

THE PETAL

MARCH 2021

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



IRISH FLIRT

A MESSAGE FROM OUR INCOMING PRESIDENT

As incoming club president (I think I will be installed in April at the Annual Meeting), thank you for placing your trust in me. I hope to do you all proud!

Though COVID is still a concern, there are several events on the horizon:

- USF Spring Plant Sale April 10-11
CANCELLED
- Florida State Fair April 22- May 5
- Dixie African Violet Society Oct 13-16 in Murfreesboro, TN
- AVSA cyber convention details coming in March

Closer to home, attendance is growing at our zoom meetings. It is great to see you all. If you

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

haven't had the chance yet, by all means plan to join us. Zoom meetings are held the same date and time as our in-person meetings and follow the same format. We even have programs!!

I am excited for the coming year and know that with your help, it will be great!
Until next time, keep growing.

Mary Beth



OUR MEETINGS

Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic we are currently holding meetings once a month.

These meetings will be the third Friday at 10AM.

We will send out an email to inform you if the meeting will be virtual via Zoom or in person.

This month's meeting will be a **Zoom** meeting on Friday, March 19th, at 10 am.



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.



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.

This month's article is from Kathy Glenn

My journey with African Violets began when I was a young teenager. One of the ladies from the church started growing African Violets and became known for having these beautiful plants. My Mother bought several of them from her and they thrived in the bay window in the family room. Being purple, I was immediately drawn to them as it was, and still is, one of my favorite colors. I even had a cluster of dark purple violets inserted into my wedding bouquet of white daisies.

Over the course of the busy years of children and cross country moves, I tried several times to grow my favorite plant, but it seemed like I never had the right window exposure. In 2017, a friend and I went over to Orlando for the AVSA National Show & Sale, and seeing all of those colors and sizes of violets really rocked my world. That fall, I joined TAVS and my journey started in earnest.

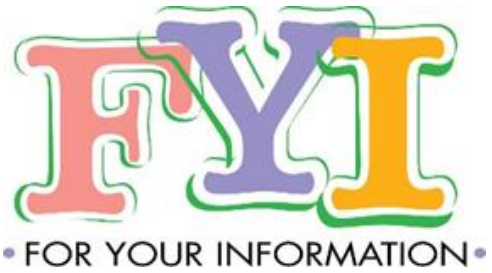
I currently have LED lighted shelf units in my dining room, bedroom, and a small isolation stand in my guest bathroom. A year ago they were all full of blooming plants and babies, getting ready for the Spring sales opportunities. 2020 was a tough year in several ways, and now there are only baby plants and leaf pots remaining on the dining room shelves. I start my leaves in the same mixture that I will later pot them in, 50% "soil" and 50% perlite. They are then placed in matted plastic clamshell bakery boxes until they are ready to separate. My current favorite medium is Roots Organic GreenLight that I get from Urban Roots Hydroponic Store in Tampa.

After separating the new plantlets, I add Marathon to the potting medium and wick them in 3oz Solo cups. I use the domed trays for baby plants, fitted with either a plastic grid, or a mat.

While I have tried many different types of pots, I like the growth I get in the plain old wicked plastic pots that the club sells. I use a 1/8 dilution of fertilizer in the reservoir water, alternating between Jack's 20-20-20 and Optimara 14-12-14.

I have had learning experiences with both Powdery Mildew and Mites, and now keep tubs of Damp Rid at the base of the stands in the summer, and Avid / Forbid at the ready. I have learned so much from the club members, and am also in several African Violet groups online. There is a wealth of information that can be learned, and I appreciate everyone being so willing to answer questions and share experiences.





This year we will not be issuing a hard copy yearbook. An email was distributed with the electronic edition of the membership directory. If you do not have email or did not receive this, please contact Mary Lou Harden or Glenn Shelton at the email address below or by telephone.

In lieu of meetings and programs due to the uncertainty of the Covid 19 virus, we will be adding programs to the monthly newsletter The Petal.

As email will be our main avenue of communication for the time being please check if your information is correct in this electronic directory. If incorrect or if you think someone was omitted in error, please contact Glenn Shelton or Mary Lou Harden.

Glenn: floridainorchids@gmail.com

Mary Lou: mlhard@verizon.net,



Our thoughts and prayers go out to all our members during these confusing times.

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



Former TAVS member Roz (Rosalind) Cole passed away February 15, 2021. Roz and her husband Stan (passed away in 2014), also a member, were very active in the club. They were the owners of Stan's Hobby Shop at Hillsborough and Rome for many years. We send our sympathy to the family.



