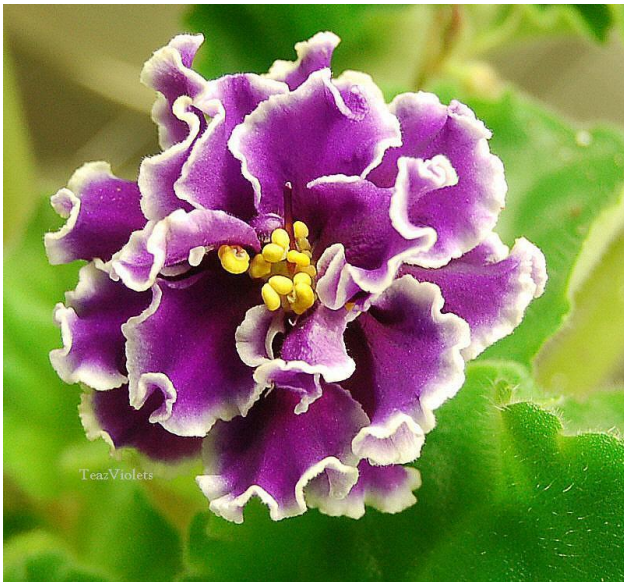


# THE PETAL

## AUGUST 2021

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society  
[www.tampaafricanviolets.com](http://www.tampaafricanviolets.com)



**SHIMMERING SUNSHINE**

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

**HAPPY AUGUST, EVERYONE!**

I hope you are doing well.

As summer progresses, so does the club. Work behind the scenes for our club show is beginning to ramp up.

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

More visibly, some of our club members went to Mulberry to hear Bobbi Johannsen give a program at the First Lakeland African Violet Society's July meeting. I am sure that the attendees came away energized and with good ideas to share. Proof that African Violets really do connect us all!

See you on the 20<sup>th</sup> for an in-person meeting at Mary Lou's. King James will present a program on Sinningias.

*Mary Beth*

## MEETINGS

Our meetings will be held the third Friday of the month at 10AM. Notification of whether the meeting will be in person or via ZOOM will be posted in The Petal. If via ZOOM an email will be sent with ZOOM connections.

Beginning in September, on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will be starting up a ZOOM evening meeting.

These will be held the first Thursday of the month at 7pm.

Program details for all meetings will be posted in The Petal.

We are still actively seeking a meeting venue for our Friday morning meetings. Any suggestions can be forwarded to Mary Beth Bryant at [thebryants333713@gmail.com](mailto:thebryants333713@gmail.com)

We're planning our programs for this year. If you have suggestions for a specific topic, please let our program chair know. Contact Mary Lou Harden at [mlhard@verizon.net](mailto:mlhard@verizon.net).

## ZOOM MEETINGS



Mary Beth Bryant will be hosting the virtual meetings via Zoom!  
We will have a program to begin and lots of time for any questions. Then, we will open it up and do some show and tell. So, get your precious blooming babies camera ready. I know we all want to see some flowers!

What's that you say? You don't know how to Zoom?! No problem. You don't need to have a Zoom account or download anything permanently to your computer, or tablet or phone. Be on the lookout for an email from Mary Beth with directions that are really easy. I promise.

You will receive an email message a few days before the meeting with a link to access the meeting. Hope to see you then!

## AUGUST MEETING FRIDAY August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 10AM

Our August meeting will be an in-person meeting.

The meeting will take place at Mary Lou Harden's home.  
902 W Old Hillsborough Ave.  
Seffner, FL 33584

At this meeting, Jim Boyer will tell us how to grow *Sinningias*.

*Sinningia* is a genus of about 75 species, most of which are native and/or endemic to Brazil. They are easy to grow and don't require a lot of space.



SINNINGIA "WHITE SPRITE"

### ABOUT OUR SPEAKER JIM BOYER



Jim (affectionately known as "King James")

Jim is a native of Tampa, but for quite a few years lived in Orlando where he became active in the insurance industry beginning in 1973. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Banking and Finance in 1970 from the University of Florida and a Masters of Science in Financial Services in 1984 from The American College. Jim has worked as an Employee Benefits and Financial Services Representative and has been in the sales and service of life, health and investment products.

