



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

Volume XII, No. 7

March 2010

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

The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society's Annual Show and Sale are three weeks away! The theme of this year's show is "Legacy if the Brandywine Valley" and will be held in the second floor Auditorium 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 27, 2010 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 28, 2010 from noon to 4 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 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Design and late horticulture entries will be accepted on Saturday, March 27<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.**

Enclosed is an entry sheet for your use. When you know which plants you will be entering, please fill out the form and give it to Carol Callaghan so that she can enter them into the computer. She emphasizes that even if there will be additions deletions or changes; it helps to have as many entries as possible entered early.

Hopefully members have been propagating plants for the sale. There will be a discussion on the commission paid to members who provide plants for the sale.

Finally, Anne Petrucci is collecting money for show awards at the March meeting. She will accept cash, but if you would like to pay by check, please make it payable to Anne. If you can't make the meeting, you can contact Anne at (302) 652-8839.

It is with deep sadness that we note the death of Betty Gregg, a judge and a very good grower of both African violets and gesneriads, who Co-chaired the Chapter's Show in 2001. Due to health problems she had not been able to attend meetings in recent years. We will vote on sending a memorial contribution to AVSA at our next meeting.

## ***New Book on Streptocarpus***

The Society has a great new addition to its library acquired in memory of Pat Barbarita's and Barb Borleske's mother, June McMurphy Lesh. This beautifully illustrated 164 page book was written by



noted award winning nurseryman and plant breeder Rex Dibley of Dibley's Nursery in Llanellidan, Ruthin, North Wales in the United Kingdom.

Streptocarpus are well known and much loved houseplants. This new fully revised second edition of Dibley's popular book has an extra chapter and over fifty new images. All aspects of the care and cultivation of these plants are addressed in this book. There are comprehensive chapters on propagation, hybridization, history, pests and diseases.

The exhibition of Streptocarpus is explained in detail. Advice on timing these plants for best display is extremely helpful. There also is detailed direction on growing them successfully under fluorescent lights.

As expected, the book includes a great deal of information about hybrids, since Dibley is a highly regarded plant breeder, but, he also includes wonderfully illustrated sections on the species in their natural habitats. He describes in detail the genetics of these fascinating plants as well as their propagation.

Dibley's book is very readable, unlike some of its predecessors, like Hilliard's and Burt's highly technical *Streptocarpus, an African Plant Study* which was published in 1971. Dibley's book should be of great interest to all who grow these lovely plants, including novices and accomplished growers and admirers of this genus. It was written for gardeners by a gardener! See Anne Petrucci at our March meeting to see this wonderful addition to our library. For more information about Dibley's visit their website at <http://dibleys.com/index.htm>.



# LEGACY OF THE BRANDYWINE VALLEY

Presented by  
**THE DELAWARE AFRICAN VIOLET  
AND GESNERIAD SOCIETY AND  
BOSCOV'S DEPARTMENT STORE  
AT CHRISTIANA TOWN CENTER**

**Saturday, March 27, 2010 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sunday, March 28, 2010 from Noon to 4 p.m.**

Welcome to our 2010 show celebrating "Legacy of the Brandywine Valley." 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 2010

Delaware Council of African Violet 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  
Terry's Kids Award Emma Mazzetta Award  
Flower Show Chairperson Award

## MEMORIALS

Ada J. Shelton – 33rd Annual  
Wallace K. Behnke – 26th Annual  
Gertrud Grabosky – 23rd Annual  
Ruth Ann Morse – 23rd Annual  
Gladys Callaghan - 11th Annual  
June McMurphy Lesh – 1<sup>st</sup> Annual  
Lillian Crewe Charlotte Maltman  
Sally Crossan Susan Schlieder  
Gen Scholl Marion Mossberg

## SHOW COMMITTEE

Show Chairman	Bobbie LaFashia
Co-Chairman	Barbara Borleske
Schedule	Quentin Schlieder and Bobbie LaFashia
Plant Placement	Diane Abramson
Entries	Carol Callaghan and Barbara Borleske
Classification and Passing	Carol Moody, Angie Celano and Diane Abramson
Publicity	Nancy Murray
Design Reservations	Terry Celano
Judges	Libby Behnke
Clerks	Diane Abramson
Ribbons	Mary Schaeffer
Awards	Carol Moody and Anne Petrucci
Plant Sales	Pat Barbarita, Quentin Schlieder, Geno Iubatti, and Maria Waluef
AVSA & Education Exhibit	Barbara Borleske, Pat Barbarita, Diane Abramson and Terry Celano
Cleanup	All Members

Many thanks to the following sponsors:

**Always the Garden  
Old Country Gardens  
Friendly Gift Shop**

## 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 26, 2010 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. **Design and late horticulture entries will be accepted on Saturday, March 27, 2010 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 Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> after 4 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.

