pots, leaf support rings, perlite, vermiculite, soil, fertilizer, Marathon, charcoal, etc., please call or email Mary Lou Harden@ (813-689-8700 H 813-924-2686 C,) mlhard@verizon.net. Your order will be brought to the meeting.

HELP!!!!!!

Lynn Bandy is looking for interesting articles, member bios, and photos to publish in "The Petal". Submit these to: NYBLEB@AOL.COM

Gladys Cook is in the process of rebuilding the Club's website and is looking for a volunteer or volunteers who would like to work with her and learn the process. Gladys can do "on the job" training. Please contact Gladys directly at gladyscook9320@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

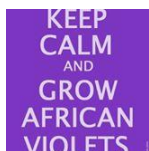
Become a MEMBER

WANT TO JOIN TAVS? Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Therese Lynam if you're interested in becoming a member: THERESEJOAN@aol.com

Visit us at:
www.Tampaafricanviolets.com

Mary Lou is looking for good articles, tips, professional quality pictures for the website. www.tampaafricanviolets.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Tampa African Violet Society

Kathy Glenn asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. kathybear555@gmail.com

Join us on Twitter:

[@AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets](https://twitter.com/AfricanViolets)

Glen has requested if anyone has photos they would like to share on our Twitter account to send them to him at shelgl@tampabay.rr.com

JOIN ONE OF OUR AFFILIATES

African Violet Society of America (AVSA). Subscription to the **African Violet Magazine** (6 issues per year) which includes AVSA membership, is \$35 per year. Send contact information and check payable to AVSA to: **AVSA Office, 2375 North Street, Beaumont, TX 77702.** www.AVSA.org

Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly color newsletter, **The Dixie News**, is \$15 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Johnnie Berry, Membership Chair, 287 Fennel Way, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.** johnniepearl@aol.com www.davs.org

African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly newsletter, **The Florida Connection**, is \$10 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Sharon Gartner, 1573 LaBaron Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207.** www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

Disclaimer: While the information and recommendations in this publication are believed to be correct and accurate, neither the authors or editor, nor the Tampa African Violet Society can accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.

Tampa African Violet Society makes no warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to the material herein



Primulina "New York": Mary Lou Harden



Columnea Carnival: Mary Lou Harden



Kohleria Dale's 'Furry Fox':
Mary Lou Harden



Episcia "Toy Soldier"; Mary Lou Harden

THE PETAL

NOVEMBER 2018

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampafricanviolets.com



Burnt Autumn

A Message from the President

Dear Violet Friends,

Thank you, TAVS members, for your wonderful support at the Fall Plant Festival at USF Botanical Gardens! You came through for us, and your help is appreciated! Several of our members brought plants to sell, and that's always a plus.

One of the perks of helping at these plant sales is the great camaraderie that we all enjoy. At our meetings, time is limited so we're happy to be able to share more time with one another – even if our visiting is sandwiched between serving our customers! The weather was just beautiful on Saturday, hence, the public came out and we had brisk sales throughout most of the day. Sunday was a little warmer so sales were a little less. However, overall, the Club did quite well.

Tampa African Violet Society, is an Affiliate of African Violet Society of America, Inc., Dixie African Violet Society, African Violet Council of Florida and The Gesneriad Society

One week prior to the USF Fall Plant Festival, several TAVS members were busily engaged in the annual show in Lakeland sponsored by the African Violet Council of Florida, of which Jim Boyer is president. There were 176 entries in the show, 164 in Horticulture and 14 in Design. Glenn Shelton served as Classification Chair and both he and Angela Newell were Judges. It was a beautiful show. Next year's show will be in October in or near Jacksonville, and will be a jointly sponsored show with Dixie AVS.

Because of a fatal automobile accident on the Howard Frankland Bridge the morning of our October day meeting, our Pinellas County members were unable to attend the meeting. This meant that Glenn Shelton was unable to attend and present his program on Vintage & Species Plants. Glenn has agreed to give his program at the November 16 day meeting at which time Jim Boyer will also give us some advice on grooming plants for show.

At the November 1 night meeting, Angela Newell will give us tips about grooming plants for show. A nominating committee will also be appointed at that meeting.

Take advantage of any free time between now and the holidays to do some repotting. Once the holidays arrive, it's hard to find time to work on plants!

Hope to see you at one of the November meetings!

Mary Lou Harden Club President

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES OF MEETING DATES:

The December Day meeting is December 14 – NOT the 21st

The July 2019 Night meeting is July 11 – NOT the 4th

NIGHT MEETING –November 1st, 2018 at 7 PM

**Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603**

Inspirational: Tom Schaeffer

Refreshments and Raffle Plants: Terry Jordan, Therese Lynam and Tom Schaeffer

THE PROGRAM:

“Grooming for Show”

To be presented by Angela Newell
Appointment of Nominating Committee

DAY MEETING – November 16th, 2018 at 10 AM

**Public Meeting Room
Seffner-Mango Library
410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584**

Inspirational: Celia Howe

Refreshments and Raffle Plants: Barbara Matthews, Tom Schaeffer and Nina Megginson

THE PROGRAM:

“VINTAGE & SPECIES PLANTS”

By Glenn Shelton
and

“Grooming for Show”

To be presented by Jim Boyer

RECENT PROGRAMS

NIGHT MEETING: October 11th, 2018

THE PROGRAM:

“RX Session: Free Check-ups!”
Members brought plants for advice.

