

THE PETAL

MAY 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



MAYFAIR

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Whew! I am just back from the AVSA convention in Phoenix, Arizona. The weather was just beautiful—warm, but with no humidity. The hotel was nice and the food was good. However, the real stars of the show were the African violets. The day the salesroom opened, the rush was on as people were 3 or 4 or deeper at the vendor tables trying to find that perfect addition to their collections. Everything that you could imagine was for sale—African violets, Streptocarpus and other gesneriads to clothes and jewelry. I was in heaven! Just when I thought it couldn't get any better, the showroom opened up. There

were tables upon tables of beautiful plants, each grown to perfection. I can honestly say that I took more pictures of plants than I did of people!

Speaking of people, African violet enthusiasts are some of the nicest people I know. Stories, ideas, even leaves and African violets were willingly shared during the entire convention. Getting my “plant fix” was great. It was even better to learn what others around the country are doing. Their ideas and enthusiasm have rejuvenated me and I can't wait to share more with you, my own club members.

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

MAY 2nd ZOOM Meeting

“The Best of Annie Rieck”

Annie Rieck, Olympia Fields, IL

You all know her from her wonderful podcast "All About African Violet". You do not want to miss this chance to talk to her live!

Join Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9324792391?pwd=ZzBkTmxZTmRJOFY0SmxZbHNnU1Evdz09&omn=88038002469>

Meeting ID: 932 479 2391

Passcode: TAVS

May 17th Day meeting

“Common African Violet pests and diseases” To be presented by Mary Lou Harden

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!



5/5 Kathy Glenn

5/9 Mary Beth Bryant

5/17 Jerry Kast

5/24 Angelina Grundhoff



Bonnie Smith is recovering from Retinal 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



**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

MEETING MINUTES

**TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
April 19th, 2023,
Seffner-Mango Public Library**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:
by President Mary Beth Bryant at 10:10am.
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, Stuart Swayze, Jim Rogers, Celia Howe, Celeste Christman, Tammi Fitzgerald, Joan Reynolds, and Mary Lou Harden.
Guest: Esther Kirk

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

BUSINESS MEETING: The minutes of the March 15th, 2024, meeting were approved as published in the Petal.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TREASURER REPORT: Was given by Mary Beth Bryant

AVCF: Jim Boyer is taking over as president.

Sandi Soto is doing the entries for the council show at the end of September.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Mary Lou Harden presented the show awards.

NEW BUSINESS:
Mary Beth Bryant brought up the USF Sale
How we did: All in all it went well.

OLD BUSINESS: Glenn Shelton is sending in final accounting for USF Spring Sale.

BIRTHDAYS: Jim Matula, Mary Lou Harden, Angela Newell, and Lynn Bandy

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

May 2nd ZOOM Meeting

“The Best of Annie Rieck”
Annie Rieck, Olympia Fields, IL

May 17th Day meeting

“Common African Violet pests and diseases” To be presented by Mary Lou Harden

Bonnie Smith is recovering from Retinal Surgery.

Raffle Plants: donated by Sandi Soto and Mary Lou Harden.

MEETING ADJOURNED: at 11:40 am
Lynn Bandy
Recording Secretary

African Violet Society of America

GROWING TIPS

MARCH 25th, 2024



Are you ready to root some leaf cuttings? What should you use to trim them properly? It might seem like any old cutting implement will do, but for the best results you should use something very sharp and clean. A dull blade, pair of scissors, or just snapping off a leaf causes crushing damage to the petiole (leaf stem) and encourages rot more than roots. It's better to use a very sharp sterile blade that makes a clean cut. This causes the least amount of damage to the plant's cells and encourages the stem to easily produce roots. Slice the leaf stem at a 45 degree angle with the cut surface facing the front of the leaf. Place the leaf stem in the potting mix 1/2 to 1 inch deep with the angled cut facing up so that plantlets can easily emerge at the soil surface. Remember, the next time you are ready to root some leaves, reach for a razor blade or razor knife to make your cuts!

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

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Mary Beth Bryant sent some photos from the AVSA Convention!



CAJUN'S HEART AND SOUL



WRANGLER'S GAMBLIN FEVER

