

October 2014

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## 2014-2015 DAVS Programs

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October - Paula Bal - How Large Can That Violet Grow?

November - Lynn and Troy - Fertilizers

December - Party time plus auction

January - Springfield's Secrets to Growing Saintpaulia Species

February - Getting Ready for Show

March - Mark Griffith - Demystifying the New Fangled Lights

April - Stephanie Griffith - Gesneriads, Castles and Gardens

May - Barb Borleske - So, You Want Prize Winning Strepes?



### Host and Hostess Schedule:

- October-Snack provided by Diana Metzger, Beverages by Mark & Stephanie, Raffle by Mark & Stephanie. We are also having a "little show" so bring and entry of two.
- November-Snack provided by Carol Moody, Beverage by Julia, Raffle by Bobbie. This is a "show-and-tell month."
- December - Christmas party, details to follow.

Paula Bal of West Windsor is a member of the Garden State African Violet Club and as she says "When I was 10, my grandfather taught me how to propagate a violet using one of the leaves off the plant, I was fascinated by how just one leaf could make several baby plants that would grow and bloom into the beautiful plants my grandpa had on his windowsill." We look forward to her tips on growing these beautifully large *Sainpaulias*.

## Presidents Message

*Dear DAVS Members,*

We've got our first Little Show this month. I hope everyone will bring at least one plant for it. I'm going to try and be discerning – a difficult task (at least for me) when I'm evaluating my plants. But, I'm going to get up Tuesday morning, and pick out the very best, hopefully blooming gesneriad. I suspect it won't be a violet as I've been disbudding in anticipation of

having some decent plants for the MAAVS show in November. Then, I'm going to actually groom and pack them carefully – instead of waiting until five minutes before I'm supposed to leave and pick Libby up. I can't wait to see what YOU



bring. Looking forward to seeing you on the 14<sup>th</sup>.

Regards,

Mary Schaeffer

*P.S. Board members please remember to come at 6 PM for our quarterly board meeting. We've got a few new issues to discuss.*



## New Plant Announced

Convention goes in Nashville (especially those from our chapter) were delighted to hear of a new plant. Stephen Maciejewski has traveled to China and worked with folks there discovering more wonderful plants. Here is Wen Fang talking about the newly named *Primulina maciejewskii*.



And here are photos taken by Wen Fang of *Primulina maciejewskii*. Hopefully seeds will be coming too.

## DAVS Schedule Until Show March 28<sup>th</sup> 2015

Week of	Horticultural Duties to be Done	Count Down
Sept 29 <sup>th</sup>	Time to give your plants a healthy start. Repot and shape up, re-moving leaves as necessary. As always check for pests. Keep plants cool by gradually cutting back light to 8 hours or whatever is normal in your growing environment.	6 months before
January 5 <sup>th</sup>	Once each year put in new warm and cool tubes in fixture. Keep light hours steady. Repot to size to shape up standard AVs and remove leaves if necessary. Don't go larger than one pot size.	12 weeks before
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	Increase light time by half hour or so (85% of max). Completely disbud all plants except possibly minis and trailers. Start watering with your favorite bloom booster (high middle number like 12-55-6) follow half of package directions to avoid burning.	10 weeks before
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	Increase light time by half hour or so (90% of max). Disbud heavily variegated varieties and double blossomed varieties for the last time (eg Rapsodies & Optimaras). Continue to disbud all other varieties. Continue use of bloom booster fertilizer.	9 Weeks before
February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Increase light time by half hour or so (95% of max). Disbud doubles and lightly variegated varieties for the last time. Continue to disbud semi-double and single blossoms. Check for suckers and remove while small. Continue use of bloom booster.	8 weeks before
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	Increase light time by half hour or so (should be up to 100% of planned max). Disbud semi-double star blossoms for the last time. Continue disbud singles and semi-double non-star. Revert to normal fertilizer (12-36-14 or 15-30-15).	7 weeks before
February 16 <sup>th</sup>	Disbud Single blossoms for the last time. Check for suckers and remove. Check for powdery mildew. Wash foliage and check the	6 weeks before
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Flower buds are beginning to emerge. Carefully straighten & space stems between leaves. Raise humidity to prolong blossom life. Cease foliar feeding. Carefully check for thrips, spray if necessary, (avoiding flowers) or use pest strips.	3 weeks before
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Remove spent blossoms, flower stem and leaf stubs; Check for suckers and brush away soil and dust. Wash leaves if necessary. Pot up or down only if necessary. Use slip potting technique as to least disturb roots.	1 week before
March 26 <sup>th</sup>	Last minute grooming. Remove spent blossoms and stubs. Prepare boxes for transport.	2 days before

*Calling all creative members!* This means everyone! We need a design cover for the DAVS March 2015 show and sales. The winner will get a \$10 gift certificate for supplies from the club.

*The winner will be chosen by the membership at the November meeting.*

The design needs highlight the show theme, *Palette of Violets*. Not only will the winning design grace the show schedule, which will go to AVSA for approval, but it will also be used for advertising our show and sale. Submissions are accepted up to a week before the November meeting. If you have any questions or if you plan on entering a design, please call me to let me know.  
Stephanie, 520-903-4608



### News from AVSA...

Attention, Amazon Shoppers!  
Learn how to support AVSA while shopping on Amazon Smile!

USE THIS LINK: [www.avsa.org](http://www.avsa.org)

## September Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2014

President Mary Schaeffer called the meeting to order with 20 members present.

Show & Tell was conducted by Gary Hunter followed by the raffle drawing.

The program "Hoarding Plants" was presented by Drew Norris and Jim Roberts.

There will be a board meeting on October 14, 2014. Mary will send an email concerning this.

MAAVS Convention Chair Stephanie Griffith reported the MAAVS Show schedule is posted on their website (<http://maavs.org/sites/default/files/m2014/2014MAAVS%20Schedule.pdf>), along with a registration form.

Make design reservations early as some classes are limited to 4 entries. Volunteer sign-up to help at the convention will take place at the October meeting.

AVSA is asking members to evaluate marketing slogans. Instructions are in AVSA magazine

Pam Orris is working on a DAVS website

Bill Dillon set up a face book page.

By majority vote it was decided to judge the Little Shows at the monthly meetings using competitive judging as the Gesneriad Society does. After one year it will be reevaluated.

DAVS show theme is "Palette of Violets." It will be held March 28, 2015 at Boscov's. A committee sign-up sheet was passed out. There will be a contest to select a design to use on the show schedule and advertising flyers. The winner, who will be chosen by the membership in November, will get a \$10 gift certificate for supplies from the club. Call Stephanie 520-903-4608 if you plan to enter a design.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobbie La Fashia.

## MAAVS News and Notes

Just about a month to MAAVS. Have you registered? Do you need to see the show schedule? Here is a link to the MAAVS site which will give you all you need: <http://maavs.org/convention-2014> Now get busy and get ready, including picking out your costume!

*Costume Party:* It has been a MAAVS tradition every year to have a costume party for our Friday night banquet. This year the tradition lives on. Join us for a night of fun. We have had Goldilocks and the 3 bears, Mother Nature, the Gortons Fisherman and a South Seas Island Palm Tree among other creations in years past. What diamond encrusted costume might we see in Wilmington? The rules are simple. Make, buy or appropriate a costume that reflects the show theme. Be creative, whimsical, funny or serious but have fun.