A look back at the AVCF show

AVCF SHOW WINNERS

“Violet Vibes in the Fabulous 50’s”
Lakeland, FL – October 5-6, 2018

Best in Show, 2nd Best in Show Horticulture; Best AVSA Collection, Standard; Best DAVS Collection, Standard; Best Standard; Best Trailer; Best Fantasy; Best Russian; Best Buckeye; Sharon Gartner, Jacksonville, FL.

3rd Best in Show Horticulture; Best AVSA Collection Mini/Semi mini; 2nd Best AVSA Collection Standard; Best DAVS Collection, Mini/Semi mini; 2nd Best DAVS Collection, Standard; Best Miniature; Best Semi miniature; 2nd Best Semi miniature; Best Vintage; Best Lyndon Lyon; Best Optimara; Horticulture Sweepstakes; Kurt Jablonski, Miami Beach, FL.

2nd Best AVSA Collection, Mini/Semi mini; Carolee Carter, Ocala, FL.

Best Species, Elvie Blakely, Titusville, FL.

Best Chimera, Martha Spyridon, Delray Beach, FL.

Best Other Gesneriad; Best Streptocarpus; Best Episcia; Best Terrarium; Bobbi Johannsen, Jacksonville, FL.

Best Novice Horticulture; Georgia Shaw.

Best in Design; 2nd Best in Design; Best Interpretive Flower Arrangement; Best Interpretive Plant Arrangement; Best Natural Garden; Best Dish Garden, Design Sweepstakes; Mary Lou Harden, Seffner, FL.

DAY MEETING – October 19th, 2018

THE PROGRAM:

“Vintage and Species Plants

Our scheduled presenter for this program Glenn Shelton was caught in a horrific traffic jam and was not able to be present, so our illustrious President Mary Lou Harden stepped in and gave us an informative presentation on Episcias.

GUESTS IN OCTOBER:

Amanda Mendoza, Riverview, FL
Garth McFadden, a visitor from Vancouver, Canada who is a member of the Vancouver African Violet Society and The Gesneriad Society

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/1 Tom Schaeffer
11/10 Carolee Carter
11/17 Dolores Areias
11/19 Glenn Shelton
11/27 Barbara Matthews
11/29 Linda Schwambach



WELCOME, NEW MEMBER!

Amanda Mendoza – amen60@hotmail.com



Lynne Wilson has a new lung lesion, Bonnie Smith is recovering, Betty Wise continues to undergo Chemotherapy and Therese Lynam is recovering from one cataract extraction and will undergo another in December but on a light note she is feeling good enough to drive! Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers.



October 31 - November 11, 2018

Heart of Jacksonville AVC Special African Violet Display in the Exhibit Hall at the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair.
Jacksonville Fairgrounds, 510 Fairground Place, Jacksonville, FL 32202

November 3, 2018 – Heart of Jacksonville AVC, Plant Sale, 9 am to 4 pm, at Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretta Road, Jacksonville, FL 32223

February 7-18-2019 Florida State Fair

February 23-24, 2019TAVS Annual show and sale

Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603

May 26 – June 2, 2019



AVSA CONVENTION AND SHOW HOUSTON MARRIOTT

Put some *Violet Fun* in 2019!!

Plan now to attend the 73rd Convention

2019 National Show hosted by the Lonestar African Violet Council
Open to the public – Friday and Saturday, May 30 & June 1
Commercial Vendor Salesroom, with vendors from across the nation
Presentations, Tours, Food and Fun for All!

Come & Have Some *Violet Fun* in the Texas Sun!!

----- By Plane, by Train or Automobile! –
Two major Airports and Amtrak-----

Learn more about the wonders of
Houston, Texas
www.visithouston.com

Take a peek at the Houston Marriott
in the Galleria area
<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/houwm-houston-marriott-westchase/>

MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Evening Meeting Minutes
October 11th, 2018

Common Ground Christian Church 4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Lou Harden at 7:15 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL: Jerry Kast

REFRESHMENTS: Maria Whidden, Kathy Glenn and Jerry Kast

PROGRAM: Rx Session – Bring your plants for advice and a check-up. Kathy Glenn brought plants showing mite damage as an educational tool. The plants had been treated with the insecticide Forbid. Lisa Villabol showed a violet that needed repotting. Anita Adlin brought a couple of violets that had long petioles which needed to be removed and the plants repotted. Mary Lou Harden showed a standard violet that had a neck and needed to be repotted.

SHOW & TELL: Following the program, we continued with Show & Tell. Jerry Kast showed one of his AV miniatures, and Nancy Kast showed Sinningia Leopoldii.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the August 2, 2018, and September 6, 2018, meetings were approved as published.

