

THE PETAL

JULY 2021

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



STARS AND STRIPES

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Well, here we are in July. Summer has officially started and the rains have begun. Do you remember the days when it rained every afternoon like clockwork? I do. My grass and outdoor plants that were so crispy and dead looking are slowly reviving. My indoor plants, including my African violets, are showing some solidarity and seem to look better now, too. How are your African violets doing? Are you noticing changes? If you have a problem or need advice, remember we are here to help. This month's program will be presented by none other than Joyce Stork, AVSA past president and author of *YOU CAN Grow African*

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

Violets. Needless to say it's a program that you won't want to miss.

Have a happy and safe 4th of July and see you on the 16th!

Mary Beth

Mary Beth Bryant President

OUR 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 2nd, 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, and an email invitation for the ZOOM meetings will be sent via email prior to the meetings.

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

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.



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!

JULY ZOOM MEETING FRIDAY July 16th, 2021 10AM

Our July meeting will be via Zoom. We're happy to have Joyce Stork, a past president of AVSA, presenting our program.

Joyce will talk 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

You'll have an opportunity to ask questions.

If you know someone who would like to attend, please email our president, Mary Beth Bryant at thebryants333713@gmail.com.

Joyce Stork – Biography

Joyce Stork, and her late husband Kent, met at the University of Nebraska, where both trained to become teachers. They began growing violets almost 50 years ago when they were given an African violet by their pastor as a going away gift. They killed it within about three months. Not to be discouraged by failure, they soon discovered what they had done wrong, and Kent began experimenting with hybridizing. In 1977 they opened a flower shop in a small town near Omaha, Nebraska. The store specialized in African violets and they shipped violets by mail order for about 20 years. They were commercial vendors in the African Violet Society of America and exhibited in many convention shows. Kent hybridized about 200 named varieties and is best remembered for the work he did in developing varieties with bright coral-red blossoms.

In 1992, they began writing a regular column for the *African Violet Magazine*. Fifteen years later, those columns were used to compose their book, *You CAN Grow African Violets*, now

owned by AVSA. Joyce served as president of the African Violet Society of America from 2007 to 2009. Kent died suddenly in 2017 shortly after closing the business and moving to Nevada.

Joyce lives in Henderson, Nevada, where she is near her sons, her two grandchildren, and her church family. She currently chairs the AVSA Marketing Committee and produces a weekly AVSA Growing Tip which is emailed to about 6000 growers each week. No one was more surprised than she was, that Covid-19 and two cancelled conventions would cause her to learn how to design webpages and become an active part of the AVSA Website Committee. She also continues learning how to grow violets in the desert, with the help of the Glitter Gulch African Violet Growers, although her collection these days has reduced to 30-40 very assorted violets, grown mostly for the joy of it.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 12 Pat Rutzke
July 27 Roselind Rovinsky

CALENDAR of Events

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY – Meetings are 3rd Saturday each month at 10 am. July 17 meeting will be held at Mary Lou Harden's home. Guest speaker will be John L. Clark who has participated in at least 8 expeditions to Cuba for plant research.

GESNERIAD SOCIETY - Virtual Convention and show - July 2, 2021. Terry Jordan and Mary Lou Harden are exhibitors.

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: Tentative dates are October 9th and 10th.



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

June 14th, 2021

NUTRIENT DEFICIENCY IN AFRICAN VIOLETS

Many factors relate to nutrient deficiencies. It is more than just a lack of fertilizer. Temperature affects how a nutrient is absorbed or how it functions. Light changes may deplete nutrients rapidly (e.g. bleaching). Water availability is critical to plant functions and nutrient uptake. Soil pH controls how nutrient is absorbed. Good cultural practices will maximize your violet's use of nutrients. Poor practices may result in deficiencies.

Even in the worst cultural conditions, African violets are efficient at storing and transferring scarce nutrients to maintain life in the center of the crown. As a result, the symptoms of deficiency develop over time. Deficiencies are rarely instantly apparent.

In most cases, macronutrient deficiency is seen on the whole plant or outside leaves, while symptoms of micronutrient deficiencies will appear in the center, newest leaves.

