

THE PETAL

FEBRUARY 2025

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



LOVE BUG

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Happy February, everyone. As you all know, this is our busiest month in the calendar year. Community outreach events this month include the Florida State Fair, the Carrollwood Conservancy Plant Sale and of course, our own club show. Dates and times are listed here in The Petal and reminder emails will be sent out as well. This time of year it's "all hands on deck"!

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

February 6th, 2025 ZOOM Meeting 7pm

Mel Grice, Englewood, OH, Editor of Gleanings,
"These are Some of my Favorite Gesneriads"

February 14th, 2025 Day Meeting 10am Seffner-Mango Public Library

Sandi Soto – "
"No Dawgs Allowed" – Growing & Grooming for Show

Join Zoom Meeting

Topic: **Tampa African Violet Society Meeting**

Time: **Feb 6, 2025 07:00 PM Eastern Time**
(US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81449433170?pwd=XQvrrM6vIDsSZG2AIHIFU8yPREI0.1>

Meeting ID: 814 4943 3170

Passcode: 619636

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!



2/4 Deanna Hinds

2/20 Anita Adlin



Sheryl Herold's Mother passed away on Friday January 24th in Wisconsin, surrounded by family.

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



FLORIDA STATE FAIR
February 6th – 17th, 2025

Plant Sale at Carrollwood Village Park,

4680 W Village Drive, Tampa 33624 – 9am – 3pm on February 15.

TAVS SHOW AND SALE:

February 21st and 22nd. 2025

“AFRICAN VIOLETS TAKE A EUROPEAN HOLIDAY!”



WE NEED SHOW ENTRIES!

If you're planning to enter the Design Division -- which includes Interpretive Plant and Flower Arrangements as well as Dish Gardens, Natural Gardens and Terrariums - registration cutoff is February 15. So, don't wait! Please let Mary Lou Harden (mlhard@verizon.net or 813-924-2686) know as soon as possible so we will have adequate space for the designs.

MEETING MINUTES

**TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 17, 2025**

The TAVS January 17, 2025, day meeting was called to order at 10:52 a.m. by Mary

Lou Harden, followed by the pledge of allegiance and inspirational by Jean Krauchik.

Members attending: Pat Rutzke, Tammi Fitzgerald, Joan Reynolds, Stuart Swayze, Celeste Christman, Sandi Soto, Jim Boyer, Jean Krauchik and Mary Lou Harden. Also attending was guest, Sandy Schultz, of Viola's Violets & Gifts in Punta, Gorda, FL.

Program: Final Show Preparations, including grooming tips for show plants and completing entry forms, by Jim Boyer.

Business Meeting: The minutes of the December 13, 2024, meeting were approved as published in the Petal.

Standing Committee Reports:

Celeste Christman, Hospitality Chair, requested that members sign up to bring food to the show.

Treasurer's Report: Report submitted by Glenn Shelton

Unfinished Business:

1. Florida State Fair, February 6-17

- Need help at initial set-up on Sunday, February 2, at 1 pm
- Plants will go in on Tuesday, February 4.
- Need members to give demonstrations Saturdays and Sunday during Fair
Sandi Soto, Mary Beth Bryant and Sandy Schultz – times/dates TBD
- Need members to greet the public mornings & afternoons. Members signed up.

2. Plant Sale at Carrollwood Village Park, 4680 W Village Drive, Tampa 33624 – 9am – 3pm on February 15.

3. TAVS Show, February 21-22, set-up on February 20, at Temple Terrace United Methodist Church.

- Need every member to help with set-up, covering tables, focal point, education and more.

- b. Hospitality Chair Celeste Christman asked members to sign up to bring food to share for lunch and throughout the show.
- c. Need ENTRIES! Both plants and designs.
- d. Need Awards, both designated and non-designated. Members signed up.

New Business:

Election of Nominating Committee:

The following were elected to serve as the Nominating Committee: Mary Beth Bryant, Chair, Tammi Fitzgerald and Celeste Christman. Nominating Committee Report will be presented at the February meeting and election of officers will be at the March meetings.

