

THE PETAL

JUNE 2021

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



SHIMMERING SUNSHINE

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Do you know about the AVSA Youtube channel?

It has loads of interesting videos on subjects like plant health & diagnostics, violet propagation, past national conventions and more. There is something for everyone and well worth a look. Who knows, it might just become your favorite channel!

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 will zoom on June 18th at 10:00 am. We will have a program which you won't want to miss! How's that for a teaser?

See you then,

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

JUNE ZOOM MEETING FRIDAY June 18th,2021 10AM

YOU are invited to a free Zoom lecture on Friday, June 18, 2021, at 10am EST

“POTS, POTS AND MORE POTS!”

A Zoom lecture by Cindy Brooks of Bedford, Massachusetts

There are a lot of different pots out there designed to grow African Violets. Maybe you got a free pot at a club meeting or you were gifted a decorative pot. Did you pick up something at a yard sale or at the dinner meeting raffle table and you have never used it?

When you see ads showing beautiful plants growing in specialized pots do you wonder if they would work for you? Should you buy it or not?

Bay State AVS (MA) member, and Past President, **Cindy Brooks** has tried a lot of these pots and would like to share her experiences. In this lecture/demonstration, Cindy will explain many of the options available and we will discuss what could work for you. Cindy will have a list of resources where you can purchase the pots she discusses.

You will receive a Zoom link a few days prior to the meeting time and date. We look forward to seeing you for this interesting and enlightening presentation.

Cindy Brooks Biography



Cindy is a member of Bay State African Violet Society which meets in Bedford, Massachusetts. She has been growing houseplants all her life and she especially loves to grow flowering houseplants. She and her Aunt would visit Logee's and Buell's greenhouses for recreation and they would fill their windowsills with all kinds of plants. However, growing African violets successfully was frustratingly elusive until she joined a local African violet club and learned predictable methods from other growers. She now has a large collection of many different types of African violets and grows on lighted plant stands.

Cindy has been a member of Bay State AVS since 2010 and has entered plants in almost every show since she joined, earning blue ribbons and occasionally a rosette! Cindy has been Show chair and President and is currently membership chair and remote lecture coordinator for Bay State.

Cindy is a retired dental healthcare professional and lives in Holden, MA, with her husband Robert and dog, Chief.



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!

If you know someone who might be interested in attending this meeting, please let us know as soon as possible so they can be added to our list.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June 3 Jean Krauchik
 June 27 Bonnie Smith
 June 29 Cinda Huntley



Annual dues were due in April. Dues are \$15. If paying by check please make out to TAVS.
 Mail checks to:
 Glenn Shelton
 7142 62nd Ave. N
 Pinellas Park, FL 33781

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF AFRICAN VIOLET COUNCIL OF FLORIDA?

Membership dues for AVCF are payable by January 1 of each year. HOWEVER, because the Council was unable to meet or have a show during 2020, its executive board voted to waive membership dues for all classes of members during 2020. And now that we are almost at the half-way mark of 2021, the board has approved the following schedule of dues, **payable before June 30, 2021:**

Individual dues.....	\$15.00
Affiliates.....	\$20.00
Commercials.....	\$20.00

If paid before June 30, your membership will be good through December 31, 2022.

So if you haven't already paid your 2021 dues, please send your check for the appropriate dues to the Council's Membership Chair:

Elvie Blakely
 2400 Dolphin Road
 Titusville, FL 32780-1475

NOTE: For any individual members or clubs who have already paid their membership dues for 2021, the Council's Board thanks you! Their records will show that you also are paid through December 31, 2022.

CALENDAR of Events



AVSA ANNUAL CONVENTION & SHOW

A Cyber Convention – “Celebrating African Violets Through The Years” - May 30 – June 6, 2021. Terry Jordan is an exhibitor.

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY –
Meetings are 3rd Saturday each month at 10 am.

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

Since we were not meeting on a regular basis the Executive committee came up with a brilliant plan to have members share their growing tips and styles, in lieu of regular scheduled programs.

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.

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

“ALL ABOUT POTS”

This month's program will be a ZOOM program presented by Cindy Brooks. Cindy belongs to The Bay State African Violet Society in Massachusetts.



May 3rd, 2021

INTRODUCTION TO TRAILERS

by Lisa Kampel (moderator of the [African Violet Trailers – a whole new ball game!](#) on Facebook)

Trailers are great fun to grow, and they do just as well in natural light as they do under fluorescent light. Soil and fertilizer requirements are the same as other African violets. A light, porous soil is best. Look for fertilizers which are low urea, and use at ¼ teaspoon to a gallon of water.

Trailing violets originated in the species. There are several varieties that trail naturally. Trailing is an inbred trait and should not be confused with violets that genetically should have only one crown but have been allowed to sucker. True trailers often have more space between leaves on the main stem. This space allows them to have multiple crowns that are not too tightly packed.

Trailers may be classified as micro-miniature, miniature, semiminiature or standard according to the size of the individual leaves. The overall size of a mature trailer, regardless of its size classification, can be quite large. They are floriferous and come in most of the flower types/colors of other African violets.

Trailers have two distinct growing habits. Some trailers have short internodes or short distances between successive leaves along the stem. They produce clumping or upright growth habits. Others have long internodes and are more vining, with a sprawling growth habit.

