

THE PETAL

APRIL 2024

Monthly Publication of Tampa African Violet Society
www.tampafricanviolets.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



SNUGGLE BUNNY

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

April is here and so starts a new year for Tampa African Violet Society. I thank you for allowing me and my officers to continue in our positions. It is a vote of confidence in your board that is much appreciated. You can count on us to keep the club moving forward, with your help of course!

This month all of us need to renew our membership and pay dues. I will collect checks at the day meeting. If you cannot make the day meeting, please mail your check for \$15.00 to our treasurer, Glenn Shelton.

Also this month is the USF Spring Plant Sale in Tampa, April 13-14. Then the AVSA

Convention in Arizona, April 21-28. Sandi Soto and I are going, although I doubt we will enter any plants. Anyone else going? A national convention is a wonderful, not-to-be-missed experience and I am looking forward to it.

See you soon,
Mary Beth

OUR MEETINGS

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

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

April 4th ZOOM Meeting

“The ABC”S of N-P-K: Violet Feeding Basics”

Richard Craft, Las Vegas, Nevada

Join Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9324792391?pwd=ZzBkTmxZTmRJOFY0SmxZbHNnU1Evdz09&omn=84638612650>

Meeting ID: 932 479 2391
Passcode: TAVS

April 19th Day meeting

“You Light Up My Life”
Lighting Basics: by Jim Boyer

We will also be meeting for lunch following this meeting

ZOOM MEETINGS



Mary Beth Bryant will be hosting the virtual night meetings via Zoom! We will have a program to begin and lots of time for any questions. Then, we will open it up and do some show and tell. So, get your precious blooming babies camera ready. I know we all want to see some flowers!

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!



4/4 Jim Matula
4/9 Mary Lou Harden
4/17 Lynn Bandy



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
April 13th and 14th
USF Botanical Gardens
4202 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL 33620

AVSA ANNUAL CONVENTION
APRIL 21st -28th.
“SPIRIT OF THE SOUTHWEST”
PHOENIX, AZ

**THE AFRICAN VIOLET COUNCIL OF
FLORIDA
AVSA JUDGED SHOW AND SALES
“VIOLET TREASURES”**

September 27th-28th
Friday: Sales: 11am-6pm
 Show Room: 1pm-6pm
Saturday: 9sm-3pm
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
2715 Lakeland Hills Blvd
Lakeland, FL 33805

TAVS ANNUAL DUES DUE THIS MONTH
\$15. Checks made out to TAVS and brought
to meeting or mailed to Glenn Shelton

MEETING MINUTES

**TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
March 15th, 2023,
Thonotosassa Public Library**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:
by President Mary Beth Bryant at 10:27am.
Followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

INSPIRATION: Mary Beth Bryant

ROLL CALL:
Attending were: Mary Beth Bryant, Pat
Rutzke, Jim Matula, Sandi Soto, Jim Boyer,
Grace Bel, Lynn Bandy, and Mary Lou
Harden.

PROGRAM:
Show Recap- Sandi Soto
Presentation of awards- Mary Lou Harden

BUSINESS MEETING: The minutes of
the February 16th, 2024, meeting were
approved as published in the Petal.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TREASURER REPORT: Was given by
Mary Beth Bryant

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Sandi Soto presented the report of the
Nominating Committee:

President: Mary Beth Bryant
Vice President: Mary Lou Harden
Secretary: Lynn Bandy
Treasurer: Glenn Shelton

Move to accept: Sandi Soto, Second: Lynn
E Bandy
All members voted and approved nominees.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mary Beth Bryant brought up the Florida
State Fair

How we did: All in all it went well. Some
suggestions were made for future booth
designs including ordering a backdrop that
would be somewhat generic so we could
use it for all of our shows/sales.

BIRTHDAYS: Grace Bel

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

April 4th ZOOM Meeting

**“The ABC”S of N-P-K: Violet Feeding
Basics”**
Richard Craft, Las Vegas, Nevada

April 19th Day meeting

**“You Light Up My Life”
Lighting Basics: by Jim Boyer**

The AVSA will be sending out a survey
requesting suggestions for topics for
Their Virtual Circle.