ROLL CALL: Jean Krauchik – Twelve members were present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Mary Lou Harden reminded everyone that the annual dues for TAVS are \$15.00 and will be due next April. She also reported that the annual dues to join AVCF are \$10.00 and that the Council's annual Show October 5-6 in Lakeland was a success. Mary Lou also reminded members that the annual dues for AVSA are \$35.00. Mary Lou encourages every TAVS member to be a member of the AVSA. Additionally, she reported that DAVS annual dues are \$15.00 and are due in February of each year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

TAVS project plants are still available at \$3 each

The annual Fall Plant Festival at USF Botanical Gardens is Saturday and Sunday, October 13-14. Hours on Saturday are 10 am to 3 pm and on Sunday are 10 am to 2 pm. We need volunteers to help both days of the sale as well as setting up the tents on Thursday, October 11, at 1 pm.

TAVS 2019 show is February 22-23, with set-up on February 21. Lynn Bandy will serve as co-chair with Mary Lou Harden. Carolee Carter is writing the show schedule. Mary Lou announced that all members should be growing plants to sell at our show.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

October Birthdays: Annie Pirone, Charles Fisher, Lisa Villabol, Peggy Waibel, Susan Buys

Program for October 19 Day meeting – Vintage & Species Plants by Glenn Shelton

Program for November 1 Night meeting – Grooming for Show by Angela Newell.

Nominating Committee will be elected.

PLANT RAFFLE – Cece Lane

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Mary Lou Harden, Secretary Pro Tem

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

Day Meeting Minutes

October 19th, 2018

**Seffner-Mango Public Library
410 N Kingsway Rd, Seffner, FL**

The meeting was called to order by Jim Boyer at 10:12 am followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

GUESTS: Amanda Mendoza and Garth McFadden

REFRESHMENTS: Linda Bennett, Martha Morgan and Mary Lou Harden

PROGRAM: “Vintage and Species Plants”

Our scheduled presenter for this program Glenn Shelton was caught in a horrific traffic jam and was not able to be present, so our illustrious President Mary Lou Harden stepped in and gave us an informative presentation on *Episcias*.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the September 21st, 2018, day meeting were approved as published in "The Petal".

TREASURER’S REPORT: The Treasurer’s Report will be filed with the minutes.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mary Lou Harden announced that both meetings for next month will be on “**Grooming for Show**” the evening meeting to be presented by Angela Newell and the day meeting to be presented by Jim Boyer

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Annual dues of \$15 were due April 2018

AVSA: Carolee Carter reported that the AVSA magazine has a new editor and that we would be looking forward to “Theme” magazines in the future.

AVSA membership, is \$35 per year, and includes a Subscription to the **African Violet Magazine** (6 issues per year). You can join by logging into the AVSA website or Glenn has membership forms.

DAVS: Lynne Wilson is DAVS President and is our appointed liaison. Annual dues of \$15 are due in February. Next year’s show

will be in October in Jacksonville in conjunction with the AVCF.

AVCF: Annual dues are \$10. Jim Boyer reported there were 169 entries, our own Mary Lou Harden swept away the Design category.

GESNERIAD SOCIETY: Annual dues are \$25. Monthly meetings of the local club, Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society, are held every third Saturday in Tampa.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mary Lou Harden reported that we received information regarding the Florida State Fair and she will report further next month.

Carolee Carter has completed the show schedule for our show in February, it is awaiting approval.

We encourage EVERY member to put down leaves and bring plants for sale at our show!

Project plants are still available for \$3 each. Each member is encouraged to grow at least one project plant for the show!

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

October Birthdays: Anne Pirone, Charles Fisher, Lisa Villabol, Peggy Waibel and Susan Buys.

Lynne Wilson has a new lung lesion, Bonnie Smith is recovering, Betty Wise continues to undergo Chemotherapy and Therese Lynam is recovering from one cataract extraction and will undergo another in December but on a light note she is feeling good enough to drive!

Both meetings in November will be **“Grooming for Show”**

The evening program November 1st will be presented by Angela Newell and the day

program November 16th will be presented by Jim Boyer.

Appointment of Nominating Committee will also be at the evening meeting.

ROLL CALL: Lynn E. Bandy. Sixteen members and 2 visitors.

SHOW AND TELL: Mary Lou brought a Sinningia Prudence Risley.

TIP OF THE DAY: Mary Lou and Jim both gave a tip to utilize Publix fruit containers as 1. A terrarium and 2. Use the top as a shallow planter.

RAFFLE: Cathy Kessler

RAFFLE PLANTS AND LEAVES: provided by Carolee Carter and Mary Lou Harden.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am

Lynn Bandy, Day recording secretary

MEET THE MEMBER

This month's member biography is from new member Peggy Waibel

Early Childhood

Where were you born?
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Any childhood memories?
Fishing with my parents

Who was the most influential person to you as a child?
My mother and my art teacher

Did you have any pets?
In the past I've had dogs, cats and a parrot

What did you do during the summertime?
Spent the days hiking and fishing with family

Did you have any nicknames?

Legs

Grade School/High School

What was your favorite subject?

Science

What was your favorite sport?

Ice skating

How would you describe yourself as a student, both socially and academically?

Average

What extracurricular activities did you participate in as a teen?

Ballet, Tap, and Jazz classes

What was your favorite music/band/dance in high school?

