

The Petal

Monthly publication of the
Tampa African Violet Society (TAVS)
www.tampaafricanviolets.com



March 2025

The Tampa African Violet Society is an affiliate of the African Violet Society of America (AVSA), the Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS), the African Violet Council of Florida (AFCF) and the Gesneriad Society.



A message from our President

We have made it through the state fair, the conservancy sale and our club show. YAY! Thanks to all those who gave demonstrations, showed plants, sold plants, provided food or helped set up or tear down displays or just showed up to offer encouragement. These events were a success because of your ideas, muscle and determination. I could not be prouder of what we as a group have accomplished.

See you soon,
Mary Beth

**TAVS booth at the 2025 Florida State Fair
February 6-17, 2025**

Our Meetings

Our meetings are held the first Thursday of the month via ZOOM at 7pm and the third Friday of the month at 10am at the Seffner-Mango Public Library.

The library address is: 410 N. Kingsway Road, Seffner, FL 33584

ZOOM Meeting - Thursday, March 6 @ 7pm
Jim Matula will be presenting "Growing Violets in Cooler Temps"

Join ZOOM Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83215748842?pwd=JCF8aVAgdauBXge3eniyANmGdhmm2G.1>

Meeting ID: **832 1574 8842**

Passcode: **923488**

Day Meeting - Friday, March 21 @ 10am

Seffner-Mango Public Library

Mary Beth Bryant, Show Chair, will be presenting "Post Show Recap" and Show Awards



Zoom Meetings

Mary Beth Bryant will be hosting the virtual night 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! Club business meeting will follow.

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, tablet or phone.

Be on the lookout for an email from Mary Beth/ Mary Lou a few days before the meeting with a link to access the meeting. Hope to see you then!

Member Birthdays

There are no Member Birthdays this month

Send us an email and let us know how you are doing if you cannot attend the meetings.



"Baby's First Bloom" - Yvon Decelles (8727)
04/25/1998 (J. Brownlie)

Meeting Minutes

Tampa African Violet Society

February 14, 2025

Seffner-Mango Public Library

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:10am by Mary Beth Bryant, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL: Mary Beth Bryant.

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Pat Rutzke, Mary Beth Bryant, Stuart Swayze, Celeste Christman, Sandi Soto, Jean Krauchik, Sandy Schultz, Lynn Bandy, Celia Howe and Mary Lou Harden.

PROGRAM: "Growing for Show is a Game" presented by Sandi Soto.

BUSINESS MEETING: The minutes of the January 17, 2025 meeting were approved as published in The Petal.

Standing Committee Reports: Celeste Christman, Hospitality Chair, confirmed food sign up items to bring to the show.

Officers' Reports: Mary Lou Harden thanked everyone for their awards donations. Mary Lou Harden stated that designs were still needed for the show and reminded everyone that if they were submitting a design they needed to register same with her.

Treasurer's Report: Pending.

Unfinished Business:

Florida State Fair, February 6 - 17: Breakdown of the booth will be Tuesday, February 18 at 1pm. Anyone who is available is asked to help.

Plant Sale at Carrollwood Village Park, February 15 from 9am - 3pm,

4680 W. Village Drive, Tampa 33624

TAVS Show, February 21 - 22: Set-up on February 20 at Temple Terrace United Methodist Church

- a. Need every member to help with set-up, covering tables, focal point, education and more. Set up starts at 1pm, plant registration will begin at 2pm.
- b. Hospitality Chair Celeste Christman asked members to sign up to bring food to share for lunch and throughout the show.

- c. Need ENTRIES! Both plants and designs.
- d. Need awards, both designated and non-designated. Members signed up

New Business:

Nominating Committee: The following members were nominated:

President - Sandi Soto

Vice President - Mary Beth Bryant

Treasurer - Glen Shelton

Corresponding Secretary - Lynn Bandy

Voting will take place at the March 21 meeting.

BIRTHDAYS: Deanna Hinds and Anita Adlin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

March 6, 2025 ZOOM Meeting - Jim Matula will be presenting "Growing Violets in Cooler Temps"

March 21, 2025 Day Meeting - Mary Beth Bryant, Show Chair, will be presenting "Post Show Recap" and Show Awards

ROLL CALL: Jean Krauchik, 10 members.



Alice in Wonderland (Storytella)
Photo by Sandi Soto

Foliage Type

Spooned or Cupped: Leaves
are concave with high edges
like a spoon.



LE-Carnival Night



NOVEMBER 4, 2024

The next type in the series on learning foliage types is spooned or cupped. According to the AVSA Handbook, "Spooned or Cupped: [Leaves are] concave with high edges like a spoon."

"LE-Carnival Night" (Hybridized by E. Lebeteskaia, 2019) is a gorgeous example of medium green spooned foliage. It has beautiful single-semidouble purple large wavy star/white eye, pink and coral puff fantasy blooms.

There are relatively few named cultivars with spooned foliage similar to LE-Carnival Night (LE-Karnaval' naia Noch) pictured above (**photo credit: Vladimir Kalgin / AVSA**). You can look up other varieties on the AVSA website and using the First Class African violet computer program.

Keep an eye out for a variety with spooned foliage to add to your collection the next time you are looking for a new addition.

Happy Growing

Chris Brooks, AVSA

marketing@avsa.org

Recipe Box



SKILLET MACARONI & CHEESE

COOK'S ILLUSTRATED "THE BEST SKILLET RECIPES"

- 3 1/2 Cups Water, plus extra as needed
- 1 (12-oz) can evaporated milk
- 12 ounces (about 3 cups) elbow macaroni
- 1 teaspoon cornstarch
- 1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon hot sauce (adjust to taste)
- 6 ounces Monterey Jack cheese, shredded
- 6 ounces cheddar cheese, shredded
- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- Salt and ground black pepper

Bring 3 1/2 cups water, 1 cup of the evaporated milk, the macaroni, and 1/2 teaspoon salt to a simmer in a 12-inch nonstick skillet over high heat. Cook at a vigorous simmer, stirring often, until the macaroni is tender and the liquid has thickened, 9 to 12 minutes. Wisk the remaining 1/2 cup evaporated milk, the cornstarch, mustard, and hot sauce together in a small bowl, then stir into the skillet. Continue to simmer until slightly thickened, about 1 minute. Off the heat, stir in the cheese one handful at a time, adding water as needed to adjust the consistency of the sauce. Stir in the butter, season with salt and pepper to taste.

Become a **MEMBER**

Tampa African Violet Society (TAVS)

Annual membership (April 1 to March 31)

Current dues are \$15 per year, includes an annual Yearbook and monthly newsletter, **The Petal**.

Send an email to Glenn Shelton if you're interested in becoming a member:

floridainorchids@gmail.com

Checks payable to Tampa Africa Violet Society can be sent to:

Glenn Shelton, Treasurer
7142 62nd Ave, North
Pinellas Park, FL 33781

Visit us at:

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Tampa African Violet Society

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"Babies Ready to Pot Up!"

Photo by Sandy Schultz



Rob's Boolaroo (8053) 03/05/1994

(R. Robinson) Semi-miniature trailer

Photo by Sandy Schultz