



The Newsletter of the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society

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May 2011



2011 Annual Show and Sale at Boscov's on April 16th was a great success. See pages 2 and 3 for full details

Favorite 25 Lists Solicited

Each year the African Violet Magazine in its November/December issue prints a list of the Best Varieties from around the world. This list will be compiled by AVSA Best Variety/Honor Roll Chairman, Floyd Lawson.

Every member gets 25 votes, so the number of violets and the number of total votes can be very large. The result of this survey is a great list of what is growing and blooming around the world. It's fun to do, and it is so helpful to other growers who learn of old favorites and new introductions.

It's time for members to review their favorite plants and choose a list of 25 to send to AVSA. Members are encouraged to forward their lists to Quentin

Schlieder either at the May meeting or the June pot luck dinner. If you can't attend these events, don't despair, you can e-mail them to him at qcsjr@comcast.net or mail them to him at:

**Quentin Schlieder
36 South Main Street
Smyrna, DE 19977-1431**

The \$10 annual dues are now payable to Carol Callaghan, the Chapter's Treasurer. Make Checks payable to DAVS and give them to her at either the May or June meetings. A preaddressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience except for new and honorary members.

2011 Flower Show and Sale a Successful Event

Thanks to the great planning and hard work of Bobbie LaFashia and her Committee, the 2010 Delaware African Violet Society Show and Sale held at the Christiana Town Center Boscov's on Saturday, April 16, 2011 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. was a great success. The Show had the theme, "Violets Salute the Oscars" and was awarded the AVSA Blue Certificate since it scored 98.6 points! The theme was beautifully enhanced by two enormous seven foot Oscar statues provided by Elizabeth Varley.



Saintpaulia 'Rob's Fuzzy Navel,' grown by Bobbie LaFashia, was award Best in Show.

Thanks are due to Anne Petrucci and Carol Moody for their work on the Awards Committee. Congratulations are in order for all of the winners which included:

DAVS SPECIAL SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS

FIRST HORTICULTURE - Libby Behnke (32)

An award from Always the Garden

SECOND HORTICULTURE – Mary Schaeffer (18)

An award from Old Country Gardens

THIRD HORTICULTURE – Barb Borleske (16)

Presidents Award donated by Quentin Schlieder

FOURTH HORTICULTURE – Gary Hunter (14)

Wallace K. Behnke Award donated by Libby Behnke

GESNERIAD SWEEPSTAKES – Mary Schaeffer (18)

Susan Schlieder Award donated by Quentin Schlieder

DESIGN SWEEPSTAKES – Pat Barbarita (4)

Ada J. Shelton Memorial Award donated by Libby Behnke

OTHER AWARDS

BEST IN SHOW – Bobbie LaFashia, June McMurry Lesh

Memorial Award donated by Barb Borleske for

Saintpaulia 'Rob's Fuzzy Navel'

SECOND BEST IN SHOW - Bobbie LaFashia, Vice

President's Award donated by Maria Walueff for

Saintpaulia 'Frozen in Time'

BEST STANDARD AFRICAN VIOLET –

Bobbie LaFashia, Wreath donated by Robin Nauman

For *Saintpaulia 'Frozen in Time'*

BEST MINIATURE AFRICAN VIOLET – Bobbie

LaFashia Gertrud Grabosky Memorial Award donated

by Carol Callaghan for *Saintpaulia 'Rob's Jitterbug'*

BEST SEMI-MINIATURE AFRICAN VIOLET -

Bobbie LaFashia, Marion Mossberg Memorial Award

donated by Barb Borleske for *Saintpaulia 'Rob's Fuzzy Navel'*

DELAWARE COUNCIL OF JUDGES AWARD –

Libby Behnke, Ribbon for *Saintpaulia 'Ma's Arctic Sky'*

SPRINGFIELD JUDGES AWARD – Nancy Murray,

Ribbon for *Streptocarpus 'Divine Guidance'*

BEST STANDARD AVSA COLLECTION – Bobbie

LaFashia, Ruth Ann Morse Memorial Award donated by

Carol Callaghan for *Saintpaulia 'Powwow,' 'Frozen in Time'* and *'Optimara Connecticut'*