A few years ago, Jim decided a change would do him good so he ventured into other businesses. Today, according to his Facebook page, he is “self-employed and loving it”!

Jim’s life has not always been just about financial matters. He loves to fish, and has an absolute mania for the Gators Football team! And, he has been growing, showing and judging African violets for many years. Actually, he got hooked on African violets in 1979 and started growing anything and everything he could get his hands on. He joined a local club and, after much coaxing, started showing.

In 1986, his club’s Best in Show winner was Desert Dawn, one of the first chimeras ever produced. Jim was fascinated with the pinwheel striping and decided at that moment to concentrate on chimeras. For several years, Jim had a commercial African violet business, selling only chimeras and supplying two other commercial growers with his plants.

Later, Jim became a Charter Member of AV Association of Gardeners in Orlando, serving as its First Vice President, Show Chair and Plant Sales Chair.

Upon returning to Tampa, Jim became an active member of TAVS. He has served as President and Vice President, show chair and continues to serve as our novice administrator. Jim has also been active in Dixie AVS and the African Violet Council of Florida where he served as First Vice President and just concluded two terms as President. Jim is well known for the hundreds of “tips” he has collected over the years from violet growers and shares with us. Jim is also a member of AVSA and is an AVSA Master Judge and teacher. A few years ago, Jim took a great interest in and began collecting and growing Sinningias. In

2019 Jim was a speaker at Dixie AVS’s annual convention and show, sharing how he had discovered the secret of winning Best awards with his Sinningias. He recently shared with the members of Tampa AVS that Sinningias – NOT chimeras – have become his focus and passion.



## WHO’S KEEPING SCORE?



Here are a few amazing statistics!  
Since its founding in 1970, TAVS has had a total of 44 AVSA-judged shows. How many total members we’ve had over these 51 years is an unknown. However, we can tell you that, in almost one-half of those shows, just 4 TAVS members have won the Best-in-Show award in almost one-half of those shows! These Best-in-Show winners are:

Norma Leto	5 awards
Peggy Waller	5 awards
Nancy Kast	5 awards
Glenn Shelton	6 awards

Congratulations to Glenn for breaking the 4-way tie and setting a new record!

# CALENDAR of Events



## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

**TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY –**  
Meetings are 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month at 10  
am.

August 1 Linda Bennett

**DIXIE AVS:** Convention and Show has been  
rescheduled to October 12-15, 2022  
Doubletree by Hilton, Murfreesboro, TN.

**AVCF:**  
The African Violet Council of Florida will host a  
plant display and sale Saturday, October 2,  
2021, at Christ Lutheran Church in Lakeland.  
Setup will be Friday October 1st.

**USF PLANT SALE:**  
Dates are October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.

I just received an email confirmation that USF is planning on holding their fall sale Oct. 9-10. Our chapter agreed to participate again with the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society. We are going to need support from our membership to make this successful. While we will need help setting up and working the sale, the primary need is plant material to sell. Now would be a good time to go through your collection and see where a large plant could be split or where cuttings could be taken. There is about 10 weeks till the sale which will allow plants to root. Between us, we grow many different plants and have the opportunity to showcase them. Our goal for the sale is to attract the public's attention and grow our chapter. Please help in as many ways as you can.



Annie "Lucille" Chester 90, passed away on July 2, 2021. She was born in Lenoir, North Carolina, and moved to Florida in 1970. Lucille was Christian in Faith and a member of Seminole Heights Methodist Church. Lucille loved gardening, playing bingo, eating fried shrimp and face timing on the phone. She is preceded in death by her loving husband of 65 years Claude Chester, one son Gary E. Chester; survived by her sons, Ronald (Drucilla) Chester and Darrell (Teri) Chester; five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren, one great great grandchild; one sister Mid Camp and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

**Tampa African Violet Society  
dedicated its 2009-2010 Yearbook  
to Lucille. Following is the dedication:**

"Lucille has been a member of TAVS for many years and has served the club in many



capacities. She is a past-president, vice president, second vice-president and secretary. She has served as leader of the day meetings.

She has served as show chairman and has served on many show committees.

Lucille is a true artist when it comes to dish gardens and terrariums. She has won numerous awards for her beautiful container gardens.

Lucille is a charter member of the African Violet Council of Florida and has been a member of AVSA for many years.

