

THE PETAL

JANUARY 2021

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

CHAMPAGNE BUBBLES



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

A MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRESIDENT

Hello, Violet Friends,

Happy New Year, TAVS members and friends! I hope that YOU – and your African violets -- are off to a great start! We have grand expectations for 2021. Included are:

- 1) Lots of beautiful blooms
- 2) An end to Covid!
- 3) Perfectly symmetrical foliage
- 4) In-person meetings
- 5) NO mealy bugs or thrips
- 6) New meeting space for our night meetings
- 7) Opening of library or other space for our day meetings
- 8) Ability to have a show and plant sale

- 9) New officers who will keep us grounded but moving forward
- 10) New opportunities to share our love of African violets and other Gesneriads
- 11) Opening of USF Botanical Gardens for plant festivals
- 12) Support and encouragement of AV commercial growers, and
- 13) Support of AVSA, DAVS, AVCF, GS, and all affiliates

I hope also that you made a New Year's resolution to grow better and more beautiful violets!

As you already know, Kathy Spissman of Tucker, GA, will give our program at the Zoom meeting on Friday, January 15. I hope ALL of you can attend! See you then.

Mary Lou Harden

OUR MEETINGS

Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic we have decided to hold meetings only 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, January 15, at 10 am. Our program will be given by a special guest--Kathy Spissman of Tucker, GA. Kathy specializes in growing and showing Streptocarpus and many of the other Gesneriads. Kathy has served as Convention Director for Dixie AVS for many years. She also has an E-Bay store (<http://www.ebay.com/str/mrsstrepstrepplantsandsupplies>) where she sells plants in the Gesneriad family as well as violet-related supplies.



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.

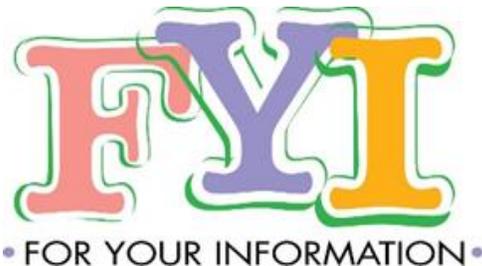
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If you know someone who might be interested in attending this meeting, please let me know as soon as possible so they can be added to our list.



January Birthdays

1/6 Lucille Chester



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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!



Since we cannot meet on a regular basis the Executive committee has come up with a brilliant plan to have members share their growing tips and styles.

This month's program is from Guest Speaker Kathy Spissman.

Our guest speaker for the January 15 Zoom meeting is Kathy Spissman, from Tucker, Georgia. Kathy worked at Rich's Department Store for 35 years. She retired in 2001. She has been Convention Director for Dixie AVS for many years and has also been a leader in the Greater Atlanta African Violet Club for many years. Kathy is also a member of the Gesneriad Society and has grown and shown many beautiful Gesneriads in both Gesneriad and African Violet conventions and shows.



Kathy is Convention Chair for AVSA's 75th Anniversary Convention and Show in Atlanta, GA, in 2021. However, the uncertainties of Covid-19 caused the AVSA Executive Committee to opt for a cyber convention in 2021. Planning is now underway, but details have not yet been released. Kathy's articles promoting the Anniversary Convention have been published in the African Violet Magazine in the July-August 2020 issue (p.46), the September-October issue (p.41), and the November-December 2020 issue (p.48).

The AVSA Board has planned for the 2022 AVSA Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas, and the 2023 AVSA Convention will be in Atlanta, Georgia, from May 28 to June 4 at the Sheraton Atlanta Hotel.

COMING EVENTS

THE FLORIDA STATE FAIR

Thursday April 22nd through Sunday May 2nd

TAVS Annual Show and Sale
CANCELLED

AVSA Annual Show
Atlanta Georgia
CANCELLED

Kathy also has an EBay Store where she sells plants and supplies. Check her out on EBay at Mrsstrepstrops.

The following pictures are plants grown and shown by Kathy.

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At the 2019 AVSA convention, Kathy Spissman (commercial mrsstrepstrops) entered *Primulina bipinnatifida*. It is a small species. See the Gesneriad Reference Web for more information on this species. <http://www.gesneriads.info/genera/primulina-bipinnatifida/>



Kohleria Jester



UA Mavka



Streptocarpus Sizzler



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

Meeting Minutes

December 11th, 2020

Mary Lou Harden's Home

902 W. Old Hillsborough Ave.

Seffner, FL 33584

The meeting was called to order by Acting President Mary Lou Harden at 10:20 AM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATIONAL: Roselind Rovinsky

GUESTS: Nikki Drake from Wesley Chapel, Todd Grandy

PROGRAM: "How I Grow My Plants"
Presented by Roselind Rovinsky

Roselind gave us a very informative insight into how she cares for ALL her plants that include African Violets, Episcias, Orchids and Christmas Cactus to name a few.

She shared how she has been using "Grow Cubes", Avid spray, (every 6 months) a humidity tent on occasion, and T-12 lighting.

Roselind shared some of her "Tools" and how she uses them and how she starts her leaves or cuttings in water.

The minutes from the November virtual meeting were approved as published in the Petal.

ROLL CALL: Jean Krauchik: 11 members were present.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Presented by Glenn Shelton Treasurer

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Mary Lou reported that we still have no venue for the show. Discussion ensued regarding whether the show should be postponed or cancelled due to venue and Covid concerns. It was decided among the group to

cancel the 2021 show altogether. Future show plans will be considered at a later date.

AVSA: Their show is still planned for May 30th through June 6th in Atlanta GA.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Trinity Café was selected as our annual Christmas Charity. Donations were collected by Glenn Shelton. If you would still like to donate you can mail a check made out to TAVS to Glenn Shelton. Typically, the donation amount has been \$5.00.

The Nominating Committee is diligently working on nominations. They will be presenting their report at the January meeting.

RAFFLE: Jim Matula

RAFFLE PLANTS: Furnished by Mary Lou Harden, Susan Buys and donation by Phyllis King of Upper Pinellas.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Lynn Bandy- Day Recording Secretary

RECIPE BOX



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 copy or want to submit your story just 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!!!!!! +

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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

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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:

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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

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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

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Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

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Some Photos from Our Last Meeting



Raffle Plants



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VALENTINE TRAIL

A MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING PRESIDENT

Hello, TAVS members and friends!

DO YOU REMEMBER?

At this time one year ago we were making last-minute preparations for our annual show and plant sale! Hard to believe that it was only one year ago! We've had inquiries from some of our faithful followers asking when we'll have another show. As you know, we've cancelled the 2021 February show. Whether it will be feasible to reschedule it for later in the year remains to be seen.

In the meantime, AVSA's convention will be virtual from May 30-June 6 which means all of

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us can participate. The Dixie AVS 2021 convention is currently scheduled for October 13-16 in Murfreesboro, TN.

Hopefully, the USF Spring Plant Festival will go forward in early April and also the Florida State Fair later that month.

I hope all of you will join us for our February 19 Zoom meeting. Carolee Carter will present the program. We'll also have election of officers.

Hope your violets are looking beautiful!
See you at the meeting.

Mary Lou Harden

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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 program is from Carolee Carter.



Carolee Carter's Routine

Well, where do I begin? How does Carolee take care of her violets? Here's a current photo of my stands. What happened to all those standards I used to grow?



First of all, I always have to bring in the episcias from the lanai in the winter because they are sensitive to temps under 50°. I had a lot of room for them on my guest bedroom stands because I had a virus take hold of my plants early last year, and I wound up sending the entire collection to their “great reward” in the sky – or should I say the dump! I then thoroughly cleaned the trays and entire stand with Physan 20. I did a lot of research as to what virus had managed to take hold of them. Here are a few photos of the damage

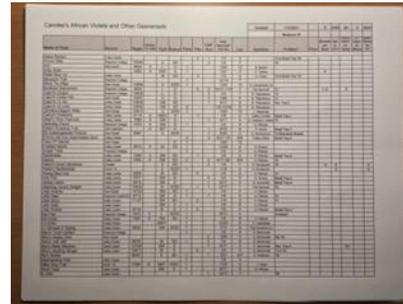


I ruled out INSV, and suspected cyclamen or broad mites. Yet, when I used my microscope, I was unable to detect any signs of them. I didn't have thrips or mealy bugs. I did the usual routine of spraying once a week for three weeks with Avid, and kept watch for any signs of good regrowth. I finally got tired of looking at them and out they went! I didn't even set down leaves because I was wary of whatever else it might have been. And . . . I'm not one of those growers who “crown” their plants because I don't have the patience to watch for new growth

to finally emerge. (Don't know why I don't have the same feeling about setting down leaves!)

Because of the kindness of friends, I was able to replenish my stands with plants (mostly semis and minis) as well as many leaves that are now in the stage of being separated into baby plantlets. When the weather gets warmer, I'll order some of the favorite standards that I lost and move on!

I keep a detailed spreadsheet with all of my varieties listed, their pertinent information, whether the variety is a plant, plantlet or leaf, when it was repotted, its location on the stands and issues I've observed, etc. (See photo) It helps me target when to repot as well as keep track of details.



Here's my usual routine for the care of my plants:

- I tend to repot my semis/minis every months, my standards every 4 months and my trailers every six months or so.
- I've tried many different potting mixes (ProMix BX, ProMix HP, FertaLoam, Baccto, Foxfarm Ocean Blend, and I'm still not totally in love with any of them. I found that I needed to be very careful with those that have mycorrhizae in the mix by really limiting any additional fertilizer in my water. The only things I add to any mix I choose are lots of perlite (probably 40%) and horticulture charcoal.
- Once they are repotted, I do not use any fertilizer for the first month or so because, again, many of the potting mixes contain fertilizer – read the labels!

When I do add fertilizer, I rotate between Plant Marvel, DynaGro Grow or Bloom, Optimara, and Better-Gro Orchid Plus.



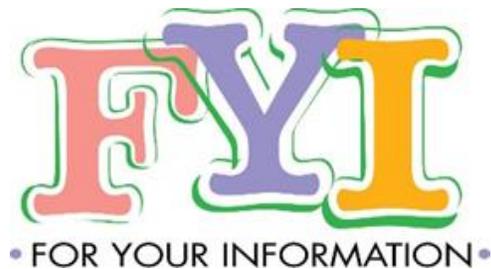
- As you can see from the photo, I wick-water the plants and use a sandwich bag inside the pot that I can throw away once algae forms. My water is rain water, and I check the pH every couple of months to ensure it's in the correct range.
- During the winter months when the heat is on I have a humidifier running in the room to add enough humidity to make them happy.
- Once a week I check each plant thoroughly, removing dead leaves/blossoms.

When I am growing for show, I follow the Pauline Bartholomew schedule that I tweak a bit because of weather conditions.

I'm happy to report that I haven't seen any evidence of the virus in my collection since I tossed and cleaned, and I hope that continues.

One final word of caution – remember to isolate any plants you purchase for at least one or two months in a different room.

This is a photo of my small isolation stand. I learned the hard way that despite my confidence in the source of some of the new plants I received early last year, it proved to be a disaster.



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February Birthdays

2/20 Anita Adlin



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!



USF PLANT SALE

Saturday and Sunday April 10th and 11th

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



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

Meeting Minutes

Virtual January 15th, 2021 10AM

The meeting was called to order by 2nd Vice President Jim Boyer at 10:05 AM.

INSPIRATIONAL: Mary Lou Harden

ROLL CALL: 12 Members

GUESTS: From Florida--Carol Ann Burrell (Sebring), Bobbi Johannsen (Jacksonville), Mary Jane DiLorenzo (Lakeland), Jerry O'Keefe (Longwood); We also had guests from Ohio.

PROGRAM:



Our guest speaker for the meeting was Kathy Spissman, from Tucker, Georgia. Kathy worked at Rich's Department Store for 35 years. She retired in 2001. She has been Convention Director for Dixie AVS for many years and has also been a leader in the Greater Atlanta African Violet Club for many years. Kathy is also a member of the Gesneriad Society and

ROASTED MUSHROOM SOUP

8 ounces fresh baby portobello mushrooms, halved
4 ounces fresh shiitake mushrooms, stemmed and halved
2 tablespoons olive oil
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
1 ½ cups reduced-sodium chicken or vegetable broth
1 tablespoon butter ½ cup chopped onion
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 tablespoons dry sherry or dry white wine
4 teaspoons all-purpose flour
1 cup heavy cream

Preheat oven to 400°F. In a 15x10x1-inch baking pan combine portobello and shiitake mushrooms. Drizzle with oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper; toss to coat. Spread mushrooms in a single layer. Roast, covered, for 30 minutes. Roast, uncovered, for 15 to 18 minutes more or until mushrooms are tender, but still moist. Cool slightly.