Best Standard Collection was also awarded to Bobbie LaFashia

2nd BEST STANDARD AVSA COLLECTION – Libby Behnke, Gladys Callaghan Memorial Award donated by Carol Callaghan for *Saintpaulia* ‘Sunset Ridge,’ ‘Optimara Michelangelo’ and ‘Ozio’

BEST STANDARD AVSA COLLECTION (Class 8)
Bobbie LaFashia, Charlotte Maltman Memorial Award donated by Carol Moody Award for *Saintpaulia* ‘Irish Flirt,’ ‘Little Pro,’ and ‘Rob’s Fuzzy Navel’



Gary Hunter won Best Gesneriad with this plant of Sinningia ‘Georgia Peach.’

BEST GESNERIAD – Gary Hunter, President’s Award donated by Quentin Schlieder for *Sinningia* ‘Georgia Peach’

2nd BEST GESNERIAD – Mary Schaeffer, Friendly Gift Shop Straw Hat for *Kohleria* ‘Gunsmoke’

BEST INTERPRETIVE FLOWER ARRANGMENT – Terry Celano, Gen Scholl Award donated by Bobbie LaFashia for “My Fair Lady”

BEST CONTAINER GARDEN – Barb Borleske, ADK Chapter Sorority Award donated by Terry Celano

BEST SPECIES – Libby Behnke, Show Chairman Award donated by Barb Borleske, *Saintpaulia* S5c2 clone *diplotricha* Punter #7

BEST TRAILER – Barb Borleske, Helen Spisak Memorial Award donated by Pam Orris for *Saintpaulia* ‘Foster Trail’

BEST NOVICE – Gary Hunter, Fiore M. Celano, Sr. Award donated by Anne Petrucci

AWARDS OF MERIT – Libby Behnke for *Streptocarpus* ‘Heartlands Perfume,’ Terry Celano for “The Sound of Music” and Bobbie LaFashia for *Saintpaulia* ‘Irish Flirt’

TERRY’S KIDS AT RICHARDSON PARK LEANING CENTER - Angie Celano Annual Award donated by Angie Celano, Madeline Becker Memorial Award donated by Carol Moody, Geno Iubatti Award donated by Geno Iubatti, Bessie Pyle Memorial Award donated by Anne R. Petrucci. Sally Crossan Memorial Award donated by Barb Borleske, the Lillian Crewe Memorial Award donated by Diane Abramson and the Emma Mazetta Memorial Award donated by Barb Borleske.

Congratulations to all of the winners and workers! Carol Callaghan reports that there were 16 exhibitors with 143 horticulture entries, 23 design entries and 2 special (education) entries for a total of 168 entries. She also noted that the number of other gesneriads surpassed the total number African Violets in the show.

Gary Hunter and Mary Schaeffer did an outstanding job on plant sales. Gary provided a thorough report which should help to plan future sales. The total sales were \$1,580 with plant inventory expenses of \$710.40 yielding net income of \$869.60. Two commercial vendors and members provided plants for sale. Mary Schaeffer placed an order with The Violet Gallery for specialty violets which were picked up by Gary Hunter. The order with Blue Mountain Greenhouse for standard violets was placed by Gary Hunter and was picked up by Quentin Schlieder

Member plants were allowed up to 75% of the sale price. Members supplied their plants with a range of 70% to 0% returned to them at the end of the sale. Betsy Gottshall from the Liberty Bell Chapter brought several micro mini Sinningias and donated for the sale.

There were many visitors from other chapters looking for interesting plants and these were important buyers. Some of the buyers were disappointed when all the miniature, variegated leaf, and trailing named violets were sold. They also were asking for plants exhibited in the show.

Boscov’s will be happy to partner with us again next year on your show, however, would not be able to host the show in the auditorium as they did this year. Boscov’s would be able to offer space near their seasonal department on the second level and would be able to provide the same set up, it would just be on the selling floor. It also is not too early to think about a theme for next year’s Show. We also are looking for a Co-Chairman to serve with Nancy Murray.

Upcoming DAVS Meetings...