All of them- I loved music

What would people you know find surprising about you as a teen?

I was shy but comfortable on the stage doing ballet

College

Did you attend college?

Yes

Where?

Davis and Elkins in West Virginia

What subject(s) did you study and why?

Art

Did you get a degree?

Attended school for 2 years and then got married.

Career

Describe your work career – jobs.

I went back to school and studied nursing

Family

Do you have children?

Yes: two wonderful boys ages 19 and 22

African violets – Plants

When and how did you become interested in growing African violets?

My mother and Aunt always had beautiful plants

How many violets do you have?

100 plus

What do you love the most about growing African violets?

Watching them grow into beautiful plants

Do you grow any other types of plants?

I did when I was younger

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Socialize with friends, bake, and cook

Want to be the next member to be featured in our newsletter???? Simply fill out a Biography Interview Questions form or if you are so inclined write up your own story. If you did not get a form copy or want to submit your story just email Lynn @ NYBLEB@aol.com.

RECIPE BOX



*This month's recipe submitted
by Lynn Bandy*

Creamy Breasts of Chicken

8 boneless chicken breast halves
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
1 can of cream of chicken soup undiluted
3 cups crushed corn bread stuffing

1 stick melted butter

Layer in a shallow baking dish chicken, cheese, stuffing mix and butter
Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour

This can be made with any cream soup, cheese or stuffing of your choice
Despite it's ease of preparation this is a very elegant dish

AVSA Weekly Growing Tip

October 22nd, 2018

Violets Grown to Perfection



There is more than one way to enjoy your African violets... and some growers love to compete at African Violet Society of America shows. Competition builds the habits required to grow well consistently. Beautifully grown show plants challenge the rest of us to learn and to develop the same good culture.

This lovely exhibit of 'Rob's Fuddy Duddy' was shown by Bobbie Lafashia from Wilmington, Delaware, at the 2018 AVSA Convention in Buffalo, NY. Her skill here is obvious, earning the Best Semiminiature African Violet in the show.

Bobbie said, "'Rob's Fuddy Duddy' has been winning awards for me for the 10 years that I have grown it. It is wick-watered, fertilized with Dyna-Gro 7-9-5,

and grown under T12 fluorescent lights for 12 hours a day. It blooms profusely and forms a symmetrical rosette. It is an excellent plant and never disappoints."

Smart exhibitors choose varieties which are naturally easy to grow. 'Rob's Fuddy Duddy' and others may be found on the Honor Roll of Best Varieties, as voted by growers. 'Tally Time' lists varieties which have won major awards in AVSA shows. Studying those results is a great way to choose hybrids for show and for everyday growing

Get your copy of the *African Violet Magazine* as a benefit of membership in the African Violet Society of America.

Join today!

Anyone is welcome to sign up for this growing tip from the African Violet Society of America. Subscribers are not required to be members of AVSA. Please share it with your friends! www.AVSA.org

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HELP!!!!!! +

Mary Lou is looking for good articles, tips, professional quality pictures for the website. www.tampafricanviolets.com
Lynn Bandy is looking for interesting articles, member bios, and photos to publish in "The Petal". Submit these to: NYBLEB@AOL.COM

Become a MEMBER

WANT TO JOIN TAVS? Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Therese Lynam if you're interested in becoming a member: THERESEJOAN@aol.com

Visit us at:
www.Tampafricanviolets.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Tampa African Violet Society

Kathy Glenn asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. kathybear555@gmail.com

Join us on Twitter:

[AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets](https://twitter.com/AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets)

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Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

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Ozark Purple Zebra- Sinningia



Jim Boyer- AVCF President



Rose Bouquet



AVCF Show sales room



AVCF Show focal Point

THE PETAL

DECEMBER 2019

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampaafricanviolets.com



PEPPERMINT LACE

A Message from the President

Hello, Violet Friends,

I hope you've had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends and, if you were entertaining at home, that your African violets were showing off!

The past couple of months have kept us busy with activity – first was the fall plant festival at USF in mid-October, then it was the Dixie Convention in Jacksonville in early November.

TAVS was well represented at the convention. The Judging school, taught by Jim Boyer, was Wednesday morning. Among those taking the school were Kathy Glenn, Angela Newell and Jim Matula. I was informed that all of them passed the exam! Also attending the convention were Carolee Carter and Terry Jordan. I attended the first two days but left early as I had promised my sister that I would

The Tampa African Violet Society, is an Affiliate of The African Violet Society of America, Inc., The Dixie African Violet Society, The African Violet Council of Florida and The Gesneriad Society

attend her 96th birthday celebration in Marion, Ohio, on Sunday, November 10. I was happy to attend her party but was even happier to leave the sleet and snow and return to sunny Florida! You'll find a list of the award winners from the Dixie show in this newsletter. Both Jim Boyer and Carolee Carter received awards!

Our December meetings will be laid-back and fun – we'll play African violet Bingo! Remember that EVERYONE brings food to share at our December meetings – and – we ask that everyone bring a donation of any amount which will be given to a local charity. Last year's donation was given to Trinity Café which is now operating under the umbrella of Feeding Tampa Bay.