In a food processor or blender combine half of the mushrooms and ¾ cup of the broth. Cover and process or blend until smooth.

In a medium saucepan heat butter over medium heat until melted. Add onion and garlic; cook about 5 minutes or until onion is tender, stirring occasionally. Carefully add sherry. Simmer, uncovered, about 1 minute or until most of the liquid is evaporated. Stir in flour; cook and stir for 1 minute. Stir in the remaining mushroom halves, the pureed mushrooms, the remaining ¾ cup broth, and cream. Bring to boiling; reduce heat. Simmer, uncovered, about 10 minutes or until mixture is slightly thickened.

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



MEET THE MEMBER

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Kathy Glenn who manages our Facebook page asked members to email pictures of named

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Some Photos from Our Last Meeting



Raffle Plants



Some of Mary Lou Harden's gorgeous plants



Live Wire



Live Wire Closeup



Emerald Lace



Emerald Lace Closeup

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MARCH 2021

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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

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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



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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.

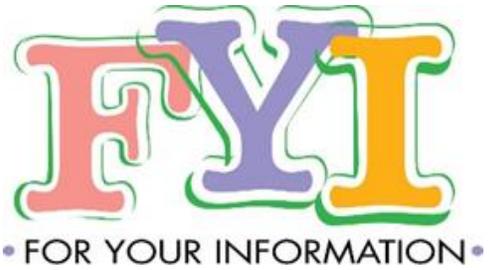
They are then placed in matted plastic clamshell bakery boxes until they are ready to separate. My current favorite medium is Roots Organic GreenLight that I get from Urban Roots Hydroponic Store in Tampa.

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.





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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

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Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

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One of Mary Lou Harden's gorgeous plants



Rob's Vanilla Trail

Roselind Rovinsky sharing Photos of her Cajun's Royal Knockout



THE PETAL

APRIL 2021

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



SPRING MEADOW

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Just as a reminder of why we invest time and money in growing African violets, here's a photo of Sister Sylvia, a chimera. Although it's an older variety, it is strikingly beautiful. If you're a Facebook or Instagram follower, you've no doubt seen many new hybrids now or soon-to-be available. Some are spectacular!



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

Tampa African Violet Society exists to give you and others the opportunity to learn all about the culture and propagation of African violets (Saintpaulia) and their relatives.

Although we've had some significant challenges during the past year, TAVS is on the move and is gearing up for a bright future. We're making plans now for some Fall activities and our annual show in 2022.

The African Violet Council of Florida will meet in Lakeland for a one-day display and plant sale. I encourage all our TAVS members to be growing plants for the display and sale. The Council will also have its Fall meeting during this time. Set-up will be Friday, October 1, and the display and sale will be Saturday, October 2.

We also anticipate being part of a plant sale at USF Botanical Gardens in mid-October. TAVS is committed to helping its members learn best practices in growing and showing

African violets. If you have questions or need help with any aspect of your growing, don't hesitate to ask another member or one of your officers. We're here to help!

So . . . please take advantage of every opportunity to learn. Attend meetings where you can learn and interact with other growers. And share your love of African violets with others! Hope to see you at our meeting on Friday, April 16, in Seffner!

Mary Lou Harden First Vice President

OUR MEETINGS

Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic we are still only 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 an "In Person" meeting on Friday, April 16th, at 10 am. It is the club's 51st anniversary and we will be installing our new officers.

The meeting will be held at 10am

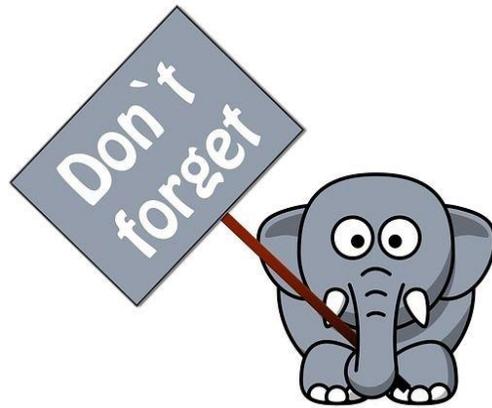
Mary Lou Harden's

902 W Old Hillsborough Ave.

Seffner, FL 33584

If anyone has any plants or leaves they would like to share for the raffle bring them along!

Remember! If you need any supplies, now would be a good time to get them. Just send Mary Lou an email with your requests before the meeting. mlhard@verizon.net



Annual dues are due this month. Dues are \$15. If paying by check please make out to TAVS. Bring your dues to the April meeting, or mail checks to:

Glenn Shelton

7142 62nd Ave. N

Pinellas Park, FL 33781

IN THE FUTURE



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.

CALENDAR of Events



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 3 Angela Newell
April 4 Jim Matula
April 9 Mary Lou Harden
April 11 Terry Jordan
April 17 Lynn Bandy



Anita Adlin had heart surgery on April 1. She is now at home and doing well—says Howard is taking good care of her. She will be doing cardiac rehab. Please let Anita know you are thinking of her. Cards may be sent to her at 8573 Acorn Ridge Court, Tampa, FL 33625, or email her at Asadlin@verizon.net.

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

USF PLANT SALE
CANCELLED

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

We'll be setting up our display at the State Fair on Sunday, April 18, at 1 pm. Volunteers needed! We're usually there between 1 and 2 hours. Any help you can give is appreciated!

We will need people to help water plants in the display during the fair and of course PLANTS!!!

If you can help reach out to Mary Lou Harden @ mlhard@verizon.net or Mary Beth Bryant @ mbbryant3@gmail.com

AVSA ANNUAL CONVENTION & SHOW
A Cyber Convention – “Celebrating African Violets Through The Years”
May 30 – June 6, 2021

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY
Virtual Convention and show
July

DIXIE AVS: Convention and Show- has been rescheduled to 2022

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.



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 article is from Mary Beth Bryant

Hi, Everyone. I thought I should step in and do a show and tell about myself and my violet growing area. First, and foremost, I am married and have been for 30 years to my wonderful husband, Lee. You will hear how he's helped with my violets later. He teaches government and economics at St. Pete High. We have one human daughter, Victoria, who lives in Colorado and works for FEMA. We also have one doggie daughter named Wheatie. She is my faithful companion, but doesn't care a lick about violets!

Okay, to the violets. I have always loved plants of all kinds, including violets and orchids. I grew lots of things before I married and so did Lee. Well, being married, working full-time and raising a family is not conducive to growing anything. I just didn't have the time. Fast forward to 2017, the year I went to our state fair. I came home with an alsobia, don't remember which one.

From there, I progressed to violets. I found people online. That's how I met Camille. She and I attended a show in Lakeland. The Lakeland show is where I met Glenn Shelton. Through him, I joined TAVS. The rest, as they say, is history.

As to my growing area, it has changed drastically. When I first started, I was growing in natural light. My kitchen window faced east, so it had room for 3 minis and semi-minis. I also have a converted breezeway between the garage and the house. It has great, big windows on both sides with tile floors and a ceiling fan. The west facing windows have a shelf running the entire length which is just perfect for my violets and other plants. Well, I nurtured and cosseted and most of my violets thrived. I thought this was easy! I wanted to expand my collection.

So.....in 2019, my husband took 2 shelving units and added ropes of LED lights. I now had 8 shelves to play with! I was careful and moved most if not all of my plants to the shelves. Most of the violets went into shock, as did I. I lost a lot of plants. Glenn was there, as was Mary Lou, to provide advice. Things began to grow normally for me.

Just before the pandemic hit in March of 2020, I purchased a bigger grow cart from Mary Lou and that's where and how I grow violets to this day.





MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Meeting Minutes

Virtual March 19th, 2021 10AM

The meeting was called to order by First Vice President Mary Lou Harden at 10:08 AM.

INSPIRATION: An Irish Blessing by Mary Lou Harden

ROLL CALL: 11 Members

PROGRAM: Kathy Glenn fielded questions from the group following her article in the March Petal and gave us some of her growing tips

MINUTES: The minutes of the February 19, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Submitted by Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, Total Monthly Expense of \$14.99 and income of \$15.00, leaving a balance of \$4,275.36 as of March 18, 2021. 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. We are also seeking a venue for our future show in 2022.

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

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May 30—June 6, 2021. 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 in 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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Florida State Fair- The application was filed to put in a display. Dates are April 22nd to May 2nd.

The theme for the display is **Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space.**

Set up is April 18. An email will be sent regarding times.

We will need volunteers for setup, people to help water plants in the display during the fair and of course PLANTS!!!

If you can help reach out to Mary Lou Harden @ mlhard@verizon.net or Mary Beth Bryant @ mhbryant3@gmail.com

SHOW AND TELL:

Carolee Carter showed us Lil Glimpse of Spring and Orchard's Bumble Magnet
Mary Lou Harden showed us Episcia Kee Wee, Canadian Clone- Cleopatra
Cherokee Trail, Powder Keg and Cajun's Le Bon Ton Roule
Roselind Rovinsky showed us Cajun's Royal Knockout and Mermaid's Kiss
Lisa Villabol showed us her beautiful but unnamed plant grown in natural light.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The April 16th meeting will be an in person meeting at Mary Lou Harden's home. 10 am.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 am.

Lynn Bandy- Day Recording Secretary

RECIPE BOX



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

CARROT SOUFFLE

1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs peeled carrots
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons baking powder
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons vanilla
2 tablespoons flour
3 eggs
 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb margarine, softened

1. Steam or boil carrots until extra soft& drain well.
2. While carrots are warm, add sugar, baking powder and vanilla.
3. Whip with mixer until smooth.
4. Add flour and mix well.
5. Whip eggs separately and add to mixture, blending well.
6. Add margarine and blend well.
7. Pour mixture into baking dish-ABOUT HALF FULL--as the souffle will rise.
8. Bake@ 350 about 1 hour or until top is light brown.

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

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

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Petal Editor
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Some of Mary Lou Harden's Show and Tell plants



Episcia Canadian Clone Cleopatra



Episcia Kee Wee

Roselind Rovinsky Photos of her show and Tell Plants





Cajun's Royal Knockout



African Violet Mermaid's Kiss





THE PETAL

MAY 2021

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



MA'S LAVENDER PRINCE

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Thanks to all who attended the April meeting at Mary Lou's.

As your new President, I think the most important thing on my agenda is to find a meeting place, now that COVID is on the ropes.

The state fair is over and done and I'd say our booth was a success! Plenty of people stopped by and looked. We even got several names of people who are interested in the club and want more information. I will connect with them and maybe we will see new faces at our next meeting!

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 May 21st 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 NEW OFFICERS



First Vice President Mary Lou Harden

Treasurer Glenn Shelton

Second Vice President Jim Matula

President Mary Beth Bryant

Not pictured Lynn Bandy Correspondence secretary

OUR MEETINGS

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MAY ZOOM MEETING FRIDAY MAY 21ST 10AM



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Glenn Shelton
7142 62nd Ave. N
Pinellas Park, FL 33781



MAY BIRTHDAYS

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



JoAnne Martinez, a past president of TAVS, had hip replacement surgery this week. She is now home and doing well.

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



Mary Lou Harden's sister (Queen) Esther Jones passed away on April 21 in Marion, Ohio, following a brief illness. She celebrated her 97th birthday in November 2020

Posted by the Heart of Jacksonville African Violet Society

"Our President and the very heart of our club, Sharon Gartner, has lost a long battle with cancer. She was diagnosed in early Spring 2020. She fought hard, enduring many treatments and much pain, always with an upbeat, positive attitude. In the end, the treatments were too much and she passed away on April 22, 2021. We have always loved her, but during this year, we learned how much Sharon really loved us. We recognized how much she did for us all of these years. Even now, the full extent of her service and influence is amazing to see. Our club will go on. We will fulfill the legacy she worked so hard to leave for us. There will never be anyone else like her. Each of us has been blessed by her in some way, both large and small. She will never be forgotten. ♡"

CALENDAR of Events

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A Cyber Convention – “Celebrating African Violets Through The Years”
May 30 – June 6, 2021

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THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

Interview with Ken Froboese Hill Country African Violets & Nursery Boerne, TX By Mary Lou Harden

Our program this month will feature Ken Froboese of **Hill Country African Violets & Nursery**, a premier garden center and nursery in Boerne, Texas. Ken says his family started their flower and plant business over 40 years ago with just African violets. However, many of their clients wanted education on different types of plants and foliage along with flower combinations in pots and hanging baskets so they have expanded the business over the years and now they have 11 greenhouses that have flowers, plants, shrubs, trees, as well as the African violets.