Tuesday, May 10, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

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

Hostesses: Beverages – Angie Celano
Snacks – Terry Celano

Program: “Epiphytes in the Concrete Jungle” -

You won't want to miss this wonderful tour of Michael Riley's New York Apartment where “living room” has a whole new meaning! Michael is a past President of the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society and currently is Chairman of the Manhattan Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society. 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!

Friday, May 20, 2011 - Trip to the AVSA Convention in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Car pool departs from the Fairfax ACME Market parking lot promptly at 8:45 a.m. Sign up at the May meeting, if you aren't already registered. Convention runs from May 15 - May 22, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Philadelphia/Cherry Hill, Cherry Hill, NJ.

Tuesday, June 8, 2010 – 6:00 p.m. (Note earlier time!) Potluck Dinner and Picnic at the Borleskes' garden, 116 Bellant Circle, Greenville, DE 19807

Everyone is invited to bring their significant other or a guest and your favorite dish. Installation of Officers and a brief business meeting follow dinner. Also don't forget to pay you dues for next year!

The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society Newsletter

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

First Class Mail

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Bylaws Update Enclosed

The Bylaws Committee, which includes Libby Behnke, Bobbie LaFashia and Quentin Schlieder, has completed the final draft which is inserted in this month's newsletter. The revisions which appear in red will be discussed at the May meeting and hopefully will be voted on at the June Picnic. Additions were made to reflect requirements of the IRS and our parent organizations, as well as to more efficiently conduct the business of the Club.

Mini Violet Workshop

Members participated in a mini violet propagation workshop at the April Meeting. Complimentary pots, labels, plastic bags and potting mix were available. Among the selections available were *Saintpaulia* 'Pink Dove,' 'Vallarta Campanas Moradas' (photo below), 'Teeny Bopper,' 'Rob's Fuddy Duddy,' 'Little Luvin' and 'Precious Red.' Thanks to Bobbie LaFashia and Quentin Schlieder who supplied crown and leaf cuttings.



Saintpaulia 'Vallarta Campanas Moradas' was one of the featured miniature African Violets that members propagated to enjoy at home and to hopefully enter in next year's show.

**DELAWARE AFRICAN VIOLET
AND GESNERIAD SOCIETY - BY-LAWS**

Adopted May 1967, Amended April 8, 2005 and ?

ARTICLE I – NAME AND ORGANIZATION

The name of this Society shall be "The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society" hereinafter referred to as the "Society.". The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society is affiliated with and is a Chapter of both the African Violet Society of America and The Gesneriad Society.

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The object of this Society is to afford a friendly association of persons interested in the advancement, propagation and culture of *Saintpaulia* (African Violet) and other Gesneriads.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Section 1 - Membership

Any person interested in the object for which the Society was organized, and willing to pay the annual dues in the Society, may become a member.

Section 2 - National Membership of Members.

All members of the Society are encouraged to become members of at least one of the parent organizations, The African Violet Society of America or The Gesneriad Society.

Section 3 - National Membership of Officers.

All officers of the Society must be members in good standing of at least one of the parent organizations.

Section 2 - Dues

- A. Annual dues for each member shall be payable to the Society at the regular meeting in May, and will cover the ensuing club year, which runs from September through May.
- B. Dues paid after January 1st shall be half the annual dues fee.
- C. Any member, who does not pay dues by July 1st, shall not be included in the membership directory published in the yearbook which is distributed at the September meeting.
- D. Dues shall be recommended by the Executive Committee and voted upon at a subsequent membership meeting, provided notice of any proposed change shall have been announced in advance of the meeting.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

Section 1 – Regular Monthly Meetings

The regular meetings shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month, excepting July and August.

Section 2 – Election Meeting

The Election Meeting for the election of Officers shall be held in April.

Section 3 – Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting for the installation of officers shall take place in June.

Section 4 – Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called at the request of any five members of the Society.

Section 5 – Quorums

A quorum shall constitute half of the members in good standing for regular meetings and two thirds of the Executive Committee for the Executive Committee meetings.