We'll also discuss plans for our display at the Florida State Fair to be held at the Florida State Fairgrounds February 6 through 17, 2020. The horticulture displays will not be competitively judged, and each participating club will receive \$350. Even though our display will not be

judged, we want to make it beautiful and eye-catching.

Our 2020 show is February 27-29. We set up on Thursday, the 27th, including plant and design entries. The show is judged the morning of Friday, the 28th, and is open to the public at noon on Friday and all day Saturday. The show ends at 3 pm Saturday, the 29th. Be sure to check the Grooming Schedule beginning on page 51 of your Yearbook so you'll know what you should be doing NOW to get your plants ready for show!

I hope to see you at the next meeting!

OUR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Meetings are held twice a month the first Thursday and the third Friday. Come join us, visitors are ALWAYS welcome!!!!

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE CHANGE FOR THE DECEMBER DAY MEETING

NIGHT MEETING: December 5th, 2019
at 7 PM
Common Ground Christian Church
4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL 33603

THE PROGRAM:

“AFRICAN VIOLET BINGO”

INSPIRATIONAL: Susan Stringfellow

**REFRESHMENTS:
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Everyone brings a covered dish!
Each member is asked to bring a cash gift (suggest \$5) to be donated to a local charity

DAY MEETING: December 13th, 2019
at 10 AM **NOTE DATE CHANGE**
Seffner-Mango Library Public Meeting Room
410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584

THE PROGRAM:

“AFRICAN VIOLET BINGO”

INSPIRATIONAL: Karen Cavanaugh

**REFRESHMENTS:
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Everyone brings a covered dish!
Each member is asked to bring a cash gift (suggest \$5) to be donated to a local charity

RECENT PROGRAMS

NIGHT MEETING: November 14th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“TIPS FOR PACKING PLANTS FOR THE SHOW”

Presented by Jim Boyer

DAY MEETING: November 15th, 2019

THE PROGRAM:

“GROOMING FOR SHOW”

Support rings Disbudding and Lighting
presented by Carolee Carter



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •

NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The Nominating Committee has been appointed and will give its report at the January 2020 meeting. Kathy Glenn is chair of the committee. Please give Kathy your suggestions, or better still – how about volunteering to serve as an officer! TAVS needs volunteers!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 12/1 Luetta Donalds
- 12/4 Maria Whidden
- 12/11 Celia Howe
- 12/25 Jim Boyer
- 12/28 Patsy Monk
- 12/29 Amanda Mendoza
- 12/29 Carla Alter



Therese Lynam recently fell and fractured her pelvis. After a brief stay in the hospital, she's now at home, receiving therapy and doing well. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Therese and all our members facing difficult times.



Richard Nicholas was past President of AVSA

Richard Alan Nicholas of Denton passed away on November 22, 2019. He was born in St. Joseph, MO to James and Helen (Robinson) Nicholas.

Richard was a graduate of McCallum High School in Austin, TX. He received both his Bachelor's and PhD from the University of Texas at Austin and his Master's Degree from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL. Richard worked at several universities around the country before coming to Texas Woman's University in Denton in 1996. He served as the Vice President for Student Life until his retirement in 2014.

Richard married his college sweetheart, Anne, in 1970. They have one daughter, Laura. Their beloved family includes Laura, her husband, Brian Hupach, and two beautiful granddaughters, Brianna and MaKaya. Other family members include Anne's siblings and their families, and many cousins, nephews, and nieces.

Richard loved his university and the time he spent mentoring students. He proudly watched successes of his students around the country.

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 6TH THRU THE 17TH

FLORIDA STATE FAIR

FEBRUARY 28TH and 29TH

TAVS ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE
"TAVS IS A NIFTY FIFTY"

APRIL 11TH AND 12TH

USF SPRING PLANT SALE

In his retirement he enjoyed time with hobbies including traveling, collecting gems and minerals, philatelic stamps (particularly early Hawaii), and growing and hybridizing African Violets. He served as President of the African Violet Society of America from 2017-2019. He and Anne shared all these activities and relished their quiet life at home together. In addition to his family, he loved his dog and at least one canine companion always enriched his life.

Richard will be remembered for his quiet wit and humor, dignity, respect, wisdom, and his love of life.

A Memorial for Richard will be held on Sunday, January 19, 2020 at Texas Woman's University. In lieu of flowers, the family wishes contributions be made to:

1. The Texas Woman's University Foundation for the Dr. Richard Nicholas Scholarship Fund.

Options for giving:

Phone: 940-898-3863

Mail: TWU Foundation, P.O. Box 425618, Denton, TX 76204-5618

Online: <https://pof.twu.edu/>

2. African Violet Society of America Anne and Frank Tinari Endowment Fund

MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Night Meeting Minutes November 14th, 2019 4207 North Boulevard, Tampa, FL

The meeting was called to order at 7:15PM by 2nd Vice-President Jim Boyer.

Members present at tonight's meeting: Jim Boyer, Angela Newell, Kathy Glenn, Anita Adler, Susan Stringfellow, Natalia Lukashova and her daughter Alisa, Lee Ann Tepper, Wanda Lee Tepper.