Request for someone to either assist Lynn Bandy with publication of The Petal, or to undertake its publication. New Member Sandy Schultz volunteered to assist with publication of The Petal and will contact Lynn Bandy.

Birthdays: Todd Grandy, January 21

Announcements:

February 6 Zoom meeting – Mel Grice, Englewood, OH, Editor of Gleanings, “These are Some of my Favorite Gesneriads”

February 14 day meeting – Sandi Soto – “No Dawgs Allowed” – Growing & Grooming for Show

Roll call by Jean Krauchik. 9 members and 1 guest.

Plant Raffle was held. Plants furnished by Sandi Soto and Mary Lou Harden.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Mary Lou Harden
Secretary Pro Tem

RECIPE BOX



Recipe submitted by Lynn Bandy

Chili's Copy-cat Chocolate Molten Lava Cake Recipe

4oz Semi-Sweet Chocolate
 ½ cup butter (1 stick)
 1 cup powdered sugar
 3 whole eggs
 1 egg- YOLK ONLY
 6 tbsp flour
 Vanilla Ice Cream

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.
2. In a microwave safe bowl combine chocolate and butter. Microwave for 1 minute and 20 seconds. Whisk until the chocolate has melted and is smooth.
3. Add the powdered sugar and whisk till combined.
4. Add the 3 WHOLE eggs and 1 egg YOLK, whisk till combined.
5. Add 6 tbsp of flour and whisk until combined again.
6. Liberally spray 4 small (1 cup) custard cups with cooking spray, and evenly fill with batter.
7. Bake on a cookie sheet in the oven for 13-15 minutes until the outer edges are set and the center is soft set.
8. Remove from oven and let cool for 2-3 minutes before inverting onto a plate.
9. Top each cake with a scoop of vanilla ice cream

African Violet Society of America

GROWING TIPS



October, 2024

The next type in the series on learning foliage types is ruffled. According to the [AVSA Handbook](#), "Ruffled, wavy, or fluted: Leaves have serrated or ragged edges."

"Cajun's Royal Knockout" (Hybridized by Belinda Thibodeaux, 2012) is a gorgeous example of medium green, ovate, quilted, *Ruffled* foliage with semidouble-double bright purple star/frilled green-edged blooms. This example shows again how, like last month's example, several foliage types and characteristics can be combined in one leaf. It has ruffled foliage on a ovate quilted leaf.

There are many named cultivars with ruffled foliage, such as Cajun's Royal Knockout" pictured above (photo credit: Belinda Thibodeaux / AVSA). You can look up other

varieties on the [AVSA website](#) and using the [First Class African violet computer program](#). Keep an eye out for one of the many varieties with ruffled foliage to add to your collection the next time you are looking for a new addition.

Happy Growing!
Chris Brooks, AVSA
marketing@avsa.org

Become a MEMBER

TAMPA AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY (TAVS)

Annual Membership (April 1 to March 31st)
Current dues are \$15 per year.
Includes an annual Yearbook and monthly Newsletter *The Petal*
Send an email to Glenn Shelton if you're interested in becoming a member:

floridainorchids@gmail.com

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

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

Visit us at:
www.tampafricanviolets.com

Join us on Twitter:
twitter.com/TAVSviolets

VISIT US ON INSTAGRAM:
instagram.com/tampafricanviolets/

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Tampa African Violet Society



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>

Dixie African Violet Society (DAVS)

Dixie has an annual convention and membership meeting in the Southeast (Last year in Birmingham, AL) 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

THE GESNERIAD SOCIETY(GS)

Has an annual convention at different locations in the U.S.

Publish a quarterly magazine, *Gesneriads*. Individual annual dues are \$25 payable to Gesneriad Society, Inc.

Mail to:
Bob Clark, Membership Secretary
1122 East Pike Street
PMB 637
Seattle, WA 98122-3916

TAMPA BAY GESNERIAD SOCIETY (TBGS)

Monthly meetings at the Seffner-Mango Library, third Saturday
Annual Membership is \$10
Send dues to
Jo Anne Martinez, Treasurer
809 Taray de Avila
Tampa, FL 33613

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.

PHOTOS FROM SANDI SOTO



Humako Inches



Yvon Baby