When Ken was asked why he opened the nursery, he responded, "It's been so long ago I can't remember." He says the nursery is really "a family gathering place." It's a family-friendly nursery. When asked why people should shop at his nursery, Ken replied, "You'll see what a REAL nursery looks like! When you are ready to 'Step UP' from the box stores -- plants for this area -- cared for by people who care for plants -- we're different! Come on by, we would love to help you."

Ken has been a commercial member and supporter of AVSA for many years. He is a member of the First African Violet Society of Wichita Falls, TX, and the Dixie AVS. I first met him at a Dixie convention in San Antonio many years ago and have seen him at many AVSA conventions since then.

This program is an interview of Ken Froboese by John Dromgoole, host of The New Garden, on the subject of African Violets.



Inside view of one of Ken's 11 greenhouses

Another short article from The AVSA Growing Tips

How Many African Violets Are There?



African violets were **first discovered** in 1884 by European explorers. In 1892, Baron Walter Von Saint Paul sent

samples (probably seed) of **one species** back to Germany which lead to the first scientific description.

African violets were most notably cultivated commercially beginning in 1926 when Armacost and Royston of West Los Angeles imported seed and developed the "Original Ten" hybrids for sale.

The African Violet Society of America first organized in 1946. In the second issue of the *African Violet Magazine*, published in 1949, it was reported that there were about 150 varieties of African violets grown in the United States.

That number rapidly grew through the years. Today, the official *African Violet Master List* (First Class for All software) includes **over 19,000 varieties**. For many reasons, not all existing varieties were listed officially. Hybridizing continues across the world and more varieties will be added soon. How many violets? Too many to count!



**TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Minutes of April 16, 2021, Meeting
Seffner, FL**

The meeting was called to order by Second Vice President Jim Boyer at 10:12 AM. Mary Lou Harden served as Secretary. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mary Beth Bryant presented the program, telling about her growing methods, her conditions of growing and discussed the importance of proper lighting, watering and other culture do's and don'ts.

ROLL CALL: 12 Members and 2 guests.

GUESTS: Angelina's friend/neighbor, Leah, whose home is in Pittsburgh and who wanted to see how we grow African violets. Stuart Swayze's wife, Kathy.

Mary Lou Harden installed the newly elected officers:

Mary Beth Bryant, President
Mary Lou Harden, First Vice President
Jim Matula, Second Vice President
Glenn Shelton, Treasurer
Lynn Bandy, Recording and Corresponding Secretary,

The minutes of the March 19, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported a bank balance as of today of \$4,290.36. The report will be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

AVSA: AVSA will host a virtual convention "Celebrating African Violets Through The Years" May 30—June 6, 2021. 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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Florida State Fair. Dates are April 22nd to May 2nd. Set up will be Sunday, April 18 at 1:00 pm. The theme for the display is "Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space." Volunteers are needed for setup and to bring plants.

Mary Lou Harden demonstrated how to repot a violet with lots of elongated leaves.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The May 21 meeting will be by Zoom at 10 am.

PLANT RAFFLE. Raffle plants were provided by Stuart Swayze, Jim Boyer, Angelina Grundhoff and Mary Lou Harden.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Mary Lou Harden, Recording Secretary Pro Tem

RECIPE BOX



*. This month's recipe submitted by Lynn Bandy
This is a GREAT recipe to make for Mother's Day!*

Strata

9-12 slices white bread, crusts removed
1 pound sausage/bacon browned, drained and crumbled
2 cups grated cheddar cheese

8 eggs
2 cups milk
1 TBS Worcestershire sauce
8 drops tabasco sauce
1 tsp Paprika

Liberally Grease a 9x13 dish
Smooch bread slices into bottom of pan and up sides slightly, add sausage/bacon, then cheese. In a blender mix eggs, milk and remaining ingredients, pour over cheese. Cover with saran wrap and let casserole sit for at least four hours, preferably overnight. Cook at 350 for 35 to 45 min, until bubbly and puffed up. Let casserole sit for 5 min before slicing.

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 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.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

VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM:

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

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, laprice41@yahoo.com.
www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nyleb@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.

**Some Photos from our meeting on April 16th
submitted by Roselind Rovinsky**

Mr. Handsome: George Grundhoff



Our own King James!

**SOME PHOTOS OF OUR DISPLAY AT THE
FLORIDA STATE FAIR**

Submitted by Mary Lou Harden







Our own member Anita Adlin submitted an entry in the Art Division

Another beautiful plant from Mary Lou Harden's collection



Sinningia 'Party Dude'

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.

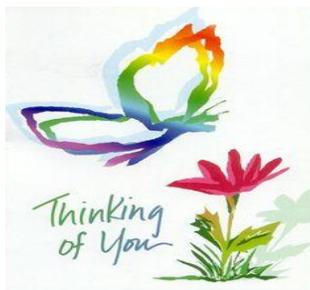
GESNERIAD SOCIETY - Virtual Convention and show - July 2, 2021. Terry Jordan and Mary Lou Harden are exhibitors.

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.

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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
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.

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



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

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.

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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

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, laprice41@yahoo.com.

www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org



Mary Lou Harden's LE Cutie Pie

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.

THE PETAL

AUGUST 2021

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



SHIMMERING SUNSHINE

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

HAPPY AUGUST, EVERYONE!

I hope you are doing well.

As summer progresses, so does the club. Work behind the scenes for our club show is beginning to ramp up.

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

More visibly, some of our club members went to Mulberry to hear Bobbi Johannsen give a program at the First Lakeland African Violet Society's July meeting. I am sure that the attendees came away energized and with good ideas to share. Proof that African Violets really do connect us all!

See you on the 20th for an in-person meeting at Mary Lou's. King James will present a program on Sinningias.

Mary Beth

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.

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.

ZOOM MEETINGS



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!

AUGUST MEETING FRIDAY August 20th,2021 10AM

Our August meeting will be an in-person meeting.

The meeting will take place at Mary Lou Harden's home.
902 W Old Hillsborough Ave.
Seffner, FL 33584

At this meeting, Jim Boyer will tell us how to grow *Sinningias*.

Sinningia is a genus of about 75 species, most of which are native and/or endemic to Brazil. They are easy to grow and don't require a lot of space.



SINNINGIA "WHITE SPRITE"

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER JIM BOYER



Jim (affectionately known as "King James")

Jim is a native of Tampa, but for quite a few years lived in Orlando where he became active in the insurance industry beginning in 1973. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Banking and Finance in 1970 from the University of Florida and a Masters of Science in Financial Services in 1984 from The American College. Jim has worked as an Employee Benefits and Financial Services Representative and has been in the sales and service of life, health and investment products.

A few years ago, Jim decided a change would do him good so he ventured into other businesses. Today, according to his Facebook page, he is “self-employed and loving it”!

Jim’s life has not always been just about financial matters. He loves to fish, and has an absolute mania for the Gators Football team! And, he has been growing, showing and judging African violets for many years. Actually, he got hooked on African violets in 1979 and started growing anything and everything he could get his hands on. He joined a local club and, after much coaxing, started showing.

In 1986, his club’s Best in Show winner was Desert Dawn, one of the first chimeras ever produced. Jim was fascinated with the pinwheel striping and decided at that moment to concentrate on chimeras. For several years, Jim had a commercial African violet business, selling only chimeras and supplying two other commercial growers with his plants. Later, Jim became a Charter Member of AV Association of Gardeners in Orlando, serving as its First Vice President, Show Chair and Plant Sales Chair.

Upon returning to Tampa, Jim became an active member of TAVS. He has served as President and Vice President, show chair and continues to serve as our novice administrator. Jim has also been active in Dixie AVS and the African Violet Council of Florida where he served as First Vice President and just concluded two terms as President. Jim is well known for the hundreds of “tips” he has collected over the years from violet growers and shares with us. Jim is also a member of AVSA and is an AVSA Master Judge and teacher. A few years ago, Jim took a great interest in and began collecting and growing Sinningias. In

2019 Jim was a speaker at Dixie AVS’s annual convention and show, sharing how he had discovered the secret of winning Best awards with his Sinningias. He recently shared with the members of Tampa AVS that Sinningias – NOT chimeras – have become his focus and passion.



WHO’S KEEPING SCORE?



Here are a few amazing statistics!
Since its founding in 1970, TAVS has had a total of 44 AVSA-judged shows. How many total members we’ve had over these 51 years is an unknown. However, we can tell you that, in almost one-half of those shows, just 4 TAVS members have won the Best-in-Show award in almost one-half of those shows! These Best-in-Show winners are:

Norma Leto	5 awards
Peggy Waller	5 awards
Nancy Kast	5 awards
Glenn Shelton	6 awards

Congratulations to Glenn for breaking the 4-way tie and setting a new record!

CALENDAR of Events



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

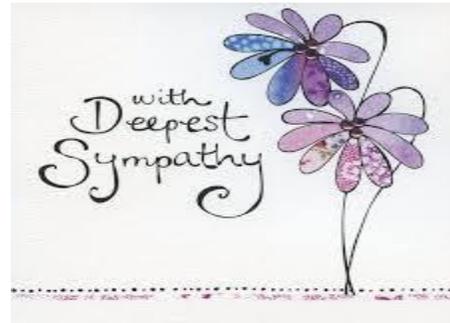
August 1 Linda Bennett

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:
Dates are October 9th and 10th.

I just received an email confirmation that USF is planning on holding their fall sale Oct. 9-10. Our chapter agreed to participate again with the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society. We are going to need support from our membership to make this successful. While we will need help setting up and working the sale, the primary need is plant material to sell. Now would be a good time to go through your collection and see where a large plant could be split or where cuttings could be taken. There is about 10 weeks till the sale which will allow plants to root. Between us, we grow many different plants and have the opportunity to showcase them. Our goal for the sale is to attract the public's attention and grow our chapter. Please help in as many ways as you can.



Annie "Lucille" Chester 90, passed away on July 2, 2021. She was born in Lenoir, North Carolina, and moved to Florida in 1970. Lucille was Christian in Faith and a member of Seminole Heights Methodist Church. Lucille loved gardening, playing bingo, eating fried shrimp and face timing on the phone. She is preceded in death by her loving husband of 65 years Claude Chester, one son Gary E. Chester; survived by her sons, Ronald (Drucilla) Chester and Darrell (Teri) Chester; five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren, one great great grandchild; one sister Mid Camp and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

**Tampa African Violet Society
dedicated its 2009-2010 Yearbook
to Lucille. Following is the dedication:**

"Lucille has been a member of TAVS for many years and has served the club in many

capacities. She is a past-president, vice president, second vice-president and secretary. She has served as leader of the day meetings.

She has served as show chairman and has served on many show committees.

Lucille is a true artist when it comes to dish gardens and terrariums. She has won numerous awards for her beautiful container gardens.

Lucille is a charter member of the African Violet Council of Florida and has been a member of AVSA for many years.

She is an avid grower of not only African violets and their cousins in the Gesneriad family, but also ferns and many other kinds of plants.

Lucille has a servant's heart and all of us are proud to call her friend. It gives us great pleasure to dedicate this 2009-2010 Yearbook to Lucille."

Please remember Lucille's family in your thoughts and prayers.

A MESSAGE FROM GLENN SHELTON

Lucille Chester was a constant presence of kindness, encouragement, sweetness and positiveness for TAVS.

I have known Lucille since the mid 80s as a fellow-TAVS member. I never once saw her treat anyone with disrespect or sharpness. She spoke politely in her sweet way. I never heard a negative comment made to anyone. Instead, she was always encouraging others with compliments and suggestions. In particular, she noticed my progress with growing violets. She remembered my heavy clay pots and less than beautiful violets, and she spoke of my plants as beautiful. If ever there was one who supported me and respected me, I knew Lucille was the one. As a person, Lucille was a stellar example of kindness, encouragement, sweetness and positiveness, not just for me but for everyone. She is a treasure in my heart.
Glenn

Our thoughts and prayers also go out to Todd Grandy on the passing of his mother.



Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kathy Glenn whose Father had a recent fall and to Bonnie Smith for a speedy recovery.

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



July 12th, 2021

Bustle-back Foliage ... Two Leaves in One

Bustled-backed foliage is one of the rarer leaf types for African violets. Only 40 hybrids are currently listed in the AVSA Master List of over 19,000 varieties. The earliest hybridizing with the trait was done by Jimmy Dates in the 1960s. It was 35 years later when Tina Moreno, David Senk, Sharlene Jones, and Wes Carter, among others, would resume that work.

The culture for bustle-back foliage is the same as other violets, but growers should not expect perfection of symmetry in most cases. In fact, the more perfect the growth habit, the harder it is to detect the bustles!



Bustled leaf - underside of leaf – created for AVSA by artist [Dianne Duggan](#)



Topside of '[Senk's Merlot](#)' grown and photographed by Terri Vicenzi



[Senk's Beanstalk](#)' grown and photographed by Patrick Delaney



Underside of '[Senk's Merlot](#)' grown and photographed by Terri Vicenzi



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Minutes of July 16th, 2021, Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Beth Bryant at 11:07 AM. Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATION: Roselind Rovinsky

ROLL CALL: 10 Members

GUESTS: Johnnie Berry. Joyce Stork

PROGRAM:

Joyce Stork, a past president of AVSA, presented our program.

Joyce talked 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

MINUTES: The minutes of the June 18th, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported the following programs:

August 20th Day: Our very own King James will be presenting a program on sinningias. The meeting will take place at Mary Lou Harden’s home.
902 W Old Hillsborough Ave.
Seffner, FL 33584

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:.

Mary Lou also reported she had been in touch with several churches regarding possible show/meeting venues. She will report her findings next month.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported expenditures: \$40.58 Income from dues, \$30.00 with a current balance as of checking: \$3982.28, and savings: \$3755.42 The report will be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Next meeting in-person. Our very own King James will be presenting a program on sinningias. The meeting will take place at Mary Lou Harden’s home.
902 W Old Hillsborough Ave.
Seffner, FL 33584
Mary Beth Bryant and Jean Krauchik have been gracious enough to volunteer to be our show chairmen for our next 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
Members were encouraged to both participate and attend this show/sale.

AVSA: Recently held their virtual show. Congratulations to our very own Pam Van Durme on her entries!

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.
July meeting to be held at Mary Lou Hardens home.

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!!!!

Glenn Shelton proposed a motion to have \$100.00 donated to the AVSA, to be used as needed, in memory of Lucille Chester. The motion was seconded and approved by all members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mary Lou reported Todd Grandy’s Mother is currently in the ICU.
Kathy Glenn’s Father had a recent fall and Bonnie Smith continues to have health issues.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 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

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



RECIPE BOX



. This month's recipe submitted by
Mary Lou Harden

CHICKEN POT PIE

2 cans Campbell's Cream of Potato Soup
2 cans mixed vegetables
2-3 boneless chicken breasts (cooked and cut into bite-size pieces)
1/4 cup milk
1 teaspoon Thyme
Pepper to taste

2 frozen deep-dish pie shells
Let pie shells thaw for 30 minutes before using

Mix all ingredients and pour into 1 pie shell. Place other pie shell on top, crimping edges together. If top shell tears, just pinch and mash dough together. Pierce top crust with a fork and brush with beaten egg.

Bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes or until golden brown.

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](#)

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
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.

ENTRIES AT THIS YEAR'S AVSA CONVENTION BY TAVS MEMBERS



Rozovaia Akvard by Pamela Van Durme, TAVS



Rob's Antique Rose, by Terry Jordan



Streptocarpus 'Picnic' by Terry Jordan



Broadway Star Trail, by Pamela Van Durme, TAVS



Streptocarpus 'Salmon Sunset' by Terry Jordan



Rob's Boolaroo, by Pamela Van Durme



RM- Royal Laces

A BEAUTIFUL PHOTO FROM MARY LOU HARDEN

THE PETAL

SEPTEMBER 2021

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



SEPTEMBER AFFAIR

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Well, it's officially September and just like the outdoor temperatures, things are starting to heat up for Tampa African Violet Society. 😊 Foremost, it is my pleasure to announce that after a long pause, we are starting up the night meetings again. YAY!

The first Night Meeting will be September 2nd at 7:00 pm via ZOOM. Glenn Shelton and I will be explaining the actions we have taken over the past several months regarding African Violet repotting methods and growth stages.

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

The Day Meeting is September 17th & is also via ZOOM. On that day, Jere Trigg will be talking about hybridizing African Violets. Jere is a nationally recognized and well-respected hybridizer, you won't want to miss what he has to say.

We also have the AVCF show and sale October 1st and 2nd in Lakeland. Then the following weekend, the 9th and 10th, we tentatively have the USF Fall Plant Sale in Tampa.

It all sounds like a lot, doesn't it?! We can't rest on our laurels just yet, as we have our own club show in February. I think I need to buy a bigger calendar just to keep track of it all!
See you soon,

Mary Beth

OUR MEETINGS

Our meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 7pm and 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.

Program details for all meetings will be posted in The Petal.

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2nd, 2021 7pm via ZOOM

Mary Beth Bryant and Glenn Shelton have teamed up to present our program next Thursday evening at 7 pm by Zoom!

Mary Beth says she has always loved and grown all kinds of plants since she was a teenager. She even took care of her neighbors' plants whenever they would go on vacation. And she says it was Joan, this lovely nextdoor neighbor, who is responsible for Mary Beth's love of violets. Mary Beth says "Joan grew them in her kitchen window. She showed me how to take care of them and gave me plants and leaves so I could grow them on my own."

In 2017, she went to the Florida State Fair and came home with an African violet cousin named Alsobia. From there, she progressed to violets. She found violet people online, including an enthusiast named Camille. She and Camille attended a violet show in Lakeland and that is where she met Glenn Shelton. Through Glenn, she joined TAVS. Her Powerpoint presentation for the night meeting is entitled "A Cautionary Tale". Mary Beth currently serves as TAVS President.

Glenn Shelton has been a member of TAVS for many years. He was previously a member of Upper Pinellas African Violet Society. Glenn has given many programs on all aspects of growing and showing violets. He has served

many years as Classification Chair at our annual shows and has been an active participant in plants sales at USF Botanical Gardens, as well as our own sales events. Glenn has also been actively involved in the African Violet Council of Florida and is a member of Dixie AVS and AVSA. Glenn has been an AVSA Judge for many years and is now a Master Judge. And he holds the record for Best In Show winner in TAVS shows, having been awarded Best in Show six times. Glenn currently serves as TAVS treasurer.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 17th, 2021 10AM via ZOOM

Jere Trigg, of Spanish Fort, Alabama, will be talking about hybridizing African Violets. Jere became interested in growing African violets when he was given a plant 40 years ago, and he quickly developed an appreciation for their beauty and ease of culture. Since his retirement, he has been experimenting with African violet hybridization and has produced hundreds of seedlings from his cross pollinations.

One of Jere's first successful and most popular crosses was a chimera which he named **Jere's Roll Tide** pictured here. He has produced many beautiful cultivars which are seen in African violet and Gesneriad shows throughout the country. Jere will tell us about his hybridizing efforts and show us some of his hybrids.



If you would like to read more about Jere, we're attaching to this newsletter an article published in the May 19, 2021, Mobile Bay Magazine, Mobile, AL.

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.

ZOOM MEETINGS



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!



9/13 Sheryl Herold



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

CALENDAR of Events

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

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:
Dates are October 9th and 10th.

Our chapter agreed to participate again with the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society. We are going to need support from our membership to make this successful. While we will need help

setting up and working the sale, the primary need is plant material to sell. Now would be a good time to go through your collection and see where a large plant could be split or where cuttings could be taken. There are about 6 weeks till the sale which will allow plants to root. Between us, we grow many different plants and have the opportunity to showcase them. Our goal for the sale is to attract the public's attention and grow our chapter. Please help in as many ways as you can.



SINNINGIA "WHITE SPRITE"



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Minutes of August 20th, 2021 Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Beth Bryant at 10:05 AM.

INSPIRATION: Mary Beth Bryant

ROLL CALL: 12 Members

GUESTS: Johnnie Berry, Carolee Carter

PROGRAM:

Jim Boyer told us how to grow Sinningias.

Sinningia is a genus of about 75 species, most of which are native and/or endemic to Brazil. They are easy to grow and don't require a lot of space.

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

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported the following programs:

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.

September 17th Day: meeting via ZOOM. Jere Trigg, of Spanish Fort, Alabama, will be talking about hybridizing African Violets

October 7th Night: King James will be doing the program on Sinningias, Minis, and Semi Minis.

October 15th Day: Becky McMeel of Houma, Louisiana, will be sharing some of her design ideas.

November 4th Night: Tentatively, Beth Baker of Memphis, Tennessee, will be discussing some of the "weird" African violets – the wasps, the bells, and the bustles.

Mary Lou also reported she had been in touch with The Temple Terrace United Methodist Church and has reserved their fellowship hall for our 2022 show in February, the 24th -26th. The fee for the weekend is \$350.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported expenditures: \$150.99 Income from supplies and a gift, \$21.00 with a current balance in checking: \$3852.79, and savings: \$3755.42. The report will be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Next meeting September 2nd at 7pm via ZOOM. Mary Beth Bryant and Glenn Shelton will be discussing a collaboration they have working on.

September 17th Day: meeting via ZOOM. Jere Trigg will be telling us about his successful hybridizing of African Violets

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

Members were encouraged to both participate and attend this show/sale.

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.

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!!!!

Show: Plans are moving along for our annual show and sale.

Our theme: "**Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space**".

Plans were made to accelerate advertisement in current affiliation journals

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Glenn Shelton has been in touch with the prize ribbon supplier and is working with Jim Boyer to procure the necessary ribbons for our show.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Handbooks are finished and we will be getting these out to members shortly.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 am.

Lynn E Bandy Day Recording Secretary

RECIPE BOX



This month's recipe submitted by Lynn Bandy

Huli Huli Chicken

1 cup brown sugar
¾ cup ketchup
¾ cup soy sauce
1/3 cup sherry

2 ½ tsp minced ginger
1 ½ tsp minced garlic
6-8 Chicken thighs

Mix all ingredients together, pour over chicken thighs and marinate for at least 2 hours or overnight. Grill thighs and enjoy.

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!!!!!! +

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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:

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

FIND US ON FACEBOOK



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www.Africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org

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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, laprice41@yahoo.com.

www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

Lynn E Bandy

Petal Editor

nybleb@aol.com

The Petal is published monthly by the Tampa African Violet Society.

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THE PETAL

OCTOBER 2021

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



OCTOBER SEAS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Those of you who attended last month's ZOOM meeting already know that I have stepped down as our show co-chair. Mary Lou Harden generously stepped up and will take my place alongside our other co-chair, Jean Krauchik. Now however, I must also step down as your president. My heart is not stable (I have a pacemaker) and I need surgery.

Thank you all for your support and know that although I will no longer be acting as your president, I will continue to be as active in the club as my health will allow.

Mary Beth

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OUR MEETINGS

Our meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 7pm and 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.

Program details for all meetings will be posted in The Petal.

OCTOBER MEETINGS

**THURSDAY OCTOBER 7th 7pm via
ZOOM**

Jim Boyer will tell us how to grow
Sinningias.

Sinningia is a genus of about 75 species, most of which are native and/or endemic to Brazil. They are easy to grow and don't require a lot of space.



SINNINGIA "WHITE SPRITE"

FRIDAY OCTOBER 15th 10AM via ZOOM

Catherine Carter of The Heart of Jacksonville African Violet Club will be discussing Miniatures and semi-miniatures.

CATHERINE'S BIOGRAPHY

Growing African Violets has been one of my hobbies since 1970. As a military family we moved 14 times. Those changes in residence provided me with the opportunity of belonging to many African Violet clubs and meet many violet growers.

My husband's grandmother got me started with 3 violets in 1970. I had never noticed violets before. I promptly killed 2 of them.

Members of The Corpus Christie Texas Violet Club taught me how to wick water and saved the last of my original plants! Frances King in San Diego, California continued my violet education and taught me about light stands, how to grow show plants, and encouraged me to become a violet judge.

We also lived in Monterey, California, Virginia Beach, Virginia and Pensacola, Florida (3 times), Powder Springs, Georgia, Rome, Georgia, Ft. Meyers, and Jacksonville, Florida, now for the third time.