REFRESHMENTS: Wanda Lee Tepper and her daughter, Lee Ann Tepper.

INSPIRATIONAL: Kathy Glenn.

PROGRAM: The Program previously scheduled for tonight, "Streptocarpus" will be presented by Terry Jordan at the January 2, 2020, night meeting. The Program for tonight was presented by Jim Boyer on "Tips for Packing Plants for the Show". Some of the valuable tips presented by Jim during his presentation included:

- Jim uses the soft, rib-type of shelf liner under his plants when transporting them in his car to a show to prevent them from shifting.
- Jim uses leaf supports to support leaves and shredded newspaper packed around his plants during the transporting of the plants to a show. He also added that the leaves of the plants will need to be groomed before entering plants in a show due to paper dust from the shredded newspaper.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Approval of minutes from the October 3, 2019, night meeting as published in "The Petal" is deferred to the December 5, 2019, night meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Jim Boyer reported that a Nominating Committee needs to be formed for the selection of officers for the 2020-2021 year, and that he needs three people to serve on this Committee. Kathy Glenn volunteered to be on the Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Jim Boyer reported that for both of the December meetings (the night meeting on December 5, 2019 and the day meeting on December 13, 2019) will not have a planned Program as we will be playing African Violet Bingo instead. He also reminded members that

at both of the December meetings, we will have our Christmas Party and Covered Dish Dinner. Each member attending needs to bring a covered dish to share for the dinner.

Jim Boyer also reported that at both of the December meetings, we will accept donations to a local charity. An amount of \$5.00 is suggested as a donation; however, any amount of donation is welcomed.

Lee Ann Tepper reported that she is not receiving any emails, including the monthly newsletter, from the Club. Jim Boyer verified her email address and will notify Lynn Bandy to make certain that Lee Ann Tepper's name is on the TAVS email and newsletter mailing list.

SHOW & TELL:

Anita Adlin brought with her several plants, including a beautiful Pow Wow plant, that she had growing questions about. Several members present at tonight's meeting agreed that her plants needed to be transplanted and that they would make good choices to enter in the Novice Division of our Show in February. Jim Boyer offered to go to Anita's home the following week and give her instructions, as well as assistance, in transplanting these plants.

RAFFLE PLANTS: There was no raffle held tonight. Instead, leaves brought in by Anita Adlin were distributed to the members, and baby plants grown by Natalia Lukashova were also distributed to members present tonight.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:50PM.

Angela Newell, Night Recording Secretary

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Day Meeting Minutes November 15th, 2019 Seffner-Mango Library Public Meeting Room 410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584

The meeting was called to order by 2ND Vice President Jim Boyer at 10:20 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL: Celia Howe

REFRESHMENTS: Celia Howe, Linda Bennett, Bonnie Smith and Jim Boyer

PROGRAM: "GROOMING FOR SHOW"

Tips for grooming for show including support rings, disbudding, and lighting was presented by Carolee Carter.

Carolee suggested inspecting your plants every time you water. Carolee gave us numerous tips including using small clothes pins and coffee stirrers to manipulate your leaves and "groomed" several "demonstration plants" brought in by Terry Jordan. Grooming was brutal!!! Jim Boyer reminded us that November 23rd was the beginning of this years show grooming schedule.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the October 18th, 2019, day meeting were approved as published in the Petal.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Was presented by Mary Lou Harden

ROLL CALL: Lynn Bandy: **16** members were present.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

DAVS:

Jim gave us a run down on the Annual Convention and show held November 6-9 at the Lexington Hotel and Conference Center in Jacksonville. Multiple members of TAVS attended and participated in both the show and the judging school.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kathy Glenn volunteered at the night meeting and Jim Boyer assigned Bonnie Smith and Tom Schaefer to complete this years Nominating Committee. If you would like to serve as an officer or if you have someone you would like to nominate you can contact one of these members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported on the USF Fall Plant sale. The show was a success giving us close to \$1000.00 in sales. Many thanks to all who participated.

The Florida State Fair is February 6-17. This is a great opportunity for us to get our Club out there to the public. We will be looking for volunteers to man our booth during the fair and of course the creative minds of our group to come up with a vision for our booth decoration.

Jim Boyer announced that both meetings in December would be Violet Bingo! He also reminded everyone that the meetings were Covered Dish! If you have the time write out your recipe and bring it to the meeting or email it to Lynn Bandy for publication in The Petal. Everyone was also asked to bring a cash donation (\$5 suggested amount) to be donated to a local charity.