Section 6 – Voting

- A. All members in good standing are entitle to one vote. Votes will generally be by voice vote with the exception of the elections which may be by secret ballot, especially if more than one nominee is under consideration for an office.
- B. If a matter requires a decision before a meeting is scheduled, the President, with the consent of the Executive Committee can conduct a survey by e-mail to determine if there is support for the motion. All e-mail discussion shall be available to all members, and those members without e-mail shall be contacted by telephone. The matter must be open for a discussion for a minimum of 48 hours. Any action taken must be confirmed by the membership at the next meeting and the action taken reflected in the minutes of the meeting.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS – ELECTION AND REMOVAL

Section 1 - Officers

The officers of this Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2 – Election

- A. Officers shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast at the April membership meeting of the election year and shall take office at the close of the April meeting.
- B. The President shall appoint a chairman of the Nominating Committee and the Board of Directors shall appoint two additional members to be published in the Society's yearbook. At least one of these members shall be selected from outside the Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of officers and three members of the Executive Committee to be published in the March issue of the Society's newsletter. Additional nominations may be made from the floor of the April meeting with the consent of those nominees.
- C. Elections shall be held by written ballot, unless the entire slate is unopposed, then the Secretary shall then cast one unanimous vote for the slate presented.
- D. The officers shall assume their duties at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting and shall serve for a period of one year. Outgoing officers shall deliver to their successors in office all records and other materials belonging to the office within one month of leaving office.
- E. A vacancy in an elected position shall be filled by the Executive Committee from qualified members in good standing who agree to serve the remainder of the vacated term.
- F. Removal of an officer for misconduct or poor performance shall be by a two thirds vote of the Executive Committee and by subsequent approval by two thirds of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting immediately following the action by the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee is then authorized to appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term for that position.

ARTICLE VI - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1 – Officers and Terms

The officers of the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society will consist of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Each officer will be elected for a one year term. Except for the Treasurer, no officer may serve more than two successive terms but may be elected again after at least two years have elapsed. Further, no officer or member shall use their position for self inurnment.

Section 2 - President

- A. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and of the Executive Committee; shall perform such duties as regularly pertain to the office; and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee .
- B. The President shall propose Chairmen of the Standing and special Committees who will be subject to confirmation by the Executive Committee

Section 3 – Vice President

- A. The Vice-President shall assist the president in all matters pertaining to the Society.
- B. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of President in the absence or inability of the President to preside in any way.
- C. The Vice-President shall be the Program Chairman and a member of the Publicity and Communications Committee.

Section 4 – Secretary

- A. The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings; prepare official correspondence; and compile, maintain, and have custody of the Society's historical records.
- B. The Secretary shall file a copy of the Society's bylaws and all subsequent amendments; and the names and addresses of all Society officers immediately following their election with the Recording Secretary of the parent organizations.

Section 5 - Treasurer

- A. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the receipts and deposits of all monies of the Society and shall make authorized disbursements to cover the expenses of the Society.

- B. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate record of all monies that are received or disbursed and shall furnish financial reports when required.
- C. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for renewing the Society's membership in The African Violet Society of America and the Gesneriad Society.
- D. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual budget to be submitted to and approved by the Executive Committee of the Society before being published in the September newsletter for review and consideration by the membership at the September regular meeting of the Society.
- E. Expenditures not included in the adopted annual budget shall require prior approval by both the Executive Committee and the membership.

ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1 - The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers. The immediate past president shall be a member ex-officio for one year.

Section 2 - The Executive Committee shall take under consideration all business of the Society and make recommendations to be voted upon by the members at any regular meeting.

Section 3 - The Executive Committee shall fill any vacancies of elected offices that may occur between elections.

Section 4 - The Executive Committee shall meet at least four times a year at the discretion of the President or at the request of five members of the Society. Two thirds of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 5 - The Executive Committee or its designee shall audit and verify the accounts of the Treasurer annually.

