

The Petal

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



May 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.

**The 79th Annual AVSA Convention is
less than 4 weeks away**



**Overland Park, KS
May 25 - June 1, 2025**

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

A message from our President

Happy May!

We're off to a hot summer, rain storms and maybe even hurricanes, but your current and past Presidents and your new Petal editor are looking forward to a trip to the AVSA Convention. Sandy Schultz will be driving, and we wish her a safe and uneventful trip. She may even be chaperoning some standard African violets if Mary Beth or I can convince one or two plants to be in show shape. We'll fly to Overland Park in the Kansas City area of Kansas on May 27 and spend four full days immersed in African violets! What could be more fun? This time, we plan on remembering to take all the right pictures, and bring back stories to share with TAVS in June or July.

A message from our President (cont.)

Speaking of The Petal, Lynn Bandy faithfully put a newsletter out every month, with little or no contributions from any of us, including me! Every issue, she included a recipe from her own collection, always asking that we share OUR recipes. Did anyone, ever? Sandy has asked that we pitch in and send her recipes, pictures of our African violets or other gesneriads, and even any tips and tricks we think would help others with growing their plants. With apologies to Lynn, I'm finally trying to do my part, and have sent 3 recipes, and several pictures of some of my plants. Sandy would appreciate more contributions, and so would I! Besides, it's another way to keep up with the wonderful people in this wonderful club! Send your contributions by email to sandylovesviolets@gmail.com.

Remember those things I asked you to think about in the last issue? I'll be sending out a survey sometime this summer, probably by email, to see how you all REALLY feel about our activities. You can help us be the best African violet society we can be by participating.

Finally, let's start planning now for what I think is TAVS 50th show! We need to get a show theme in place, and start working on making it the best show yet! I hope to have a show related surprise for each of you in September or October. Will let you know a month in advance which meeting it will be, so mark your calendars for the 3rd Friday of those and EVERY month!

Remember the May Pole!
Sandi Soto

ZOOM Meeting - Thursday, May 1 @ 7pm
Our presenter is Ronn Nadeau: "The Seed Man".

Join ZOOM Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86954538028?pwd=xkHmflQcFc4KRashfjGC8bN5yXMs0k.1>

Meeting ID: 869 5453 8028

Passcode: 082969

Day Meeting - Friday, May 16 @ 10am

Seffner-Mango Public Library

"The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" Mary Beth Bryant will be talking about common African Violet Pests and Diseases.



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!



Birthday wishes go out this month to:

- ❁ Kathy Glenn - May 5
- ❁ Mary Beth Bryant - May 9
- ❁ Jerry Kast - May 17
- ❁ Angelina Grundhoff - May 24

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

Meeting Minutes

Tampa African Violet Society

April 18, 2025

Seffner-Mango Public Library

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:15am by Mary Beth Bryant, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Mary Beth Bryant, Mary Lou Harden, Laura Fellows, Jim Rogers, Jean Krauchik, Stuart Swayze, Jim Boyer, Lynn Bandy, Celia Howe, Pat Rutzke and Sheryl Herold.

GUESTS: Ruth and Andrea Kauzleamar, Patsy Monk, Shameka and Arya Bandy.

PROGRAM: "Show and Tell" - Tips and ideas to make life easier when dealing with your African Violets! Presented by Jim Boyer

BUSINESS MEETING: The minutes of the March 21st, 2025 meeting were approved as published in The Petal.

Officers Reports: Vice President May Beth Bryant reported the USF sale was a resounding success! Our plant supply was sold out on all three days. This included the plants purchased from Peacock Cottage along with several members going into their stocks and supplying additional plants for Saturday and Sunday. Florida State Fair: We are still waiting on payment from the Fair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

April 19, 2025 @ 2pm EST African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF) Spring Zoom Meeting- Min Bui, Ph.D. will be presenting "In the Dark About Lighting?" Contact Jim Boyer if interested.