In lieu of a raffle Sandi Soto donated some
plants and leaves to attending members.

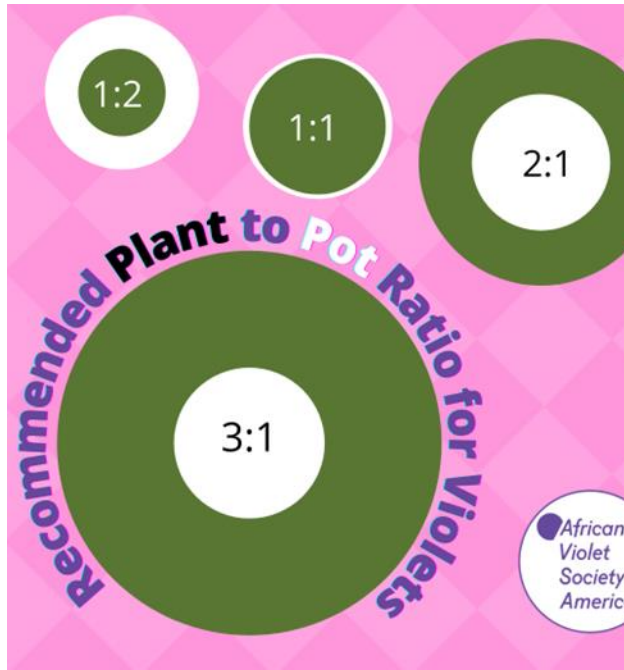
MEETING ADJOURNED: at 11:18 a.m.

Lynn Bandy
Recording Secretary

African Violet Society of America

GROWING TIPS

MARCH 25th, 2024



This week I'm revisiting a topic covered back in 2021. I see so many questions about this topic and so many violets suffering from a lack of knowledge about it, that I thought I should cover it for our new subscribers and as a reminder for those who may have forgotten. So, let's talk about pot size!

The graphic above is an illustration of some of the wrong, as well as the right, pot sizes for African violets. The "golden ratio" for sizing your pot is 3:1. The plant diameter should be three times the size of the pot diameter. As an example, if the plant's foliage measures 9 inches across in diameter then the pot should be 3 inches across. you can see this illustrated above where green is the size of the plant and

white is the size of the pot. African violets also do best in a pot that is more shallow rather than tall.

The 3:1 ratio may seem small, but it allows for adequate potting mix and nutrients while still encouraging blooming. Violets bloom best when they are slightly root bound. This ratio also helps prevent damage from overwatering in soil that is a bit too heavy by allowing the plant to more quickly use the available water. It will not solve all watering and soil problems, but it does give you more wiggle room than an oversized pot. I hope you find this tip helpful!

Happy Growing!
Chris Brooks
marketing@avsa.org

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

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
Tampa African Violet Society



Join us on Twitter:
twitter.com/TAVSviolets

VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM:
[@tampafricanviolets](https://www.instagram.com/tampafricanviolets)

African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF)

Individual membership fee is \$10 per year and includes a quarterly newsletter, *The Florida Connection*. The Council has two meetings each year – one in the Spring and one in the Fall. You can send your renewal or new dues to the Treasurer: Mary Jane DiLorenzo, 345 Enclave Drive, Lakeland, FL 33803, <https://africanvioletcouncilofflorida.club>

African Violet Society (DAVS) Individual 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 Society of America (AVSA). Annual membership is not based on the calendar year, but the date membership begins. Digital membership is \$28 and individual membership (receiving a print copy of the African Violet Magazine) is \$35 per year. Membership has the following benefits:

The *African Violet Magazine* with reliable, up-to-date information on the culture of African violets; six color issues per year

Discounted prices on all products sold in the AVSA Store

Opportunity to participate in the annual National Convention and Show

Access to Members Only section of the AVSA website

Opportunity to seek older hybrids on the Violet Preservation page of AVSA website

Send contact information and check payable to AVSA to:

AVSA Office
PO Box 22417
Beaumont, TX 77720.
www.Africanvioletsocietyofamerica.org

Lynn E Bandy
Petal Editor
nybleb@aol.com

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

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