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Meeting Minutes Virtual February 19th, 2021 10AM

The meeting was called to order by 2nd Vice President Jim Boyer at 10:06 AM.

ROLL CALL: 12 Members

GUESTS: Bobbi Johannsen (Jacksonville), Mary Jane DiLorenzo (Lakeland), Sharon Gartner (Jacksonville), Stuart Swayze, Kelli Ogle, Debbie Wesch (Spring Hill), Paula Goldstone, secretary of Bloomin' Violets & Gesneriads of Palm Beach County

In lieu of a program we had reports/comments/suggestions from the many Clubs in Florida.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Submitted by Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, Total Monthly Expense: \$164.96 showing a balance as of 02/18/2021 of \$4275.35. The report will be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: The 2021 show has been cancelled. Future show plans may be considered at a later date.

We are still trying to locate a meeting venue in Tampa for when the Covid mandates are lifted and we can begin meeting again in person.

If you have any ideas/suggestions forward them to either Mary Lou Harden at: mlhard@verizon.net or Jim Boyer at: jasb39@gmail.com

AVSA: AVSA will host a cyber convention May 30—June 6, 2021. Details are in the January-February African Violet Magazine.

COMING

EVENTS

USF PLANT SALE
CANCELLED

THE FLORIDA STATE FAIR
Thursday April 22nd through Sunday May 2nd

TAVS Annual Show and Sale
CANCELLED

AVSA Annual Convention & Show
A Cyber Convention – Diamond Celebration
Celebrating 75 Years
May 30 – June 6, 2021

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

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

DIXIE: Their show is still currently scheduled for October in Murfreesboro, TN.

GESNERIAD SOCIETY: Meets the third Saturday monthly in Dr. Martinez Office in Tampa

NEW BUSINESS:

Voting for New Officers

Nominations:

President: Mary Beth Bryant

1st Vice President: Mary Lou Harden

2nd Vice President: Jim Matula

Treasurer: Glenn Shelton

Correspondence Secretary: Lynn Bandy

Day Recording Secretary: Lynn Bandy

Jim Boyer asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

With no nominations from the floor a vote was taken.

All members were unanimous in electing the above nominees.

New officers will be installed at the April meeting and begin their new duties at that time.

SHOW AND TELL:

Mary Beth Bryant showed off her Roll Along Pink

Jim Boyer showed his Primulina Linearicalyx

And Peridots Potlatch

Carolee Carter showed us Mac's Coral Carillon, Jolly Dear and Jolly Andrea

Mary Lou Harden showed us Episcia Pink Smoke

Roselind Rovinsky showed us Jolly Treasure and Columnea Frosty Hills.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Lynn Bandy- Day Recording Secretary

RECIPE BOX



*. This month's recipe submitted by
Lynn Bandy*

NO BAKE STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE

INGREDIENTS:

1 box (3.4 oz) vanilla instant pudding
1 1/2 cups nonfat milk
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
25 Golden Oreos (or another vanilla flavored cookie/graham cracker)
2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
1 1/2 containers (8 ounces each) Cool Whip Topping
1 pound fresh strawberries, hulled and sliced and patted dry



DIRECTIONS:

Whisk pudding, milk, and vanilla in a medium sized bowl. Let it sit while you prepare the crust. Crush the cookies in a large gallon sized ziploc bag using a rolling pin. Reserve 1/2 cup of the cookie crumbs. Place the 2 tablespoons melted

butter in the bag and press with your hands to work the butter through the remaining cookie crumbs. Pour crumbs into a 9" square baking dish. The crust won't be solid, it'll stay crumbly. Fold 8 ounces of the whipped topping into the pudding. Place half the pudding mixture on top of the crust. Place the strawberries in a single layer over the pudding. Spread remaining pudding mix over the top of the berries. Top with more whipped topping and sprinkle the remaining cookies over the top. Chill for at least 4 hours before serving.

I know by now you are all getting tired of my recipes!!!!!!
If you have a recipe you would like to share just send it to nybleb@aol.com



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

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 page asked members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook page. 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.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:

twitter.com/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 floridainorchids@gmail.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, 5036 Paradise Pond Lane, 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.

One of Mary Lou Harden's gorgeous plants



Rob's Vanilla Trail

Roselind Rovinsky sharing Photos of her Cajun's Royal Knockout

