



# *The Newsletter of the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society*

Volume XIV, No. 6

February 2012

## ***"Violets Bridge Borders"***

AVSA's 66th Convention and show will be held June 3 – 10, 2012 at the GM Renaissance Center in Detroit, Michigan. This will be the first time the African Violet Society of America (AVSA) and the African Violet Society of Canada (AVSC) have joined together to hold a joint convention, hence the theme, "Violets Bridge Borders."

You can download the whole Convention Package including the registration forms and all of the other information that is available on the AVSA website at <http://www.avsa.org/convention/2012-detroit-convention/2012AVSAVSCDetroitConventionandShow.pdf>.



Speaking of the website, the African Violet Society finally has its new website up and running. The site is <http://www.avsa.org/> and offers announcements about events, as well as the Convention. It also lists the organizations many affiliates and contact persons for each, a great resource in promoting our Chapter's events.

The site also offers on line shopping and accepts PayPal®.

Chapter members who have not yet joined AVSA (and we certainly hope you do!) will find the section titled "Publications" of interest. There is a subsection titled "Articles" which provides information on a broad range of topics related to successfully growing *Saintpaulias*. Although Adobe Reader is required, it can be downloaded for free right on the site. Here is a listing of some of the topics:

- 20 or 27 Phyan or Phytan
- African Violet Culture - Basic Care
- African Violet Terms
- AV Judging - Beginner
- AVSA Affiliate Presidents Guide
- Basics of Flower Arrangements
- Best of Show-Ultimate Experience
- Different Methods of Watering
- Diseases of African Violets
- Flower & Leaf Types
- How to Repot to Bury a Neck or Rescue a Violet from Root Rot
- Keep It Simple
- pH - Does it Really Matter?
- pH, Rx For Healthy Plants
- Plant Registration Information
- Scrawny Neck
- Secrets to Blooming
- Start A Club
- Vintage Violets - AVSA's Most Wanted Growing Show Plants
- Wicking African Violets - How to Start a Leaf (Rooting a Leaf/Dividing a leaf Clump)

The "Resources" section of the site provides links for vendors, African Violet Affiliates and nonprofits. Visit the site and discover plenty of great information!

## ***Countdown to Showtime!***

The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society's Annual Show and Sale are about seven weeks away! The theme of this year's show is "***African Violets at the Races***" and will be held at the Christiana Town Center Boscov's conveniently located off Interstate 95 and Delaware Route 1 in Christiana, Delaware. The Sale and Show will officially be open to the public on Saturday, March 31, 2012 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The rules and schedule for the show are included on pages 2 and 3 of this issue of the newsletter. The schedule was submitted to Meredith Hall, the AVSA Schedule Approver, and has been approved. Please note that this year Horticulture entries will be accepted on Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Design and late horticulture entries will be accepted on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. only by prior reservation and with the approval of the Entries Chairman.**



**THE DELAWARE  
AFRICAN VIOLET  
& GESNERIAD SOCIETY**  
*presents*



*at*  
**BOSCOV'S DEPARTMENT STORE AT  
CHRISTIANA TOWN CENTER**  
*Christiana, Delaware*

**Saturday, March 31, 2012 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Welcome to our 2012 show celebrating  
"African Violets Go to the Races."  
We hope you enjoy our show!**

The society gratefully acknowledges the use of the Boscov's Department Store for our show and appreciates the valuable assistance of the Boscov's staff. Our society meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month from September through June. For more information, contact Quentin Schlieder by phone at (302) 653-6449 or check the Society's website at <http://gesneriadsociety.org/chapters/DAVS/>.

**SPECIAL AWARDS 2012**

Delaware Council of African Violet Judges Award  
Springfield Judges Award

President's Award Vice President's Award  
A.D.K. Eta Chapter Sorority Award

**RICHARDSON PARK LEARNING CENTER AWARDS**

Madeline Becker Memorial Award

Geno Iubatti Award ~ Angie Celano Annual Award ~

Anne Petrucci Award ~ Emma Mazzetta Award ~ Flower Show

Chairperson Award ~ Fiore M. Celano, Sr. Award

**MEMORIALS**

Ada J. Shelton - 34th Annual

Wallace K. Behnke - 27th Annual

Gertrud Grabosky - 24rd Annual

Ruth Ann Morse - 24rd Annual

Gladys Callaghan - 12th Annual

Lillian Crewe

Sally Crossan

Gen Scholl

Bessie Pyle

June McMurry Lesh

Charlotte Maltman

Susan Schlieder

Marion Mossberg

Betty Gregg

Helen Spisak

Carol Catlett

**SHOW RULES**

**1. Exhibitors:** The show may be entered by amateur growers only. Exhibitors must be members of the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society.