SYMPTOMS RELATED TO A DEFICIENCY OF SPECIFIC NUTRIENTS

Effect generalized OR localized on older leaves

Effect *generalized* and includes yellowing or drying up of older leaves. Acute stages develop red/purple color in lower leaves.

NITROGEN

Color fades, beginning with tips and margins of leaflets, until all foliage becomes a lighter green than normal. In time, color may fade to pale yellow. In extreme cases, margins of lower leaves become devoid of chlorophyll and curl, sometimes 'firing.' Stunted overall growth and loss of leaves are characteristic.

PHOSPHORUS

Foliage crinkly and dark green. In acute cases older leaves become purplish. Plants are stiffly erect. Petioles, leaflets, and leaf margins take an upward direction. Leaflets are often cup-shaped (spooned). Leaves fail to grow to normal size. Cell division slows causing lack of roots/flowers.

Effect *localized on older leaves*, occurring as mottling or chlorosis, with or without necrotic spots, but with little drying of older leaves.

MAGNESIUM

Older leaves lighter green than normal. Chlorosis begins at tips and margins of lowermost leaves and progresses between veins toward center of leaflet. Eventually, tissue between veins is filled with brown dead areas. Definite bulging between veins and thickening of foliage occurs. Affected leaves are brittle.

POTASSIUM

Foliage is more darker green than normal. Leaf is reduced in size. Internodes remain short. Plants have a humped-up, re-curved appearance. Foliage becomes crinkled, and veins appear sunken. Later, the older leaves become slightly yellow, then bronzing develops from tips and margins and gradually involves the entire plant.

ZINC

Older leaves are chlorotic and develop grayish-brown to bronze, irregular spots, first usually on leaves midway of plant, eventually affecting all the foliage. Spots become sunken, and involved tissue finally dies. In extreme cases, internodes remain short and leaves small and thick. Spots develop on petioles and stem; top leaves assume a slightly vertical position, and margins of leaves may curl upward.

Effect localized on newer leaves of the plant

Terminal bud (center growth) dies preceded by unusual distortions at the tips or bases of the young leaves making up the terminal bud.

BORON

The young leaves of the terminal bud are lighter green than normal, the lighter color being most pronounced at the base. Stem tips may die or be distorted. Internodes remain shortened, giving the plant a bushy appearance. Leaves

become thickened and roll upward, and leaf stalks become brittle. Anthocyanin (purple pigment) may develop. Tips and margins, especially of older leaflets, die prematurely.

CALCIUM

Earliest symptom is a light-green band along margins of young leaflet of terminal bud. Such areas often die, giving the leaflet a crinkled or buckled appearance. In some cases, young leaves at top remain folded, causing tip to die. Margins of leaflets often roll upward. Auxillary buds (suckers) may show same symptoms as terminal bud.

Terminal bud (center growth) remains alive, chlorosis of newer leaves with or without spots of dead tissue, veins light or dark green.

COPPER

The young leaves of the terminal bud are lighter green than normal, the lighter color being most pronounced at the base. Stem tip may die or be distorted. Internodes remain shortened, giving the plant a bushy appearance. Leaves become thickened and roll upward, and leaf stalks become brittle. Anthocyanin (purple pigment) may develop. Tips and margins, especially of older leaflets, die prematurely.

IRON

A slight uniform chlorosis first develops in the young leaves. Tips and margins maintain green color the longest. Principal veins retain normal green color. Affected tissue gradually becomes pale yellow. Foliage becomes white in extreme cases. No dead spots in evidence.

MANGANESE

Areas lighter green than normal first developed between veins of leaves and in tops of stems. These areas may become yellow to white. Numerous small brown patches develop which in time become more extensive. Lower leaves least affected. Mild shortage causes only slight chlorosis, chiefly confined to upper parts of the stem, and no dead spots develop.

SULFUR

Symptoms develop slowly. A general yellowing of the leaves and veins occurs similar to that in nitrogen deficiency without leaves drying up. Growth of the plant is materially checked. Some

spotting of the leaves occurs if shortage is acute or prolonged.

Author unknown. Handout shared at an AVSA Convention in program presented by Dr. Charles Cole.



TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Minutes of June 18th, 2021, Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Beth Bryant at 10:09 AM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: 10 Members

GUESTS: Johnnie Berry. Carolee Carter

PROGRAM:

“POTS, POTS AND MORE POTS!”

A Zoom lecture by Cindy Brooks of Bedford, Massachusetts
Cindy gave us a very concise and informative program on all the various pots available for Violet growing.

MINUTES: The minutes of the May 21st, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mary Beth Bryant announced she would be forming committees and assigning committee chairs.

Mary Beth reminded everyone to pay their dues by the June 30th deadline to be included in this year's Yearbook.

Mary Lou Harden reported the following programs:

July 16th Day: AVSA and Other Topics” This will be presented by Joyce Stork. Joyce is a former President of the AVSA and along with her (now deceased) husband had a business Kent’s Flowers.

August 20th Day: Our very own King James will be presenting a program on sinningias.

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 7th Night: King James will be doing the program on Sinningias, Minis, and Semi Minis:. (Jim’s focus is no longer on Chimeras)

TREASURER’S REPORT: Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported a previous bank balance of \$4,658.46. Expenditures: \$142.60. Income from dues, plant raffle, State Fair, name tags \$477.00 with a current balance as of May 15th of \$4992.86. The report will be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: The July meeting will be by Zoom. We are still looking for a meeting venue in Tampa, as well as a venue for our 2022 show.

AVCF: Will be holding a show and sale October 1st and 2nd in Lakeland. October 1st will be setup they will also be holding their Fall Membership meeting that weekend They have extended their membership dues if paid by June 30th to December 31st 2022.

AVSA: 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. June meeting to be held at Mary Lou Hardens home.

THE GESNERIAD SOCIETY is having a virtual convention and show. The show will be available for viewing on July 2nd, 2021.

BLOOMING VIOLETS OF MARION COUNTY: Carolee Carter reported the new group being formed in Ocala has decided on a name. They have yet to find a venue for meetings. Watch for updates!

NEW BUSINESS:

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

The executive committee held a board meeting on Saturday June 12th

The board discussed moving \$1000.00 dollars from the Checking account into the savings account to garner additional revenue. A motion was made and passed unanimously by the members approving the transfer of money.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The July 15th, 2021 meeting will be by Zoom at 10 am.

Jim Boyer announced he is no longer focused on growing Chimeras!

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 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

RECIPE BOX



. This month's recipe submitted by
Lynn Bandy

Strawberry Lemonade Freezer Pie

Ingredients

1 container (23.20 ounces) frozen sweetened sliced strawberries, thawed (2-1/2 cups thawed)
1 package (3.40 ounces) instant lemon pudding mix
1 carton (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed
1 graham cracker crust (9 in.)
Optional: Additional whipped topping and fresh strawberries

Directions

In a large bowl, combine the strawberries (with juices) and pudding mix; let stand until slightly thickened, about 5 minutes. Fold in whipped topping. Spread into graham cracker crust. Freeze for at least 8 hours or overnight. Let stand 5-10 minutes before serving. If desired, serve with additional whipped topping and strawberries.

Nutrition Facts

1 piece: 306 calories, 10g fat (6g saturated fat), 0 cholesterol, 273mg sodium, 51g carbohydrate (45g sugars, 2g fiber), 1g protein.
(45g sugars, 2g fiber), 1g protein

If you have a recipe you would like to share just send it to nybleb@aol.com



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.

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.

Glenn Shelton manages our TWITTER account (twitter.com/TAVS_violets) and is requesting members to send photos of their plants for him to post. Send to 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

Become a **MEMBER**

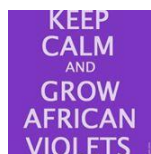
WANT TO JOIN TAVS? Annual dues are \$15. Send an email to Glenn Shelton if you're interested in becoming a member:
floridainorchids@gmail.com

Visit us at:

www.tampaafricanviolets.com

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

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[@tampaafricanviolets](https://www.instagram.com/tampaafricanviolets)

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. Information: Linda Price, President, lprice41@yahoo.com.

www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org



Mary Lou Harden's LE Cutie Pie

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
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The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

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