She is an avid grower of not only African violets and their cousins in the Gesneriad family, but also ferns and many other kinds of plants.

Lucille has a servant's heart and all of us are proud to call her friend. It gives us great pleasure to dedicate this 2009-2010 Yearbook to Lucille."

Please remember Lucille's family in your thoughts and prayers.

#### **A MESSAGE FROM GLENN SHELTON**

Lucille Chester was a constant presence of kindness, encouragement, sweetness and positiveness for TAVS.

I have known Lucille since the mid 80s as a fellow-TAVS member. I never once saw her treat anyone with disrespect or sharpness. She spoke politely in her sweet way. I never heard a negative comment made to anyone. Instead, she was always encouraging others with compliments and suggestions. In particular, she noticed my progress with growing violets. She remembered my heavy clay pots and less than beautiful violets, and she spoke of my plants as beautiful. If ever there was one who supported me and respected me, I knew Lucille was the one. As a person, Lucille was a stellar example of kindness, encouragement, sweetness and positiveness, not just for me but for everyone. She is a treasure in my heart.  
Glenn

Our thoughts and prayers also go out to Todd Grandy on the passing of his mother.



Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kathy Glenn whose Father had a recent fall and to Bonnie Smith for a speedy recovery.

Send us an email and let us know how you are doing if you cannot attend the meetings!  
[nybleb@aol.com](mailto:nybleb@aol.com), [mlhard@verizon.net](mailto:mlhard@verizon.net)



July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## **Bustle-back Foliage** ... Two Leaves in One

Bustled-backed foliage is one of the rarer leaf types for African violets. Only 40 hybrids are currently listed in the AVSA Master List of over 19,000 varieties. The earliest hybridizing with the trait was done by Jimmy Dates in the 1960s. It was 35 years later when Tina Moreno, David Senk, Sharlene Jones, and Wes Carter, among others, would resume that work.

The culture for bustle-back foliage is the same as other violets, but growers should not expect perfection of symmetry in most cases. In fact, the more perfect the growth habit, the harder it is to detect the bustles!



Bustled leaf - underside of leaf – created for AVSA by artist [Dianne Duggan](#)



Topside of '[Senk's Merlot](#)' grown and photographed by Terri Vicenzi



[Senk's Beanstalk](#) grown and photographed by Patrick Delaney



Underside of '[Senk's Merlot](#)' grown and photographed by Terri Vicenzi



## MEETING MINUTES

### TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Minutes of July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Beth Bryant at 11:07 AM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**INSPIRATION:** Roselind Rovinsky

**ROLL CALL:** 10 Members

**GUESTS:** Johnnie Berry. Joyce Stork

#### **PROGRAM:**

Joyce Stork, a past president of AVSA, presented our program.

Joyce talked to us about a range of topics:

- AVSA, including her experience while serving as president
- Her business experience (Kent's Flowers)
- Her husband Kent's Hybridizing successes

- Violets and African violet clubs/councils

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the June 18th, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

Mary Lou Harden reported the following programs:

**August 20<sup>th</sup> Day:** Our very own King James will be presenting a program on sinningias. The meeting will take place at Mary Lou Harden's home.  
902 W Old Hillsborough Ave.  
Seffner, FL 33584

**September 2nd Night:** Mary Beth Bryant and Glenn Shelton will be sharing some of their experiences with their recent collaborative efforts in potting and re-potting.

**October 7<sup>th</sup> Night:** King James will be doing the program on Sinningias, Minis, and Semi Minis.

Mary Lou also reported she had been in touch with several churches regarding possible show/meeting venues. She will report her findings next month.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported expenditures: \$40.58 Income from dues, \$30.00 with a current balance as of checking: \$3982.28, and savings: \$3755.42 The report will be filed.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**TAVS:** Next meeting in-person. Our very own King James will be presenting a program on sinningias. The meeting will take place at Mary Lou Harden's home.  
902 W Old Hillsborough Ave.  
Seffner, FL 33584  
Mary Beth Bryant and Jean Krauchik have been gracious enough to volunteer to be our show chairmen for our next show!

**AVCF:** Will be holding a show and sale October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Lakeland. October 1<sup>st</sup> will be setup they will also be holding their Fall Membership meeting that weekend  
Members were encouraged to both participate and attend this show/sale.