**2. Entries:** Horticulture entries will be accepted on Friday, March 30, 2012 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. **Design and late horticulture entries will be accepted on Saturday, March 31, 2012 between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. only by prior reservation and with the approval of the Entries Chairman** Entries may be removed after closing of the show on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> after 5 p.m. Plants must be clean, healthy, and well-groomed and grown by the exhibitor for at least three months. All African violet species, cultivars, and other gesneriads shall be correctly named. Any number of plants may be entered in each class by an exhibitor but only one plant of a variety may be entered in the same class.

**3. Horticulture:** All specimen plants must be in clean plastic pots, with the exhibitor's name on the bottom of the pot. Pots may be set within clean plastic pots of the same size. Removable, flair, or separate collars are not allowed. Micro-mini violets may be shown with plastic wells and gesneriads may be shown as they are grown. All African violets, except for trailers and some species plants, must be single crowned. All African violets must be in bloom. The gesneriads grown for foliage class is limited to plants with distinctive and ornamental foliage.

**4. Design:** Notify the design chairperson of your design division entry at the meeting prior to the show. Exhibitors are limited to one design entry per class. Mats, bases, backgrounds, and accessories are permitted. Terrariums must be covered. Chairs will be provided for judges to judge at eye-level. The American flag, state flags, flags from other nations, plants on the endangered list from any state or nation, artificial plant material, and live creatures shall not be used in any design division exhibit. African violet plants and other plant material used need not be grown by the exhibitor.

**5. Judging:** The show will be merit judged by AVSA judges, using AVSA scale of points applicable to each class. The authority for judging shall be *The AVSA Handbook for African Violet Growers, Exhibitors, and Judges*, 1998 Edition, supplemental pages, and subsequent changes printed in *The African Violet Magazine*. Only blue ribbon exhibits shall be eligible for any special awards. The decision of the judges shall be final. The Richardson Park Learning Center plants will be judged by DAVS judges, and those entries will not be part of the ribbon count for the standard show award.

**6. Eligibility:** Only AVSA members are eligible to enter the AVSA collection classes. Only one collection may be entered by an exhibitor in each collection class.

**7. Disclaimer:** The society will provide protection for all exhibits, but will not be responsible for any losses. The committee reserves the right to subdivide the classes.

**SHOW COMMITTEE**

Chairman	- Nancy Murray
Co-Chairman	- Barb Borleske
Schedule	- Quentin Schlieder
Plant Placement	- Diane Abramson and Angie Celano
Entries	- Carol Callaghan and Barb Borleske
Awards	- Anne Petrucci and Carol Moody
Judges	- Terry Celano
Clerks	- Libby Behnke
Publicity	- Quentin Schlieder and Geno Iubatti
Theme	- Linda McGregor
Ribbons	- Maria Walueff
AVSA/Educational Exhibit	- Pam Orris and Elizabeth Varley
Sales plants/supplies	- Gary Hunter, Mary Schaeffer, Maria Walueff and Pat Barbarita
Passing/Classification	- Carol Moody and Mary Schaeffer
Design	- Bobbie LaFashia

**Many thanks to the following sponsors:**  
**Old Country Gardens**  
**Friendly Gift Shop**  
**Gary's Specialty Plants**

## ***HORTICULTURE DIVISION***

### **SECTION I. Standard Specimen, Green Foliage Any Type Blossoms - Classes 1-5**

1. Solid
2. Two-tone
3. White edged
4. Multicolor or other edged
5. Fantasy, chimera or pinwheel

### **SECTION II. Standard Specimen, Variegated Foliage, Any Type Blossoms - Class 6**

6. Any blossom color or type

### **SECTION III. Collections - Classes 7-8**

7. **AVSA Collection** of three different registered standard varieties of the same type (three single-crown or three trailers) or three different species, regardless of type.

8. **AVSA Collection** of three different registered varieties of the same type (three single crown miniatures, three miniature trailers, three single-crown semi-miniatures or three semi-miniature trailers).

### **SECTION IV. Species and Trailers, Any Foliage, Any Type Blossoms - Classes 9-10**

9. Saintpaulia species and natural hybrids
10. Trailers (standard, mini or semi-miniature)

### **SECTION V. Semi-miniature Specimen, Any Foliage, Any Type Blossoms - Classes 11-13**

11. Solid
12. Two-tone
13. Multicolor, edged, fantasy or chimera

### **SECTION VI. Miniature Specimen, Any Foliage, Any Type Blossoms-Class 14**

14. Any blossom color or type

### **SECTION VII. Vintage Violets-Class 15**

15. African violets available to growers before 1987

### **SECTION VIII. Gesneriads Other than African Violets-Classes 16-24**

16. *Sinningia* grown for bloom
17. *Streptocarpus* grown for bloom
18. *Kohleria* grown for bloom
19. *Primulinas* and *Henckelias* grown for bloom
20. Any other gesneriad grown for bloom
21. *Primulinas* and *Henckelias* grown for ornamental foliage (no blooms permitted)
22. *Episcia* grown for ornamental foliage (no blooms permitted)
23. Any other gesneriad grown for ornamental foliage (no blooms permitted)
24. Collection of three gesneriads of the same genus

## ***DESIGN DIVISION***

**SECTION IX. Interpretive Flower Arrangements:** A design using cut African violet blossoms, foliage, and other cut plant material - fresh, dried or treated. No artificial plant material is permitted, but a small amount of other material may be used as part of the design.