While in Virginia Beach, Mary Boland, Carol Van, and Laurene Jones taught me to make and judge arrangements and natural gardens,

how to write a show schedule and how to set up a show.

My husband and I have been married since 1970, we have 2 sons, 4 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Our younger son, his wife and 14-year-old daughter live with us along with a part American Foxhound/Springer Spaniel who runs the household. I am originally from Ft Meyers, Florida where my parents (Mom 94 and Dad 96) still live.



CATHERINE CARTER

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.

ZOOM MEETINGS



Mary Beth Bryant/Mary Lou Harden 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/Mary Lou a few days before the meeting with a link to access the meeting. Hope to see you then!



10/22 Lisa Villabol



George Grundhoff had recent eye surgery and is now home recuperating. We wish him well.

Mary Beth Bryant will be having some cardiac procedures performed, we wish her success.

Angela Newell is having some health issues but is recovering. Get Well soon!

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

CALENDAR of Events

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

AVCF:

The African Violet Council of Florida's plant display and sale last weekend in Lakeland was a great success. Bonnie Smith, Glenn Shelton, Jim Boyer and Mary Lou Harden helped with setup and the sale. The Council's Spring meeting will be Saturday, April 30, 2022.

USF PLANT SALE:

Dates are October 9th and 10th.

Our chapter agreed to participate again with the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society.

Set-up will be Friday, October 8, at 11 am -- need help setting up the tents and tables.

We are going to need support from our membership to make this successful. While we will need help setting up and working the sale, the primary need is plant material to sell. If you have plants for sale please be sure to have them labeled with name, price and your sales number. (Number can be found in the Yearbook)

Please help in as many ways as you can.

FLORIDA STATE FAIR

February 2nd through February 21st, 2022

TAVS SHOW AND SALE

“Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space”.

February 24th, 25th and 26th, 2022 at The Temple Terrace United Methodist Church, Tampa, FL

DIXIE AVS: Convention and Show October 12-15, 2022 Doubletree by Hilton, Murfreesboro, TN.



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Minutes of September 17th, 2021 Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Beth Bryant at 10:05 AM.

INSPIRATION: Mary Lou Harden

ROLL CALL: 11 Members

GUESTS: Johnnie Berry, Carolee Carter

PROGRAM:

Jere Trigg, of Spanish Fort, Alabama spoke about hybridizing African Violets. Jere became interested in growing African violets when he was given a plant 40 years ago, and he quickly developed an appreciation for their beauty and ease of culture. Since his retirement, he has been experimenting with African violet hybridization and has produced hundreds of seedlings from his cross pollinations.

One of Jere's first successful and most popular crosses was a chimera which he named **Jere's Roll Tide** pictured here. He has produced many beautiful cultivars which are seen in African violet and Gesneriad shows throughout the country.



MINUTES: The minutes of the August 20th, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

We did have a ZOOM meeting (our first) on September 2nd, but were only able to get through part of the program before technical issues stopped the remainder of the meeting.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported the following programs:

October 7th Night Meeting via ZOOM: King James will be doing the program on Sinningias, Minis, and Semi Minis.

October 15th Day Meeting via ZOOM: Program TBD

November 4th Night Meeting: Tentatively, Beth Baker of Memphis, Tennessee, will be discussing some of the "weird" African violets – the wasps, the bells, and the bustles.

Glenn Shelton reported a check was sent to The Temple Terrace United Methodist Church to reserve their fellowship hall for our 2022 show in February, the 24th -26th. The fee for the weekend is \$350.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported expenditures: \$455.00 to include Yearbook printing and Show Venue reservation. Income from plant stand sale and a gift, \$65.00 with a current balance in checking: \$3462.79, and savings: \$3755.42. The report will be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: Next meeting October 7th at 7pm via ZOOM. Jim Boyer will be discussing growing sinningias.

September 17th Day: meeting via ZOOM.

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
Members were encouraged to both participate and attend this show/sale.

Jim Boyer requested showers to please double tag your plants with both your AVF and AVSA sale numbers.

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.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

Show: Plans are moving along for our annual show and sale.
Our theme: "**Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space**".

Due to health reasons Mary Beth Bryant will be stepping down as show Co-Chair. Mary Lou Harden agreed to assist Show Chair Jean Krauchik. Any other help will be greatly appreciated!

Yearbooks have been published and mailed to all members. Please let Mary Lou Harden know if you have not received your yearbook.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Glenn Shelton has been in touch with the prize ribbon supplier and is working with Jim Boyer to procure the necessary ribbons for our show.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Carolee Carter shared that the newly formed club "Blooming Violets" out of Ocala had their first meeting and at present have 9 members.

Mary Lou Harden announced that the dates for The Florida State Fair are February 10th through the 21st, 2022. Further discussion will be made regarding participation.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Lynn E Bandy Day Recording Secretary

August 9th, 2021

This is an excerpt of a five-part series from The African Violet Society. I will be posting a portion of the series for the next four months.

WATERING AFRICAN VIOLETS

By Sandra Skalski

Seasoned growers will tell you that proper watering is one of the most important skills you will learn in growing African violets. In fact, overwatering may be the number one cause of violet demise. The good news is there are many good ways to water African violets, and this is an easy skill to learn.

WATER QUALITY

In most locations, tap water will be fine, but the quality of tap water can vary. Chlorine levels may fluctuate, depending on the season. In some areas, tap water may have high amounts of chlorine, chloramines, or dissolved solids. All these things may adversely affect your African violets. Your water supply company can give you information on water quality, or you may have your water independently tested. In general, it is a good idea to fill a jug with water and let it sit overnight to let any chlorine dissipate. You may also use bottled water, filtered water, or reverse osmosis water. Water from a water softener may contain dissolved salts, and this will be a problem for your African violets.

Many growers use rainwater, with good results. While rainwater is generally free from some of the common contaminants in tap water, like chlorine and chloramines, it can acquire

contaminants during collection. For example, roof runoff may contain pollen, roofing chemicals and bird droppings. Be sure the water you collect is clean and free from particulates and other contaminants.

It is a good idea to test your water pH periodically. Tap water can fluctuate with the seasons, since chlorine and chloramines levels tend to be higher in the warmer months. If your pH is outside the ideal range for African violets (6.5-7.5), you may adjust it using pH up or down products which are sold in aquarium or hydroponics stores. These stores also sell products that reduce or eliminate chlorine and chloramines.

Many growers will add their liquid or granular fertilizer to a jug of water and then use that solution to water their plants. The fertilizer is used at a low strength so that there is a low but constant level of fertilizer for consistent blooming and growth. For example, if the directions say to use 1/4 teaspoon per gallon per week, use 1/8 teaspoon.

TOP or BOTTOM WATERING

Casual growers (or growers with smaller collections) commonly use top or bottom watering. Water the plants either from the top or the bottom when the top half inch of the soil is somewhat dry. Put your finger in the top of the soil to test for dryness or lift the pot to feel the weight (pots with dry soil feel lighter than those with moist soil).

A dish or saucer is used under the pot to catch drainage. To water from the top, pour the water through the soil, taking care to keep water off the leaves. To water from the bottom, add the water directly to the saucer. When watering from the bottom, it may take a couple hours for the plant to absorb the water up to the top of the pot. In either case, pour off any water remaining in the saucer after a few hours.

Advantages:

- There is little preparation involved, other than having a saucer available.

- You can check each individual plant to identify its exact water needs.

Disadvantages:

- Can be time consuming, especially if you have a lot of plants.
- Vacation watering can be a problem.
- It is easy to over-water plants which can lead to root rot.

If the plants become very dry or wilt, do not flood the plant with water right away. A dry root system cannot absorb water; the roots need time to “plump up” before they are able to draw water again. Just add a tablespoon of water on top of the soil, and then repeat every hour or so until the soil is fully moist and the roots are ready to function again. It may help to place the plant in a plastic bag to provide extra humidity to help it recover.

If the plant is limp but the soil is very wet, act quickly. Place the plant on a wad of paper towels or folded newspapers to help draw out the extra water. You may lose the outer rows of leaves, but, if the center survives, the plant will be saved.

WICK WATERING

Wick watering is a convenient way to water violets, especially if you have a large collection. Before you begin wick-watering, be certain that you have the correct pot size and potting mix, or you may end up with rotted plants because the soil was too wet.

The potting mix must be very porous so that there is plenty of air around the roots even when the mix is wet. Use a potting mix that is at least fifty percent coarse perlite. Growers with high humidity may need more perlite to get adequate porosity. If you buy your potting mix, look for words like ‘wicking mix’ as an indication that the mix is suitable for this type of watering.

The potting mix should be moistened before you begin potting your violet, or the wicking process may not function properly. The wick should be 6 to 8 inches long (for a 4” pot) and must be a synthetic material such as acrylic,

rayon, strips of old pantyhose, nylon yarn or cording. Wick watering takes advantage of capillary action to pull water through your plants.

Insert a wet wick when repotting by stringing it through the drainage hole in the pot and up to the top rim, then adding potting mix and the violet. Alternatively, you may put the wick in after potting by using a hook such as stiff wire, a crochet hook or a long darning needle. Push the straight end of the tool into a hole on the bottom of the pot, catch the wicking material in the hook, and pull on the tool at the top of the pot to bring it on through. Be careful not to puncture any leaves.

The wick should dangle out of the bottom of the pot and into a reservoir of water below. The pot itself should not contact the fertilizer water.

The reservoir may be as simple as a plastic food container, or recycled glass jars. Make two holes in the cover – one for the wick and the other big enough to add more water to the reservoir (so that you do not have to remove the top).

Some people wick water with a community reservoir for many plants, such as a large water-filled tray with “egg crating” laid on top. Egg crating, which is used to diffuse fluorescent light fixtures, may be found in hardware stores or online. A community reservoir is convenient — you must fill only one reservoir instead of many. But there is a significant downside. Pests like soil mealybugs and some fungi (phytophthora and rhizoctonia) can spread from one plant to all the others on the same community watering system.

Advantages:

- Less time consuming than watering individual plants.
- Large reservoirs can keep the plants watered for weeks; no vacation watering issues.

Disadvantages:

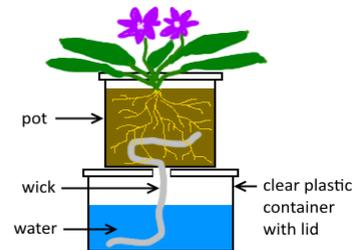
- Algae often grows in the reservoir. To resolve, line the reservoir with a sheet of plastic which extends over the sides of the

reservoir. You can throw out the plastic when it turns green instead of washing out the whole reservoir. Or, add one tablespoon of 3% hydrogen peroxide to a gallon of fertilized water to prevent algae growth.

- The plant may not soak up the water. To resolve, pour water through the top of the pot to try to get the capillary action going. If the pot is broad and shallow (such as for trailing violets,) two or three wicks may be needed.
- The plant may become too wet. In that case, repot with potting mix which contains more perlite.

- If the shelf is not level, some of the plants may not get enough water.
- Pests and diseases, such as soil mealybugs and some fungi such as phytophthora (crown rot) can spread very quickly through community watering.
-

Wick Watering African Violets



MAT WATERING

Mat watering is similar to wick watering. Plants are placed on a damp absorbent mat. You can place pots directly on the mat, but some people use wicks in those pots to be sure there is contact with the mat. Both the wick and the mat material must be synthetic. Old (or cheap) blankets or synthetic felt or fleece may be cut to size for the mat. Add water to the tray on a regular schedule, just enough to keep the mat moist. Use a porous soil mix like that used for wick watering. Mat watering works very well for small plants.

Some growers lay their matting over plastic egg-crating, which is elevated above the water. The egg-crating is cut to sit on the rims of the tray. The matting is cut and laid on the crating with one or more “tails” dangling on the side into the tray of water below. These tails will wick water and keep the matting moist for a longer time. The matting must be fully moist for the wicking action to work properly.

Advantages:

- Fewer reservoirs to fill, compared to individual wick watering.

Disadvantages:

- The mat may dry out very quickly.

RECIPE BOX



This month's recipe submitted by Lynn Bandy

APPLE-BERRY SALSA WITH CINNAMON CHIPS

CHIPS

2 large flour tortillas
Water
1tbs sugar
½ tsp cinnamon

SALSA

2 medium granny smith apples
1 cup strawberries sliced
1 kiwi peeled and chopped
1 small orange
2 tbs brown sugar
2 tbs apple jelly

Preheat oven to 450. brush tortillas with water. combine sugar and cinnamon, sprinkle over tortillas. cut each tortilla into 8 wedges. place on pizza stone and bake 5-7 minutes until brown and crisp. remove to cooling rack.