**AVSA:** Recently held their virtual show. Congratulations to our very own Pam Van Durme on her entries!

The 2022 AVSA Convention will be in Little Rock, Arkansas, May 29 to June 5, 2022 at the Little Rock Marriott Hotel.

The 2023 AVSA Convention will be in Atlanta, Georgia, May 28 to June 4, 2023, at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel.

**DIXIE:** the October 13-16 convention and show have been rescheduled to 2022.

**TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY:**

Meets the third Saturday monthly at Dr. Martinez' Office in Tampa.  
July meeting to be held at Mary Lou Hardens home.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**USF Plant sale:** Tentative dates October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. We will be participating in this event so remember to keep those plants growing!!!!

Glenn Shelton proposed a motion to have \$100.00 donated to the AVSA, to be used as needed, in memory of Lucille Chester. The motion was seconded and approved by all members.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mary Lou reported Todd Grandy's Mother is currently in the ICU.  
Kathy Glenn's Father had a recent fall and Bonnie Smith continues to have health issues.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 am.

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 copy of the form or just want to submit your story email Lynn @ [NYBLEB@aol.com](mailto:NYBLEB@aol.com)

If you have a recipe you would like to share just send it to [nybleb@aol.com](mailto:nybleb@aol.com)



## RECIPE BOX



. This month's recipe submitted by  
Mary Lou Harden

### CHICKEN POT PIE

2 cans Campbell's Cream of Potato Soup  
2 cans mixed vegetables  
2-3 boneless chicken breasts (cooked and cut into bite-size pieces)  
1/4 cup milk  
1 teaspoon Thyme  
Pepper to taste

2 frozen deep-dish pie shells  
Let pie shells thaw for 30 minutes before using

Mix all ingredients and pour into 1 pie shell. Place other pie shell on top, crimping edges together. If top shell tears, just pinch and mash dough together. Pierce top crust with a fork and brush with beaten egg.

Bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes or until golden brown.

## 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](mailto:mlhard@verizon.net).

## HELP!!!! +

Lynn Bandy is looking for interesting articles, member bios, and photos to publish in "The Petal". Submit these to: [\\_NYBLEB@AOL.COM](mailto:_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](mailto:gladyscook9320@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer.

Glenn Shelton manages our TWITTER account ([twitter.com/TAVS\\_violets](https://twitter.com/TAVS_violets)) and is requesting members to send photos of their plants for him to post. Send to [floridainorchids@gmail.com](mailto:floridainorchids@gmail.com)

Kathy Glenn who manages our Facebook and Instagram pages is asking members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook and Instagram pages. [kathybear555@gmail.com](mailto:kathybear555@gmail.com)



# Become a **MEMBER**

**WANT TO JOIN TAVS?** Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Glenn Shelton if you're interested in becoming a member: [floridainorchids@gmail.com](mailto:floridainorchids@gmail.com)

## Visit us at:

[www.tampafricanviolets.com](http://www.tampafricanviolets.com)

Mary Lou is looking for good articles, tips, professional quality pictures for the website. [www.tampafricanviolets.com](http://www.tampafricanviolets.com)

## FIND US ON FACEBOOK



[Tampa African Violet Society](#)

## Join us on Twitter:

[twitter.com/TAVS\\_violets](https://twitter.com/TAVS_violets)

## VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM:

[@tampafricanviolets](#)

## 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](http://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](mailto:johnniepearl@aol.com)  
[www.davs.org](http://www.davs.org)

**African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF).** Annual membership fee which includes a quarterly newsletter, **The Florida Connection**, is \$10 per year. Information: Linda Price, President, [lprice41@yahoo.com](mailto:lprice41@yahoo.com).  
[www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org](http://www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org)

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

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## ENTRIES AT THIS YEAR'S AVSA CONVENTION BY TAVS MEMBERS



**Rozovaia Akvard by Pamela Van Durme, TAVS**



**Rob's Antique Rose, by Terry Jordan**



**Streptocarpus 'Picnic' by Terry Jordan**



**Broadway Star Trail, by Pamela Van Durme, TAVS**



**Streptocarpus 'Salmon Sunset' by Terry Jordan**



**Rob's Boolaroo, by Pamela Van Durme**



**RM- Royal Laces**