### **Classes 25-27**

**Class 25. START YOUR ENGINES!** - The world's best NASCAR drivers battle it out on the 'Monster Mile' twice a year at Dover International Speedway. Create a design suggesting motion to be staged in a lighted niche 6" high, 5" wide, and 4" deep. Background is the designer's choice

**Class 26. THERE THEY GO!** - Live harness racing is run at Harrington Raceway and Dover Downs. Choose your jockey silk colors and incorporate them into a design to be staged in a yellow niche 10" high, 8" wide, and 6" deep. Background is the designer's choice.

**Class 27. POINT-TO-POINT** - Winterthur Point-to-Point steeplechase race is a popular Northern Delaware country horse race held in May. Design a hat using African violets to wear to this social and sporting event. Hat and hat stand to be provided by the club.

### **SECTION X. Interpretive Plant Arrangements**

All entries in this section must include one or more blooming African violet plants. Other plant material - fresh, dried, treated, may be used. No artificial plant material is permitted, but a small amount of other material may be used as part of the design. Background is the designer's choice.

**Class 28. WINNER'S CIRCLE** - Thoroughbred racing is run at Delaware Park in Wilmington. After the race, horse and jockey go to the winner's circle and are decorated with flowers. Design a planting using a mini or semi miniature African violet to be staged in a niche 16" high, 12" wide, and 10" deep.

### **SECTION XI. Container Gardens-**

**Class 29** - Miniature garden or terrarium with one or more blooming African violets and other growing plants. All plants should be planted in the container, and no cut material is permitted. Terrariums must be covered. Exhibitor must provide a list of plant names

## ***SPECIAL EXHIBITS DIVISION***

### **SECTION XII. Education & AVSA Information Exhibits-Classes 30- 31 (Staffed by a Society member during show)**

**30.** Educational Exhibit

**31.** AVSA Information Exhibit

***Check out our Website at***  
**<http://gesneriadsociety.org/chapters/DAVS/>**

## ***Upcoming DAVS Meetings...***

**Tuesday, February 14, 2012 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Rockland Place, 1519 Rockland Rd, Wilmington, DE 19803**

**Hostesses:** Snacks – Elizabeth Varley  
Beverages – Maria Walueff

**Program:** - “African Violet Trailers” Trailing African Violets have grown in popularity and variety since first introduced by Tinari Greenhouses at the AVSA Convention in 1954. Perhaps no one is a more consummate grower of African Violet Trailers than Bill Price who consistently wins awards at the AVSA Convention.. Join us for an informational program based on Price’s presentation at the 2009 AVSA Convention in Reno Nevada. Following the program there will be a prop shop on propagating young trailers, and you will take one home to enjoy! A plant sale will conclude the evening. If you have surplus plants to share bring them. Don’t forget to bring plants for the Little Show or Show and Tell!

**Tuesday, March 13, 2012 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Rockland Place, 1519 Rockland Rd, Wilmington, DE 19803**

**Hostesses:** Snacks – Bobbie LaFashia  
Beverages – Gary Hunter

**Program:** “Getting Ready for Show” - This will be the last meeting prior to the Society’s Annual Show and Sale at Boscov’s on March 31, 2012. Committee Chairmen will be asked to report the status of their Committee. This is the perfect opportunity for newer members to learn about the show and to have their questions answered. A plant sale will conclude the evening. If you have surplus plants which can be used for designs, please bring them.

## ***The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society Newsletter***

c/o Quentin Schlieder, Editor  
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Smyrna, DE 19977-1431

## ***Yum!!!***

Carol Moody served the most delicious homemade cookies to the January meeting and several members requested that it be published in the newsletter. Well here it is:

### ***Javanese Cookies***

- 1/2 lb. butter or margarine, softened
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 1 cup coconut

Cream butter and sugar. Add flour and coconut. Shape into rolls about size of a quarter. Wrap in wax paper and refrigerate or freeze. When firm, slice in 1/4" slices and bake at 300 degrees F. for about 20-22 minutes. Sprinkle with powdered sugar when cool.

## ***Upcoming Shows and Sales...***

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

The Long Island Gesneriad Society judged show celebrates the chapter’s 50th Anniversary with the theme “Golden Oldies”, on Saturday, April 14, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 15, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact Ben Paternoster at [ben9@optonline.net](mailto:ben9@optonline.net) for more information.

**Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

The Garden State African Violet Club will present its 61st Annual Show and Sale on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012 From Noon - 4p.m. and Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 11a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Mercer County Community College, 1200 Old Trenton Road in West Windsor, NJ 08550. For more information, contact Paula Bal by e-mail at [Paulapt213@yahoo.com](mailto:Paulapt213@yahoo.com) or by telephone at (732) 771-7117.

## ***First Class Mail***

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