BIRTHDAYS: Tom Schaefer, Carolee Carter, Glenn Shelton, Barbara Matthews and Delores Areias

TIPS: Leave a small piece of bloom stalk on the plant when disbudding, this encourages double bloom stalks to grow. Just be sure to groom closely prior to showing your plant. If you are within 3-4 days of show and your plant still has tight buds, heat some water to 100 degrees and gently water your plant. This will encourage the tight buds to open. Or place your plants closer to the light source

RAFFLE: Conducted by Roselind Rovinsky

RAFFLE PLANTS: Carolee Carter and Terry Jordan

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 pm

Lynn Bandy- Day Recording Secretary



CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE WINNERS AT DIXIE AVS SHOW, JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA, November 6-9, 2019

BEST AVSA COLLECTION - SEMI/MINI

Jolly Butterfly, Rob's Fuddy Duddy, Ness' Cranberry Swirl

Won by: Catherine Carter from Jacksonville, FL

BEST DAVS COLLECTION - SEMI/MINI

Wichita Baby, Honey Blue Ace, Jolly Orchid

Won by: Catherine Carter from Jacksonville, FL

GESNERIAD COLLECTION - BLOOMING

Sinningia 'April Starr', Sinningia 'Powderpuff', Sinningia 'Laura'

Won by: Bobbi Johannsen from Atlantic Beach, FL

GESNERIAD COLLECTION - NON-BLOOMING

Primulina dryas 'Hisako', Primulina linericalyx, Primulina 'Patina'

Won by: Bobbi Johannsen from Atlantic Beach, FL

BEST IN SHOW - HORTICULTURE

Cajun's Ella Grace

Won by: Sharon Gartner from Jacksonville, FL

2ND BEST IN SHOW - HORTICULTURE

Jolly Orchid

Won by: Catherine Carter from Jacksonville, FL

BEST IN SHOW - DESIGN

"Vienna, Austria"
Won by: Linda McQueen from Fruit Cove, FL

2ND BEST IN SHOW - DESIGN

"Natural Garden"
Won by: Betty Ferguson from Little Rock, AR

BEST STANDARD

Cajun's Ella Grace
Won by: Sharon Gartner from Jacksonville, FL

BEST VARIEGATED

Eternal Orbit
Won by: Jim Boyer from Palm Harbor, FL

BEST TRAILER

Baby Brian
Won by: Carolee Carter from Ocala, FL

BEST SPECIES

S. 5b clone grotei Silvert
Won by: Carolee Carter from Ocala, FL

BEST GESNERIAD

Episcia 'Spearmint'
Won by: Jillian Cain from Fort Lauderdale, FL

BEST SEMI-MINATURE

Eternal Orbit
Won by: Jim Boyer from Palm Harbor, FL

BEST MINATURE

Jolly Orchid
Won by: Catherine Carter from Jacksonville, FL

BEST CHIMERA

Eternal Orbit
Won by: Jim Boyer from Palm Harbor, FL

BEST NOVICE

Primulina "Joanne Martinez"
Won by: Vikki Jo Ivey from Spartanburg, SC

BEST DIXIE REGISTERED

Jolly Orchid
Won by: Catherine Carter from Jacksonville, FL

BEST VINTAGE

Mouse Maid
Won by: Johnnie Berry from Atlanta, GA

BEST RUSSIAN HYBRID

SK-First Love
Won by: Catherine Carter from Jacksonville, FL

BEST STREPTOCARPUS

Streptocarpus 'Bristol's Jumpin' Jack'
Won by: Greg Zoller from Arlington, TN

**BEST INTERPRETIVE PLANT
ARRANGEMENT**

"Fairytale Windmills of the Netherlands"
Won by: Betty Ferguson from Little Rock, AR

**BEST INTERPRETIVE FLOWER
ARRANGEMENT**

"Vienna, Austria"
Won by: Linda McQueen from Fruit Cove, FL

BEST CONTAINER GARDEN

"Dish Garden"
Won by: Debbie Cavalier from Ponte Vedra
Beach, FL

BEST JOLLY MINIATURE

Jolly Orchid
Won by: Catherine Carter from Jacksonville, FL

BEST FANTASY

Cajun's Lil Sprinkles
Won by: Linda McQueen from Fruit Cove, FL

Horticulture Sweepstakes

50 blue ribbons
Won by: Catherine Carter from Jacksonville, FL

Runner-Up to Horticulture Sweepstakes

36 blue ribbons
Won by: Bobbi Johannsen from Atlantic Beach,
FL

Design Sweepstakes

6 blue ribbons
Won by: Becky McMeel from Houma, LA

Runner-Up to Design Sweepstakes

6 blue ribbons
Won by: Betty Ferguson from Little Rock, AR

MEET THE MEMBER

Want to be the next member to be featured in our newsletter???? Simply fill out a Biography Interview Questions form or if you are so inclined write up your own story. If you did not get a form copy or want to submit your story just email Lynn @ NYBLEB@aol.com

RECIPE BOX



*This month's recipe submitted
by Mary Beth Bryant*

This is my Aunt Helen's recipe. Goes great with practically any cracker and is not too fishy! :)

Salmon Ball

1 can red salmon - well drained
1 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese
1 tbsp lemon juice
2 tbsp grated onion
1 tsp. prepared horseradish
1/4 tsp. salt
1 tsp. liquid smoke

Mix well and shape into a ball. Let set overnight. Can be rolled in chopped parsley or chopped nuts.