ARTICLE VIII– COMMITTEES

Section 1 – Standing Committees

In addition to the Executive Committee, the Standing Committees of the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society include:

- A. **AVSA Liaison** – The African Violet Society of America Liaison shall be responsible for increasing AVSA Membership in the Society, keeping the Society informed of all AVSA activities and act as a liaison for both the Society and AVSA.
- B. **Gesneriad Society Liaison** - The Gesneriad Society Liaison shall be responsible for increasing Gesneriad Society Membership in the Society, keeping the Society informed of all Gesneriad Society activities and act as a liaison for both the Society and The Gesneriad Society.
- C. **Program and Activities** – The Program and Activities Committee shall arrange speakers, programs, workshops and trips related to African Violets and their relatives. The Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President.
- D. **Publicity and Communications Committee** - The Publicity and Communications Committee shall be responsible for publishing an annual yearbook to be distributed at the September meeting annually, maintaining the Society's Website, publishing the monthly newsletter, taking photographs of the Society's activities including the Little Shows and Show and Tell presentations and developing and releasing publicity to promote the Society's programs and activities.
- E. **Hospitality Committee** - The Hospitality Committee shall recruit hostesses and hosts to bring supplies, beverages and snacks and oversee the refreshments at regular meetings. The Committee also will coordinate arrangements for the annual holiday dinner and the summer picnic dinner.
- F. **Plant and Supplies Sales** – The Plant and Supplies Sales Committee shall encourage members to grow and donate plants for sale at each regular meeting and the annual sale. The Committee also will acquire supplies requested by the membership. These will be sold in order to raise funds for the Society. The Committee also shall organize and run the raffle at each regular meeting.
- G. **Flower Show** – The Flower Show Committee organizes the Society's Annual Show and Sale which is usually held on Palm Sunday Weekend. The Chairman of the Flower Show Committee shall recruit members to serve as subcommittee chairmen and where possible utilize the services of Committee Chairmen in related positions. The Committee also is responsible for

confirming the location, approvals for AVSA, all staging, judges, ribbons etc. required for the show.

H. **Show and Tell and Little Show** – The Committee encourages participation in the Show and Tell and Little Show projects at each regular meeting. The Committee recruits judges to judge the little show and keeps a record of the results. The Committee tabulates the results and presents awards at the annual picnic meeting.

I. **Membership Committee** - The Membership Committee is responsible for the recruitment of new members and the retention of existing members. The duties include collecting and recording payment of dues, notifying members, whose dues are in arrears, preparing an annual roster of members, and distributing and collecting name tags at meetings. The Committee will notify all members of illness, hospitalization and deaths of Society members send cards on the Society's behalf and recommend appropriate memorials. The Committee will announce members' birthdays at each regular meeting. The Committee organizes the Society's telephone tree and e-mail notification initiatives.

J. **Library** – Library Committee maintains the Society's lending library of periodicals and books related to African Violets and Gesneriads recommends and acquires additional resources and tracks the materials which are borrowed to assure they are returned.

K. **Nominating Committee** – Refer to Article V, Section 2, B

Section 2 - Special Committees

Special committees when necessary may be recommended by the President who shall propose the Chairmen, contingent upon confirmation by the Executive Committee.

Section 3 – Committee Chairmen

Committee Chairmen shall schedule and preside at meetings of their Committee and submit a budget request for the coming year, on or before August 1st, to the Treasurer.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

Amendments or revision to these By-Laws may be adopted by a 2/3 vote of those members present at a regular meeting, provided the members present represent a quorum of the membership and provided that one month's notice has been given by presenting the proposed amendment at the previous meeting.

ARTICLE X - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order, Revised" shall govern this Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these By-Laws.

ARTICLE XI – LOBBYING

The Society may not attempt to influence legislation as a substantial part of its activities and it may not participate in any campaign activity for or against political candidates nor may its earnings inure to any private member or individual.

ARTICLE XII – DISSOLUTION

The Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society may be considered dissolved by a three-quarters vote of all members in good standing or when the membership falls below five and there have been no activities for one calendar year. In the event that the Delaware African Violet and Gesneriad Society should be dissolved, all assets at the time of dissolution shall be divided equally and donated to the Anne Tinari Endowment Fund of the African Violet Society of America and the Frances Bachellor Endowment Fund of The Gesneriad Society, provided that they have a tax exempt status recognized by the Internal Revenue Service. In the event that they do not have the requisite tax exempt status, the members may donate the assets to a charity of their choice qualified under the Internal Revenue Code.