May 1st, 2025 Zoom Meeting- Our presenter is Ronn Nadeau: "The Seed Man"

May 16th, 2025 Day Meeting - "The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" Mary Beth Bryant will be talking about common African Violet Pests and Diseases.

AVSA Annual Convention May 25th through June 1st - "Violets are Worlds of Fun", Kansas City, KS.

TAVS dues of \$15 are due this month.

BIRTHDAYS: Jim Matula April 4th, Mary Lou Harden April 9th and Lynn Bandy April 17th.

SHOW AND TELL: Pat Rutzke brought in "Ma's Jamaica Farewell". Celia Howe brought in "Loose Noodle" and "LE Moonlight Sonata"

ROLL CALL: 11 members.

MEETING ADJOURNED: at 11:25am, raffle followed.
Lynn E Bandy Correspondence Secretary

Foliage Type

Variegated: Leaves have shades of green and can be marked with white, cream, light yellow, or rosy shades from light pink to a deep wine red.



Cajun's Fickle Flirt



DECEMBER 2, 2024

The final type in the series on learning foliage types is variegated. According to the AVSA Handbook, Variegated leaves have shades of green and can be marked with white, cream, light yellow, or rosy shades from light pink to a deep wine red."

"Cajun's Fickle Flirt" (Hybridized by Belinda Thibodeaux, 2010) is a gorgeous example of variegated foliage. It also has beautiful light pink, single wavy star blooms with raspberry eyes and veins.

There are several distinct types of variegation, such as mosaic, Tommie Lou, crown, and chimera. I have included graphics of these types of variegation above. Mosaic variegation has variegation in the center of the leaf with green around the edge, while Tommie Lou variegation is

the opposite with variegation around the edge of the leaf and green in the center. Crown variegation is, as the name implies, a variegated crown that becomes progressively more green as the leaves age and grow outward. Finally, chimera variegation has foliage with two contrasting shades or colors, one along the central vein and the other on both outside edges.

You can look up other varieties with variegation on the AVSA website and using the First Class African violet computer program. Keep an eye out for varieties with different types of variegation to add to your collection the next time you are looking for a new addition.

Photo credits: Belinda Thibodeaux, AVSA

Happy Growing!

Chris Brooks, AVSA

marketing@avsa.org



Welcome New Members

TAVS is delighted to welcome, in alpha order:

Elise Bryant

Laura Fellows

Sherry Hozier Griffin

Andrea Kanzleamar

Ruth Kanzleamar

Elizabeth Magill

Sandy Schultz



Recipe Box



Sandi's Mom's Black Beans

1 can Bush's SEASONED RECIPE Black Beans
½ cup minced yellow onion
3-4 large pegs of garlic, minced
Olive oil
Pepper, freshly ground preferred
Katsup — 1 LARGE squirt
½ cup low sodium chicken broth (optional)
1/8 tsp sugar
1/2 cup minced yellow onions for serving over beans

Saute minced onion & garlic in olive oil until it smells yummy. Add black beans and stir to mix with onion & garlic. I use a pepper grinder and add pepper to the point where I think it's almost too much, I've never measured. Using a squeeze bottle of katsup, squeeze in a generous amount — at least a tablespoon, then stir in 1/8 teaspoon sugar. Cover, turn heat to simmer, and cook for at least 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add chicken broth if you prefer more liquid. Serve over yellow (preferred) or white rice, with a sprinkling of raw yellow onion.

Have a great recipe to share? Don't want to type it all out? Just scan a copy of the recipe and send it to The Petal at sandylovesviolets@gmail.com. Be sure to include the source.

Upcoming Events



DIXIE AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
"SHOW"
"Treasures in Grandma's Attic"

September 11, 12 & 13, 2025
Petals From The Past Garden Center
16034 County Road 29
Jemison, Alabama 35085
For more information: DAVS.org

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

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Tampa African Violet Society

Sandy Schultz

Petal Editor

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Cajun's Hot Expectations (10584)

1/11/2013 (R. Thibodeaux)

Photo by Sandi Soto