In order for a trailer to be a show plant, it must be a single plant with no less than three crowns. Trailers are judged on form, not symmetry. The goal is to achieve a pleasing form. Try to anticipate the ultimate form of the plant and work towards that goal. Blooms should be spaced evenly around the plant from all main crowns. One crown should not have leaves noticeably different in size than the other crowns. All the crowns should be uniform in size and shape. The plant should be well groomed and in great condition, clean with no faded blooms, yellow, or marred leaves.

Trailers may be grown in different ways.

- One method keeps a trailing violet in a pot that is approximately one-third the overall diameter of the plant. This allows the plant to grow out over the sides of the pot. The crowns are often pinched out to encourage secondary growth between leaves so a pretty form

develops. In this method, the main stems of the trailing growth are not allowed to come in contact with the potting mix.

- A second method of growing, called the Japanese method, is to place the plant into a broad shallow pot or tray. As the stems elongate, they are positioned/pinned to the soil. This results in a mound that encourages branching. You can also pinch out the crown to extend just to the edge of the pot. Plants grown using the Japanese method can grow to be quite large.

However, no matter which method you use the best way to produce bloom is to keep the plant pot-bound and give it plenty of light.

Grooming trailers is a necessity. All violets need to occasionally have their leaves washed and spent blossoms removed and that is also true for trailers. Grooming leaves is different for trailers. Leaves should all be the same size according to their stage of growth, but trailers tend to develop immature and off-sized leaves that need to be removed. Also marred, yellowing or old limp leaves need to be removed. You may groom with a pair of tweezers, or simply cut or pinch with your fingers.

An important grooming technique is the removal of leaves to expose center stems. This results in the growth of more dormant crowns. Removal of leaves that crowd or cover other crowns allows the crowns to grow more evenly. Another technique is staking or pinning to train or balance the growth of crowns. After removal of the leaves, small wood stakes or hairpins are used to move the crown to promote proper form.

What can be done with a plant that has minimal branching or one dominate leader? First, trim back the dominate crown. Then, thin the leaves to expose the stem to more light to encourage the development of new crowns.

Above all, enjoy your trailer!



BRAZOS BELLE



RAMBLIN' AMETHYST SPORT



JERSEY GIRL TRAIL



RS-ZIMNIY TSVETOK



ROB'S GALIWINKU



CIRELDA



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Minutes of May 21st 2021, Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Beth Bryant at 10:05 AM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: 12 Members

GUESTS: Johnnie Berry.

PROGRAM: Our program this month was a You Tube presentation:
Interview with Ken Froboese
Hill Country African Violets & Nursery,
Boerne, TX

MINUTES: The minutes of the April 16th, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

OFFICER REPORTS:

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

Mary Lou Harden reported the following programs:

June: "All About Pots" This will be a ZOOM program presented by Cindy Brooks. Cindy is a member of the Bay State African Violet Society.

July: "AVSA and Other Topics" This will be presented by Joyce Stark. Joyce is a former President of the AVSA and along with her (now deceased) husband had a business Kent's Flowers.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported a previous bank balance of \$4,290.36. Expenditures: 04128.40. Income from dues, plant raffle: \$496.50 with a current balance as of May 15th of \$4658.46. The report will be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: The June 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 also be their Fall Membership meeting.

AVSA: AVSA will host a virtual convention "Celebrating African Violets Through The Years"

May 30—June 6, 2021.

June 1st: "Spectacular Strops" will be presented by Terry Vicenzi.

June 3rd. Show room opens and sales begin at 3pm.

Details are in the January-February African Violet Magazine.

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.

THE GESNERIAD SOCIETY is having a virtual convention and show - members can have up to 5 entries which must be submitted during the month of May. The show will be available for viewing on July 2nd, 2021.

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 Monday May 17th.

The board discussed doing a condensed version of the yearbook.

Members agreed this would be a worthwhile investment and plans are moving forward to get this completed.

The board also discussed venues and meeting times. It was decided that we would survey the members to determine where and when would be the best times and places to hold our meetings in the future. A committee was formed including Mary Beth Bryant, Mary Lou Harden and Lynn Bandy to initiate this survey. A discussion of a possible in person meeting and a virtual meeting to take place monthly. Members were asked to think about and/or suggest possible venues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The June 18th, 2021 meeting will be by Zoom at 10 am.

SHOW AND TELL:

Lisa Villabol showed us her Little Crater Lake
Roselind Rovinsky showed us her EPSICIA-Suomi and Purple Glory, Checkerboard, Thad's Gold Fever and Showtime
Mary Lou Harden showed us Frozen in Time, and her Columnea Frosty Hills
Mary Beth Bryant showed us Ma's Taffy Swirl and a beautiful Gloxinia she got from the raffle table at the February meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 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
This is GREAT for Pot Lucks and backyard BBQ's

LAYERED TACO DIP

On a plate at least 14" in diameter arrange the following ingredients in order listed, leaving a one inch border of the previous layer free

Two 10 ½ oz cans of refried beans mixed with 1 pkg of Taco mix
Three Medium avocados mashed with 2 Tbs of lime juice and ½ tsp salt and ¼ tsp of pepper
One cup of sour cream
Three tomatoes diced and well drained
Three chopped scallions
One small can chopped black olives
Top with Two cups shredded cheddar cheese
Serve with tortilla chips (I use Fritos Scoops)

I'm going to start calling this Lynn's Recipe box!!!

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

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



Tampa African Violet Society
Join us on Twitter:

twitter.com/TAVS_violets

VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM:
[@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

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
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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.

**Some Photos of her Show and Tell
submitted by Roselind Rovinsky**



**Episcia: Purple Glory, Checkerboard, Thad's
Gold Fever and Showtime**