Peel core and chop apples, zest orange, then juice. combine all other salsa ingredients in large bowl

Serve with cinnamon chips

SERVES 8

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 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.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

Join us on Twitter:

twitter.com/TAVS_violets

VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM:

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

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.Africanvioletsocietyofamerica.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, laprice41@yahoo.com.

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.

Another beautiful photo from Mary Lou Harden



SINNINGIA "PARTY DUDE"

THE PETAL

NOVEMBER 2021

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

Photo by Marjorie Bullard



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

INDIAN TRAIL

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello, TAVS members!
Hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather – it's a refreshing change! I think my violets like it, too!

We have some great programs lined up for November – both will be by Zoom, so we're hoping for 100% member participation. You

don't have to install a Zoom account on your phone, iPad or desktop. Early in the week, you will receive an email message with the meeting link. All you need to do is click on the highlighted link a few minutes before the scheduled meeting.

As you already know, Beth Baker from Memphis, TN, will have this Thursday's program (November 4, 7 pm). She'll share with us about some of the unusual leaf and blossom happenings. And on Friday, November 19 (10 am), AVSA Past President Linda Hall, from Ravenwood, MO, will demonstrate the art of creating underwater arrangements. Hope everyone can join us for these programs.

Your Executive Committee has recommended that we have only one meeting in December. It will be a combined night/day meeting -- in-person – at my home in Seffner and will be on Friday, December 10, at 10 am. King James will have the program – which will feature a fun game of AFRICAN VIOLET TRIVIA. And yes, there will be prizes! In addition, everyone is asked to bring your favorite dish and we'll share lunch together!

At December's meeting, we'll also ask members to donate to a local charity – Trinity Café. We suggest a \$5 donation but will of course accept donations of any amount. In the meantime, please keep Mary Beth in your thoughts and prayers. Her surgery is scheduled for Wednesday. We all send her love, support and prayers.

See you on Thursday!

Mary Lou Harden

OUR MEETINGS

Our meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 7pm and 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.

Program details for all meetings will be posted in The Petal.

NOVEMBER MEETINGS

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4th 7pm via ZOOM

Beth Baker of Memphis, Tennessee, will be discussing some of the “weird” African violets – the wasps, the bells, and the bustles.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 19th 10AM via ZOOM

Linda Hill, past President of AVSA, will be

demonstrating Underwater Designs.

We are still actively seeking a meeting venue for our Friday morning meetings. Any suggestions can be forwarded to Mary Lou Harden at mlhard@verizon.net.

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.

ZOOM MEETINGS



Mary Beth Bryant/Mary Lou Harden 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! The 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, or 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!



11/01 Tom Schaefer



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



We just concluded two very successful events. The first was the African Violet Council of Florida's Plant Display and Sale on October 2 in Lakeland. We had no idea what to expect but were of course hoping there would be a lot of interest, and there was! Our customers came from near and far. The event was set up on Friday afternoon. Jim Boyer, Glenn Shelton, Bonnie Smith and I helped with setup. The sale was open to the public from 9 am to 4 pm on Saturday. King James was cashier and also gave a presentation on growing Sinningias. Glenn Shelton gave a presentation on violet culture. At the conclusion, everyone pitched in for cleanup.

The Fall membership meeting took place Saturday afternoon. A Nominating Committee was appointed. Elections will take place at the 2022 Spring meeting on Saturday, April 30, location to be determined.

The Fall Plant Festival at USF took place the following weekend – October 9-10, with setup on Friday, October 8. The plant sale was an amazing success! We sold lots of plants and supplies. There was great support from the community.

Thanks to the following members who brought plants to the sale or otherwise gave of their time and energy to support us in this event: Bonnie Smith, Glenn Shelton, Roselind Rovinsky, Jean Krauchik, Jim Boyer, Sandi Soto, Pamela Van Durme and Lisa Villabol. Kathy Glenn had planned to help but was not feeling well—we

hope she's doing better. Thanks to Roselind for all the pictures she has provided!

CALENDAR of Events

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

FLORIDA STATE FAIR
 February 2nd through February 21st, 2022

TAVS SHOW AND SALE
“Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space”.
 February 24th, 25th and 26th, 2022 at The Temple Terrace United Methodist Church, Tampa, FL

DIXIE AVS: Convention and Show October 12-15, 2022 Doubletree by Hilton, Murfreesboro, TN.



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY **Minutes of October 7th, 2021** **Zoom Meeting**

The October night meeting of Tampa African Violet Society was held by Zoom on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 7 pm. Mary Beth Bryant served as chair and Mary Lou Harden served as secretary. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm. Seven members attended.

Jim Boyer presented the program on Sinningias.

Unfinished Business:

1. Jim Boyer reminded members about the Plant Display and Sale sponsored by the African Violet Council of Florida, set-up to take place on Friday, October 1, beginning at 3 pm in Lakeland and the plant sale on Saturday, October 2.
2. The Council's Fall membership meeting will also take place on October 2.
2. Mary Lou Harden reported that the next day meeting will be Friday, October 15, at 10 am. Guest speaker will be Catherine Carter of the Heart of Jacksonville AV Club on the subject of Miniatures and Semiminiatures.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Mary Lou Harden, Secretary Pro Tem

**TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Minutes of October 15th, 2021
Zoom Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by Mary Lou Harden at 10:09 AM.

ROLL CALL: 9 Members

PROGRAM:

Catherine Carter of The Heart of Jacksonville African Violet Club discussed growing and propagating miniatures and semiminiatures. Assisting her was Joann Freeman, also a member of Heart of Jacksonville AVC and webmaster for the AVC of Florida.

Joann suggested everyone go on the Heart of Jacksonville African Violet Society web page <https://jacksonvilleviolets.org>, click on the

Education tab and watch the video [What is Marginal Necrosis?](#)

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

We did have a ZOOM meeting (our first) on September 2nd, but were only able to get through part of the program before technical issues stopped the remainder of the meeting.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported the following programs:

November 4th Night Meeting: Beth Baker of Memphis, Tennessee, will be discussing some of the "weird" African violets – the wasps, the bells, and the bustles.

November 19th DAY Meeting: Linda Hill, past President of AVSA, will be demonstrating Underwater Designs.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported expenditures: \$360.68 to include Yearbook mailing, show ribbons and supplies. Income from supplies, dues and a gift, \$124.00 with a current balance in checking: \$3226.11, and savings: \$3755.42. The report will be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: SHOW AND SALE

"Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space". February 24th, 25th and 26th, 2022 at The Temple Terrace United Methodist Church, Tampa, FL

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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

USF Plant sale: October 9th and 10th was a huge success. We had large crowds and Glenn Shelton was impressed with visitors' interest in our club and growing violets. Glenn Shelton helped with cash sales with Roselind Rovinsky's assistance which kept the sales lines moving.

Show: Plans are moving along for our annual show and sale.
Our theme: **"Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space"**.

Mary Lou Harden and Jean Krauchik, Show Co-Chairs reported they would be contacting members regarding the show and various committees that still need positions filled.

Yearbooks have been published and mailed to all members. Please let Mary Lou Harden know if you have not received your yearbook.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 am.

Lynn E Bandy, Day Recording Secretary



Choosing the Best Light

In nature, the Saintpaulia species (wild African violets) grew in deep shade. Today's hybrids often tolerate brighter light but most thrive in natural light on a windowsill. Violets getting adequate light will grow compactly and bloom more freely.

When the natural light is not adequate or available, it may be replaced by or supplemented with an alternate lighting system. Choosing a light system is not a simple task. Modern choices vary in efficiency, heat, and how the spectrum of light is displayed. The products offered are constantly changing and improving.

To guide your choice, we offer here the light systems in use by a variety of respected growers living in various areas of the United States.

KURT JABLONSKI, FLORIDA

Uses T12 fluorescent light fixtures

One of the most important factors in growing beautiful plants is lighting. Without adequate light the plants cannot grow and bloom. In today's world there have been many advancements in indoor growing including lighting. Personally, I like to experiment when growing African Violets but at the same time I also live by the motto "if it ain't broke, don't fix it," which is why I have continued to use the older T12 shop lights in my growing regime.

They have proved successful over the years for many excellent growers for several reasons. First, they are affordable and fairly easy to find. You can buy the tubes and fixtures in most hardware stores as well as big box stores or on the internet. Second, the combination of using one warm white tube and cool white tube (my preference) makes the plants look more appealing to the eye. Third, by using one warm and one cool white tube you provide the full spectrum of light for your plants. Red light produces bloom while blue produces foliage. Fourth, for those that grow in cooler areas such as basements the fixtures emit more heat which can lead to faster and stronger growth.

In my apartment I have three and a half stands all using the T12 bulbs. The stands are all homemade except one which allows me to customize each shelf's distance to properly grow specific plants. My standard practice is to have minis and semis 6-8" away from the lights (top of the plant to tube) and standards 10-12" away. All fixtures are connected to smart plugs

allowing me to control light time with my smart devices and cell phone. I run the lights 8-9 hours a day and increase when on the show schedule. Keeping all lights the same is a simple method for me and I believe T12 lights have proven themselves over the years and continue to do so.



Kurt Jablonski's show plants growing under T12 fluorescent light fixtures

DALE MARTENS, ILLINOIS

Has mostly converted to LED fixtures



Dale Martens LED light fixtures

I'm seven-decades old. I'm thrifty (cheap). My plant stands are old; possibly one is 50 years old. I love my old, 4-shelf, Volkmann Brothers plant stand because the tubes are wide apart spreading out the light. I grow a couple of African violets, but mostly Streptocarpus and a variety of rhizomatous gesneriads.

When I grew under T-12 and T-8 fluorescent tube light, my eyes couldn't take much more than 2 hours at a time in the plant room. I wanted LED lights, but did not want to change ballasts. We found that Philips Instantfit T-12 replacement LED tubes have worked continuously since November 2017. I have one "daylight" LED and one "warm white" LED tube and the plants have been happily growing and blooming. I grow the African violets under those tubes. The tubes are 48-inches long with 2100 lumens and 6500K. Philips has a web site showing ballast compatibility. With LED light, my eyes fine. I need to confess that I have one single shelf still with T-12 tubes for species gesneriads that need lower light, such as some primulinas. Keep in mind that the "ends" of T-12 tubes have the weakest light. LED light is evenly bright all the way to each end.

I also have an old, homemade stand and it began with two sets of T-12 shop lights, then graduated to T-8 lights and now has two LED shop lights per shelf. Yes, I said shop lights found on sale at the local hardware store. They have 3300 lumens, 4200K bright white light. There are no bulbs to replace. I got Sweepstakes in Horticulture at the 2019 Gesneriad Society convention, so these shop lights did very well for me. All my lights are on for 12 hours a day all year around.

Here's the caution on LED lights: no heat. If you depend on heat from your plant stands in winter, that's not happening with LED lights. Also fluorescent light spreads out. LED light is maximum directly over the plant, so if leaves are not directly under the LED light and you don't turn your plants often, you'll see the leaves twist to get light. After installing any new LED lights, have them on for only 9 hours and observe plant growth. If the leaves are reaching, increase the light by one hour at a time. It's best to start at a lower time rather than risk tight growing centers.

**STEPHEN COVOLO-HUDSON,
CALIFORNIA**

Explains how to adjust lights to get perfect results



Steve's violets growing under lights

There are numerous types of lights, fixtures, and stands. This article will focus on duration and spacing, specifically under artificial light. I grow using fluorescent lights, but I feel this approach applies to other light sources, too. It can be a great jumping-off point if you are working with LED, also.

Duration is critical; how long should your lights be running.? All my stands run for eight hours or less, depending on the type of tubes used. So, a T12 tube emits less light than a T8 or T5. I explain it this way, the smaller the tube diameter, the great the surface, so more light emitted. So, you may need to back down the total hours your lights are on if you're using T8 or T5; T5 tubes emit more light than a T8 bulb so that will require even less time.