Just send it to nybleb@aol.com

AVSA

Weekly Growing Tip

SEPTEMBER 16th 2019

Speaking the Same Language

By Cheryl Sandquist

Sometimes when you learn a new hobby, you also learn a new language. Many terms used when reading or discussing African violets were foreign to me as a new violet hobbyist. I did not know the language and found it confusing. To save you from a similar experience, here are some need-to-know terms for the new violet hobbyist: What are violets? The Gesneria (ges-nair-ee-ah) family is a vast and varied group of flowering plants, including African violets, Streptocarpus, Aeschynanthus, and Gloxina, among others, that have become popular as houseplants. Saintpaulia (saint-paul-ee-a), commonly known as African violets, are a genus of up to thirty species of herbaceous flowering plants in the family Gesneriaceae. Are they big plants or small plants? African violets come in different sizes. These plants can be classified as one of several sizes based on its above ground diameter. Although the size per category is not set in stone, here are some general guidelines: Single crowned plants: • Micro-miniature: very small leaves (a hybridizer's term used to describe the very small growing plants) • Miniature: up to 6 inches in diameter • Semi-miniature: up to 8 inches in diameter • Standard: over 8 inches in diameter • Large: a term hybridizers use to denote large growing varieties • Trailers: violets that have more than one crown (need at least three crowns to win a blue ribbon) and come in all the sizes listed above. What else do I need to know when talking to other violet enthusiasts? According to GrowingToShow (2008), a violet enthusiast can define the following terms: General terms: Cultivar or variety or any African violet that is different from another, a result of hybridization or sporting. Hybridization: Taking pollen from one violet and transferring it to the stigma of another to obtain seeds. The hybridizer breeds violets and the resulting plant is called a hybrid. Vintage violets

were introduced at least twenty-five years prior to the year in which it is to be entered in a show. Terms to describe the plant: Sport: A plant that shows marked change from the parent plant; usually a natural mutation. Crown: A center of growth with all the leaves originating from that center radiating out like spokes on a wheel. Chimera: Blossoms with stripes that radiate from the center. Peduncle: The stalk supporting flowers. Tailored: A plain African violet leaf on which the areas between the veins are slightly raised. (May also be called "quilted.") Optimara: Popular trademark for African violets introduced since 1977 to the present, by Holtkamp Greenhouses. Wasp: Blossoms are single and each lobe is very narrow and separated from the others. Petiole: The stem of the leaf attaches the leaf to the main stem. Girl (leaf): Deeply scalloped leaves, usually rounded or heart-shaped with white to yellow marking at the base of each leaf (has nothing to do with the sex of the plant). Longifolia: Narrow, pointed, strap-like leaves with either plain or wavy edges. Supreme: Leaves are thick, hairy, and quilted, with strong pencil-like petioles. Now that you know some of the basic terms, I would encourage you to join AVSA and become part of a violet club to extend your terminology and discover the fascinating world of violet hobbyists.

Get your copy of the *African Violet Magazine* as a benefit of membership in the African Violet Society of America.
Join today!

Anyone is welcome to sign up for this growing tip from the African Violet Society of America. Subscribers are not required to be members of AVSA. Please share it with your friends! www.AVSA.org

Got Problems?

Any time you have a plant that has a problem and you can't identify the problem and would like some advice, bring the plant with you to a meeting and get some help. We can also help with repotting issues. Please be sure if you suspect insect/mite issues that you isolate

the plant in a plastic bag.

NEED SUPPLIES?

If you need supplies – pots, leaf support rings, perlite, vermiculite, soil, fertilizer, Marathon, charcoal, etc., please call or email Mary Lou Harden@ (813-689-8700 H 813-924-2686 C,) mlhard@verizon.net. Your order will be brought to the meeting.

HELP!!!!!!

Lynn Bandy is looking for interesting articles, member bios, and photos to publish in "The Petal". Submit these to: NYBLEB@AOL.COM

Gladys Cook is in the process of rebuilding the Club's website and is looking for a volunteer or volunteers who would like to work with her and learn the process. Gladys can do "on the job" training. Please contact Gladys directly at gladyscook9320@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

Become a MEMBER

WANT TO JOIN TAVS? Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Therese Lynam if you're interested in becoming a member:
THERESEJOAN@aol.com

Visit us at:

www.Tampafricanviolets.com

Mary Lou is looking for good articles, tips, professional quality pictures for the website. www.tampafricanviolets.com

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Tampa African Violet Society

Kathy Glenn asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. kathybear555@gmail.com

Join us on Twitter:

[AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets](https://twitter.com/AfricanViolets@TAVS_violets)

Glenn Shelton manages this site and has requested if anyone has photos they would like to share on our Twitter account to send them to him at shelgl@tampabay.rr.com

JOIN ONE OF OUR AFFILIATES

African Violet Society of America (AVSA). Subscription to the **African Violet Magazine** (6 issues per year) which includes AVSA membership, is \$35 per year. Send contact information and check payable to AVSA to: **AVSA Office, 1310 IH-10, Suite 100, Beaumont, TX 77707.** www.AVSA.org

Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly

color newsletter, **The Dixie News**, is \$15 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Johnnie Berry, Membership Chair, 287 Fennel Way, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331.** johnniepearl@aol.com www.davs.org

African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF). Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly newsletter, **The Florida Connection**, is \$10 per year. Send check with contact information to: **Sharon Gartner, 1573 LaBaron Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32207.** www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

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