## HORTICULTURE DIVISION

### **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 - Classes 14-16**

14. Solid
15. Two-toned
16. Multicolor, edged, fantasy or chimera

### **SECTION VII. Vintage Violets - Class 17**

17. African violets available to growers before 1984

### **SECTION VIII. Gesneriads Other than African Violets - Classes 18-24**

18. *Sinningia* grown for bloom
19. *Streptocarpus* grown for bloom
20. *Chirita* grown for bloom
21. Any other gesneriad grown for bloom
22. *Chirita* grown for ornamental foliage (no blooms permitted)
23. *Episcia* grown for ornamental foliage (no blooms permitted)
24. Any other gesneriad grown for ornamental foliage (no blooms permitted)
25. 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 26-28**

**Class 26. "Delaware Center For The Contemporary Arts"** - Visit seven galleries and twenty-six artist studios at the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts. Do a contemporary design to be staged in a lighted niche 6" high, 5" wide, and 4" deep. Background is the designer's choice.

**Class 27. "Hagley Museum"** - Discover the beginning of the DuPont science company at Hagley Museum and Library where the original gunpowder manufacturing plant was established in 1800. Design an arrangement incorporating black to be staged in a yellow niche 10" high, 8" wide, and 6" deep. Background is the designer's choice.

**Class 28. "Winterthur"** - Tour distinctive Winterthur Museum and Country Estate, home of Henry Francis DuPont's American decorative art collection. Design a hat to wear to the annual Point-to-Point country horse race at Winterthur. Hat and hat stand to be provided by the club.

### **SECTION X. Interpretive Plant Arrangements - Class 29**

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 29. "Longwood Gardens"** Experience the floriferousness of Longwood Garden's forty indoor and outdoor gardens, home of Pierre DuPont. Make an arrangement using a mini or semi miniature African violet plant to be staged in a niche 16" high, 12" wide, and 10" deep.

### **SECTION XI. Container Gardens - Classes 30-31**

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.

30. Dish Garden

31. Terrariums (cover required) and Bottle Gardens

## SPECIAL EXHIBITS DIVISION

### **SECTION XII. Education & AVSA Information Exhibits - Classes 32- 33 (Staffed by a Society member during show)**

32. Educational Exhibit

33. AVSA Information Exhibit

**Check out our new Website at**

<http://gesneriadsociety.org/chapters/DAVS/>



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

***Tuesday, March 9, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.***

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

***Hostess:*** Diane Abramson

***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 26-28, 2010. Committee Chairman will be asked to report the status of their Committee. A plant sale will conclude the evening. If you have surplus plants which can be used for designs, please bring them.

***Tuesday, April 13, 2010 – 7:30 p.m.***

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

***Hostess:*** Nancy Murray

***Program:*** “**Plant Hunting in Ecuador**” – Stephen Maciejewski returns with an entertaining and enthralling account of his plant hunting expedition to Ecuador last May. He spent a fantastic 12 days in South American jungles on the 2009 Gesneriad Research. You won’t want to miss this presentation! Stephen is President of the Liberty Bell Chapter and a member of the national Society’s Board of Directors. Bring a friend along, too! 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!

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

c/o Quentin Schlieder, Editor  
36 South Main Street  
Smyrna, DE 19977-1431

## ***Showtime Schedule!!!***

***Here is the schedule for our 2010 Show:***

### ***Friday, March 26***

***10 a.m.***

***Show and Plant Sale set up***

***Please bring you sales plants labeled and priced! Horticulture entries will be accepted on Friday, March 26, 2010 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Design and late horticulture entries will be accepted on Saturday, March 27, 2010 between 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. only by prior reservation and with the approval of the Entries Chairman***

***Please submit your entry sheet to Carol Callaghan at the March meeting. An entry sheet is enclosed with this Newsletter. If you are not certain about the name of your plant, try to research it at the March meeting. This will speed up entries!***

### ***Saturday, March 27***

***7:30-9 a.m.***

***Design and late horticulture entries will be accepted on Saturday, March 27, 2010 only by prior reservation and with the approval of the Entries Chairman.***

***11 a.m.-5 p.m. Show and Sale open to Public***

### ***Sunday, March 28***

***Noon to 4 p.m. Show and Sale open to Public  
4 p.m. Cleanup – All Members!***

## ***First Class Mail***

***Time Value/ Please Expedite!***