How will you know you've hit that sweet spot? Let the plants tell you. They will grow flat as a board. Their leaf stems aren't wrapping around the pot, and the crowns aren't distorted or tight. I recommend starting at 8 hours, and then watching the plants for 3-4 weeks; mark your calendar for the start date, and if your plants are still growing tight and not laying flat, reduce the time by 5-10 minutes. You will then mark your calendar again, and do so until most of

your plants are growing perfectly flat. That's your sweet spot on time. Make a note of the number of hours for each stand(s.)

What's the proper distance from the light source to the plants? Well, again, the plants will tell you. I keep my light fixtures that are moveable to the top. In some cases, that means the spacing from top to bottom that is 36" +. Here's why not every cultivar has the same lighting needs; some require more light while others want less light. I solve this issue by first growing ever plant on the shelf; if they are all growing good, I do nothing. If some are growing spindle and open, I know they want more light. So, it enters using risers. I place plants that are asking for more light on upside-down plastic flower pot(s). This approach gives way to growing many cultivars perfectly on one stand, yet meeting their individual lighting needs. You may need to move some African violets from the end to the middle of the light tubes. It's a process of learning and letting each cultivar tell you their needs. Once a plant has its home, it states there.

Growing under artificial lights can be rewarding. I find the most significant light duration issues and spacing from the light source to the hardest to figure out. So, start at 8 hours, adjust accordingly, and then adjust one more time for each cultivars individual's requirements. Let the plants tell you, they always do.

DR. MINH BUI, MARYLAND

Grows with T5HO fluorescent bulbs and has done considerable research on lighting for African violets.



Dr. Minh Bui's T5HO lights with graphs of light spectrum

A good starting point for a broad range of African violets (AV) is one 5000K T5HO fluorescent light bulb placed above the AVs to achieve a range of 3000-3500 Lux for standards, and 4500-5000 Lux (two bulbs may be required) for mini's and semi-mini's.

Though I do not recommend distance between the AV's crown and light bulb as an accurate measurement (due to the age and reduced intensity of fluorescent bulbs overtime), a distance between 6.5 (mature, full grown standard) and 10 inches (young, starter plant) from the top of the crown's canopy is recommended. A daylength of 7 hours a day is a good starting point. After close observation, adjust with 30 minute increments as necessary. However, certain AVs -particularly some of those with large and dark green foliage- will respond well to a higher amount of blue from 6400K, while others -those with variegated foliage- will respond poorly overtime and undergo photo-bleaching. These variegated AVs may prefer a warmer 4000-5000K setup. Each AV will respond differently and the plant may need to be moved to several light setups, followed by a 2-4 weeks observation period to determine whether the growth pattern meets the grower's satisfaction.

The transition from T5HO fluorescent to LED retrofit bulbs is seamless, and not much tweaking of daylength is required. A few AVs thrive under two T5HO LED bulbs, one 6400K and one 3000K -particularly mini's, semi-mini's, trailers, and a few standards. Others will do well under 6400K for most of the time until it starts reaching for additional red light, right before a bloom cycle. When I see this, I supplement with a 3000K bulb until the crown flattens (typically about 1-2 weeks).

Finally, there are variegated and light green foliage AVs that grow with a single 5000K bulb alone, or in a 5000K/4000K combo. Ten to twelve weeks before show, I supplement the setup with one 3000K (higher red) bulb for blooms. In all possible lighting combinations, AVs will always have at least one, but no more than two bulbs (always in combination, never

the same K temperature -i.e. two 5000K bulbs on the same shelf) at any time.

SANDRA SKALSKI, NEW JERSEY

Uses a combination of both fluorescent and LED



My main growing area is in an unfinished area of my basement. One of my challenges is keeping the area warm enough, so I rely on T12 fluorescent bulbs to provide extra warmth when the heater is not running. I use one cool white (5500K-6500K) and one warm white (3500K) bulb in each fixture. I change one bulb in each fixture every year, so all the bulbs are less than two years old. I run the lights for 10 hours per day (on a timer), as there is no natural light in the area.

The lights are about 10-12 inches above the standard plants and 6-8 inches above miniature plants. Trailers are around 8-9 inches below the lights. I try to keep one type of plant on each shelf and will move plants around if they seem to prefer more or less light. Plants with lighter green leaves are usually toward the ends of the shelves. The best-growing plants always get the choice spots on the shelf.

I've recently tried LED lights and I like the results, especially for plants with green leaves. One shelf has cool white LED strip lights (4 rows), and another shelf has warm white and cool white T8 bulbs. Although LEDs don't give off the heat I need, the plants growing under the LED lights appear to have deeper green leaves and brighter color blossoms.

RECIPE BOX



This month's recipe submitted by Lynn Bandy

APPLE CRISP

6 APPLES CORED, PEELED AND SLICED
½ CUP SUGAR
1/2 TSP CINNAMON
1 TBS FLOUR
1/4 TSP SALT

TOPPING

1 CUP FLOUR
1 CUP PACKED BROWN SUGAR
½ TSP CINNAMON
1 STICK SOFTENED BUTTER
PINCH OF SALT

PREHEAT OVEN TO 350
MIX APPLES, SUGAR, FLOUR AND CINNAMON TOGETHER POUR INTO 8 INCH SQUARE PAN
MIX BUTTER, FLOUR, BROWN SUGAR, AND SALT TOGETHER INTO COARSE MIXTURE
SPRINKLE OVER APPLES
BAKE IN OVEN 35-40 MINUTES OR UNTIL TOP IS BUBBLY

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!!!!!! +

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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.

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.tampaafricanviolets.com

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.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.Africanvioletsocietyofamerica.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, laprice41@yahoo.com.

www.africanvioletcouncilofflorida.org

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 the USF Plant Sale from Roselind Rovinsky





THE PETAL

DECEMBER 2021

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



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

NANCY'S RIBBON CANDY

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello, TAVS members and friends, I hope you had a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving shared with family and friends. Thanksgiving is indeed a very special holiday and a time of reflection and re-evaluation. Although I have previously shared with you my favorite poem, "Forgive Me When I Whine," I'm going to include it once again in this newsletter in the hope that you, too, will be blessed by it.

DECEMBER MEETING. Remember—we're having only **ONE** meeting in December. I'm

looking forward to our December 10 meeting at 10 a.m. which will be at my home in Seffner. I hope you will be able to attend. Don't forget to bring a food item to share and a raffle plant. Jim Boyer will have the program on African violet Trivia and YES, there will be plenty of nice prizes!

JANUARY MEETINGS. Our January 6 Night Meeting will be a Zoom meeting and will focus on our February show. However, the January 21 Day Meeting will be at my home in Seffner and we'll be packaging and pricing some of our supplies in preparation for our February show and sale. "Many hands make light work" is still true today.....so please don't be a bench warmer or one who sits on the sidelines and watches others do the work! If everyone pitches in, the job gets done and no one is overworked!

FEBRUARY MEETINGS. I'm happy to report that Hillsborough County has now opened its libraries for meetings so, beginning with our February Day meeting, we'll return to the Seffner-Mango Library. We hope soon to announce a location for our Night meetings.

SHOW PLANTS NEEDED! With our show being just thirteen weeks away, I encourage you to take a close look at your plants and give them some special TLC. To help you know what needs to be done, we're including in this newsletter the **2022 GROOMING SCHEDULE.** It tells you **WHAT** you need to do and **WHEN** you need to do it. If your plants need to be repotted, **NOW** is the time to do it! Don't wait until the last minute. And that goes for sale plants also. It's not fair to the public to sell plants that have been repotted just a few days prior to the show.

Now, we look forward to the Christmas season and opportunities to once again spend time with family and friends. I send best wishes to all our members and many other violet friends for a wonderfully blessed Christmas and New Year's! Let's all continue to pray for peace in the world! See you on Friday, December 10!

Mary Lou Harden

OUR MEETINGS

Our meetings are held the first Thursday of the month at 7pm and 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.

Program details for all meetings will be posted in The Petal.

DECEMBER MEETING

Due to the Christmas Holiday we will be holding only one meeting this month. It will be an in person meeting on December 10th at 10am at Mary Lou Harden's home.
902 W. Old Hillsborough Ave.

Seffner, FL 33584.

This will be a pot luck luncheon, with a plant raffle and Violet Trivia with prizes presented by our very own Jim Boyer.

Also please remember we usually ask for a cash donation, this year to be given to The Trinity Café.

Beginning in February, we will once again be meeting at the Seffner-Mango Public Library as a meeting venue for our **Friday morning meetings.** For the present, our night meetings will continue to be by Zoom.

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.

ZOOM MEETINGS



Mary Beth Bryant/Mary Lou Harden 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! The 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, or 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!



12/11 Celia Howe
 12/25 Jim Boyer
 12/29 Amanda Mendoza



Angela Newell's husband was injured and required surgery, and now home recovering.
 Mary Beth Bryant is recovering from her recent surgery.

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

CALENDAR of Events

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

FLORIDA STATE FAIR
 February 10 through February 21st, 2022

TAVS SHOW AND SALE
“Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space”.

February 24th, 25th and 26th, 2022 at The Temple Terrace United Methodist Church, Tampa, FL

April 30, 2022 – Spring meeting of the African Violet Council of Florida. Location TBD.

AVSA Convention and Show
“Violets Go Hog Wild in Arkansas,”
 May 29-June 5 at the Little Rock Marriott Hotel, Little Rock AR

DIXIE AVS: Convention and Show October 12-15, 2022 Doubletree by Hilton, Murfreesboro, TN.



Blooming Violets of Marion County

There's a new affiliate in Florida! Yep, Blooming Violets of Marion County made its debut in September, and we plan to meet every month between August and May. We already have 14 members – several from an old Ocala club and several newbies.

Our first two meetings were spent getting to know the people who attended, why they love African violets and want to learn more about them as well as sharing what our plans are going forward. Our November meeting will focus on Back to Basics. We are developing a full round of programs, perhaps with guest speakers, and definitely with lots of hands-on demonstrations!

We meet from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the 1st Saturday of the month between August and May (the 2nd Saturday in September and

January because of the holiday) at the United Way of Marion County, 1401 NE 2nd Street, Ocala.

Who are we? Laura Perdomo of The Peacock Cottage and Carolee Carter, both from Ocala and both former African Violet Council of Florida Presidents, started this affiliate after a long search for a venue that offered their meeting room for free. Laura has a wonderful shop to purchase African violets and other household plants. Carolee has been growing, showing and judging African violets for over 40 years! Drop us a line if you want more details: thepeacockcottage@gmail.com or caroleeviolet@gmail.com.



MEETING MINUTES

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY Minutes of November 4, 2021 Zoom Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Mary Lou Harden at 7:05 pm. The following members attended: Lisa Villabol, Kathy Glenn, Mary Lou Harden, Mary Beth Bryant, Glenn Shelton, Todd Grandy, Stuart Swayze, Pamela Van Durme and Sandi Soto. Three guests attended: Kera Lee of Seffner, Bonnie Pierce of Jacksonville, and speaker, Dr. Beth Baker of Memphis, TN.

PROGRAM: Dr. Beth Baker of Memphis, TN, gave the program on some of the unusual blossom and foliage types.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 7, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Mary Lou Harden reported the following:
November 19 DAY Meeting: Linda Hill, past President of AVSA, will be demonstrating Underwater Designs.

- **December 10 at 10 am** – Combined night/day meetings at the home of Mary Lou Harden. Jim Boyer will have the program on African Violet Trivia.
- **The AVCF Plant Display and Sale on October 2 in Lakeland was a great success.**
- **The Fall Plant Festival at USF Botanical Gardens on October 9-10 was also a great success.**

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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: Convention and Show will be October 13-16, 2022, in Murfreesboro, TN.

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY: Will meet Saturday, November 20, location to be determined.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

TAVS: SHOW AND SALE “Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space”. February 24-26, 2022, at the Temple Terrace United Methodist Church, Tampa, FL. We need committee chairs for the following: Classification, Awards, Plant Sales, Show Plant Sales, Education and a member to assist Lynn Bandy with the Cash Register.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

November Birthdays: Tom Schaefer and Glenn Shelton

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Mary Lou Harden, Secretary Pro Tem

**TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Minutes of November 19th, 2021
Zoom Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by Mary Lou Harden at 10:05 AM.

ROLL CALL: 8 Members 5 guests

PROGRAM:

Linda Hall, past President of AVSA, demonstrated Underwater designs and gave some great tips regarding scale, focal points, design elements and using distilled water.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 15th, 2021, meeting were approved as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Glenn Shelton, Treasurer, reported expenditures: \$892.41 to include USF fees, and 75% return to members for plant sales. Revenue \$1339.54 to include income from supplies, dues and USF plant sales and State Tax. Current balance in checking: \$3673.24, and savings: \$3755.42. The report will be filed

OFFICER REPORTS:

Due to the Christmas Holiday we will be holding only one meeting this month. It will be an in person meeting on December 10th at 10am at Mary Lou Harden's home.

902 W. Old Hillsborough Ave.
Seffner, FL 33584.

This will be a potluck luncheon, with a plant raffle and Violet Trivia with prizes presented by our very own Jim Boyer.

Also please remember we usually ask for a cash donation, this year to be given The Trinity Café.

If anyone needs supplies, please let Mary Lou Harden know via email, text or phone prior to the meeting. mlhard@verizon.net 813-924-2686

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TAVS: SHOW AND SALE

"Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space".

February 24th, 25th and 26th 2022 at The Temple Terrace United Methodist Church, Tampa, FL

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 AVS: Convention and Show October 12-15, 2022 Doubletree by Hilton, Murfreesboro, TN.

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY:

Meets the third Saturday monthly via ZOOM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Show: Plans are moving along for our annual show and sale.

Our theme: **"Violets Celebrate the Wonders of Space"**.

Mary Lou Harden and Jean Krauchik, Show Co-Chairs.

Still need Committee Chairs for:

1. Awards (If you have an award, it is suggested you bring this to either of the in-person meetings in December or January.)
2. Plant Sales-You don't need to be there the entire time; it just requires you to be sure people are signed up to cover the sales room during the sale.
3. Properties- Tom Shaeffer? Items typically stored at Mixon are being stored at Mary Lou's so hopefully someone with a pickup truck will be able to assist.
4. Help with cash register- Lynn Bandy will be helping but will need additional hands.

FLORIDA STATE FAIR

February 2nd through February 21st, 2022

NEW BUSINESS:

The Nominating committee will be Chair: Kathy Glenn, with Angela Newell and Sandi Soto Members unanimously voted to send a \$50 donation (undesignated) to AVSA to be used for awards for the 2022 show.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

November Birthdays, Tom Schaeffer on the 1st and Glenn Shelton on the 19th.
January 6th meeting will be a ZOOM meeting, program TBA.

January 21st meeting will be an in person at 10am at Mary Lou Harden’s home.
902 W. Old Hillsborough Ave.
Seffner, FL 33584.
This will be a potluck luncheon and we will be preparing supplies (mixing and bagging soil and Perlite) for sale at our show and the USF Spring Sale

SHOW AND TELL:

Mary Lou showed us Streptocarpus DS The Red and The Black, grown under natural light and blooming beautifully.
Lisa Villabol showed us her Heinz' Seduction also blooming beautifully.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 am.

Lynn E Bandy, Day Recording Secretary



HELP NEEDED! TAVS gets most of its income through plant sales. We rely on our members to work in the plant sales area of our show. Here’s what we need:

- Volunteers to help with setting up the sales area, arranging plants on the tables, on Thursday, February 24, from 5 pm to 7:30 pm.
- Volunteers to work at sales on Friday, February 25, beginning at 9 am. Please sign up to work a 2-hour shift
 - a. From 9 am to 11 am
 - b. From 11 am to 1 pm
 - c. From 1 pm to 3 pm
 - d. From 3 pm to 5 pm

- Volunteers to work at sales on Saturday, February 26, beginning at 9 am. Please sign up to work a 2-hour shift.
 - a. From 9 am to 11 am
 - b. From 11 am to 1 pm
 - c. From 1 pm to 3 pm

Please sign up for a time slot or two when you will be available to help. Please let Mary Lou Harden know your available times.
mlhard@verizon.net

EVERYONE HELPS WITH BREAKING DOWN THE SHOW AND CLEAN-UP!

SHOW AWARDS. As you know, our show will be competitively judged and the winners in each Division and Section will receive both ribbon and cash awards. We also usually have other types of awards, such as gift certificates or plant-related supplies. Awards will also be given for the best Novice exhibit and the best AVSA Collections and Dixie Collections.

We rely on the generosity of our members as well as some commercial growers and African violet friends to provide the awards. SO. . .we ask our members to be generous and donate an award. Awards may be designated to a particular violet or class or may be undesignated and used where needed.

Please bring your awards to our December 10 meeting – we’ll have a sign-up sheet there.

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



An Analysis of Violet Pots

African Violet Magazine March/April 2019

Pots are small, but so essential to growing. This is a thorough analysis of basic information to help new and experienced growers sort out

their potting needs and decisions. Learn the advantages of using each of the different types, including clay, plastic, ceramic and several types of self-watering pots.

Purpose of a pot is

1. To mimic the natural root environment found in the native location in Africa;
2. To make growing in homes efficient and convenient;
3. To control environmental factors of water, disease, light, temperature, salts, etc.;
4. To achieve the desired growth or habit.

Basic Considerations for Pots

- *Opaque* to minimize light on roots, which will discourage algae growth. Natural environment for roots is darkness.
- *Clean* and free of dirt, bacteria/fungus, and salt build-up.
- *Safe edge* for leaves which touch the rim. Edge may be rolled/blunted/broad, but should not damage petioles (leaf stems.) The edge should also protect leaves from salt build-up.
- *Shape* matters little, but if it is flared it will be easier to slip the plant out of the pot.
- *Bottom of the pot* may need either an indentation for increased air circulation, or a flat bottom for physical contact with capillary matting.
- *Sized correctly* so that diameter and depth match the size of the root growth of the plant.
 - In African violets the roots of a fully mature standard plant will typically be about 1/3 the leaf span.
 - Should allow for growth that is desired by grower and within the capability of the plant.
 - Should restrict growth when space is limited or to stimulate flowering.
 - Avoid an excessively large pot because it wastes potting mix, tends to encourage vegetative growth without flowering, and may lead to rotting.

- *Stable* so that it does not readily tip over in a breeze, with vibration or a bump, or around pets. Stability is especially important when growing tall, erect, top-heavy, or massive specimens.
- *Have Good Drainage* to allow excess water to escape and to allow removal of fertilizer salts from the root area by leaching. If no drainage exists, the grower will have to compensate in one of these ways:
- Potting media may have to be adapted such as adding a perlite layer or extra porous potting mix,
- Watchful watering,
- Frequent repotting.



Basic Pots

- *Plastic pots* are excellent for use in moderate temperatures. They are inexpensive, available in many sizes (including recycled or repurposed containers) and easy to keep clean. They are also best for wick-watering or mat-watering, and the light weight makes it easier for vendors to ship. The primary problem is that they have a utilitarian appearance which may not be suitable in some locations.
- *Ceramic pots* are popular because of their upscale decorator appearance. They look and are more expensive. When a beautiful ceramic pot lacks drain holes, many growers opt to hide less attractive pots inside the pretty pot.
- *Clay pots* work well in excessive heat because evaporation from sides has cooling effect. Clay is good for growers with excessive watering

habits, it is stable (won't fall over), and it has a quaint decorator appearance. But clay has problems:

- Weight makes it expensive to ship and adds to the cost,
- Salts may build up on rim and sanitation may be difficult,
- Evaporation makes it unsuitable for wick-watering.

Specialty Pots

Two-part ceramic self-watering (pots shown are sold by [LJ Accents](#))



Self-watering Violet Pots

- Very decorative pots primarily available for standard size violets,
- Buy from reliable dealer as clays may vary in porosity,
- Inside pot has unglazed base which allows water to seep from reservoir,
- Recommend repotting into fresh potting mix once per year.



Oyama planters (pots shown are sold by [Glenda's House of Violets](#))

- Plastic pot system designed to provide ideal soil moisture for violet roots,
- Sold in several sizes,
- Water reservoir is hidden when inner pot is in place,
- Follow package directions for good results,
- May be used in AVSA horticultural exhibits.

Dandy pots



Dandy Pot

- Decorative colorful plastic pots designed to sit on top of a matching reservoir,
- Sold in several sizes at moderate prices,
- Wick-watering system,
- Requires potting mix with good porosity

Swift Moist-Rite Self-Watering Pots



- Moist-Rite works on a vacuum system.
- It has an inner and outer wall with the space between acting as a water chamber.
- There is a fill hole at the top of the planter that is closed off with a rubber stopper.
- Sold by the manufacturer who resides in Oklahoma. Several colors available.

Each grower will make different choices. Which pot fits your budget and is best for your needs?

RECIPE BOX



This month's recipe submitted by Mary Lou Harden

RANGER COOKIES

Ingredients

- ½ cup butter softened
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup brown sugar packed
- ½ tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp baking soda
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 ¼ cup all purpose flour
- 2 cups rice krispies
- 1 ⅓ cup coconut
- 1 cup raisins

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees
2. Beat butter with electric mixer on medium to high speed for 30 seconds, add sugars, baking powder and baking soda, beat until combined
3. Add in egg and vanilla
4. Beat in as much flour as you can, stir in any remaining flour.
5. Stir in cereal, coconut, and raisins
6. Drop dough by the spoonful onto an ungreased cookie sheet
7. Bake for 8 minutes until edges are golden

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 and Instagram pages is asking members to email pictures of named African violets so she can post to our Facebook and Instagram pages.

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](#)

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twitter.com/TAVS_violets

VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM:

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Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

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PHOTOS FROM MARY LOU HARDEN



Sinningia prudence risley



Sinningia prudence risley

Forgive Me When I Whine

by *Anonymous*

Today upon a bus, I saw
A lovely maid with golden hair;
I envied her — she seemed so gay —
And oh, I wished I were so fair.
When suddenly she rose to leave,
I saw her hobble down the aisle;
She had one foot and wore a crutch,
But as she passed, a smile.
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine;
I have two feet — the world is mine.

And when I stopped to buy some sweets,
The lad who served me had such charm.
He seemed to radiate good cheer
His manner was so kind and warm.
I said, " It's nice to deal with you,
Such courtesy I seldom find. "
He turned and said, " Oh, thank you, sir! "
And I saw that he was blind.
O, God, forgive me when I whine;
I have two eyes — the world is mine.

Then, when walking down the street,
I saw a child with eyes of blue.
He stood and watched the others play;
It seemed he knew not what to do,
I stopped a moment, then I said:
" Why don't you join the others, dear? "
He looked ahead without a word,
And then I knew; He could not hear.
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine;
I have two ears — the world is mine.

With feet to take me where I'd go,
With eyes to see the sunset's glow,
With ears to hear what I should know:
I'm blessed indeed. The world is mine:
Oh, God, forgive me when I whine.



AV Amour Elite

2022 GROOMING SCHEDULE

13 Weeks Before ShowNovember 21-27

Final repotting – either up or down, to correct pot size

12 Weeks Before ShowNovember 28-December 4

- Change one fluorescent tube in each fixture
- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves

11 Weeks Before ShowDecember 5-11

- Increase light time by one hour
- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves

10 Weeks Before ShowDecember 12-18

- Disbud doubles for the last time
- Wash leaves
- Increase light time by one hour
- Water with Bloom Booster
- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves

9 Weeks Before Show.....December 19-25

- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves
- Increase light time by one hour

8 Weeks Before Show.....December 26-January 1

- Disbud singles for last time
- Wash leaves
- Water with Bloom Booster
- Check for suckers

7 Weeks Before Show.....January 2-8

- Top water (between top watering with Bloom Booster, alternate with a 15-30-15 or 12-36-27 formula with a high nitrogen formula such as 20-20-20 or Rapid Grow)
- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves

6 Weeks Before Show.....January 9-15

- Rotate plants
- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves
- Water with Bloom Booster

5 Weeks Before ShowJanuary 16-22

- Top Water with 12-36-27 formula
- Rotate Plants
- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves

4 Weeks Before ShowJanuary 23-29

- Water with Bloom Booster
- Rotate Plants
- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves
- Remove spent blossoms and stubs

3 Weeks Before Show.....January 30-February 5

- Lightly brush foliage to remove dust and dirt
- Wash foliage
- Check symmetry, remove suckers and rearrange leaves
- Remove spent blossoms and stubs
- Prepare entry sheets

2 Weeks Before ShowFebruary 6-12

- Check for suckers and spent blossoms
- Brush foliage

1 Week Before ShowFebruary 13-19

- Remove spent blossoms
- Make sure plants are well watered

Week of Show February 20-24

- Remove plants from light
- Pack plants in prepared boxes

February 25-26, 2022 — SHOWTIME!

