



Council News

Missouri Valley African
Violet Council

Volume 23, Issue 4
December 2007

The President Speaks

Wow, what a great job the Central Arkansas AVS did hosting our 2007 show! Many, many thanks to Danny, Betty, and the whole crew. Thanks as well to all the council members who pitched in and helped where needed. And congratulations to Catherine Thompson for winning Best in Show in Horticulture and to Fran Russom for winning Best Design, as well as to all other prize-winners and exhibitors.

While it had been a concern that fewer MVAVC members might be in attendance with the show being held at the far reaches of the council area, a large majority of our membership was indeed in Jacksonville. That speaks very well, I think, of our group. Not only are we a group of dedicated and hardworking members, but we are also a group of *friends* who enjoy spending time together.

For those who were unable to attend, we were treated to a superb program on growing show plants by Richard and Anne Nicholas. (I have heard that at the Lone Star Council show this past weekend, Richard exhibited the Third Best in Show, being topped by Anne who won Best and Second Best in Show.) Many tips were shared, and I'm sure we all learned a few new things to take home and apply to our own growing.

Hope everyone is taking a look at their plants with the idea of choosing potential winners to show at the AVSA convention in Tulsa. It may not be till the end of May, but then we all know, show plants don't just happen overnight!

Our spring meeting will come at the conclusion of the convention in Tulsa with a luncheon meeting. Because of the special arrangements being made for us this time, please take note of the following: *In order to reserve your meal, you will need to check the appropriate line on the AVSA convention registration form either in the January 2008 African Violet Magazine or online at avsa.org. Money to reserve your meal is to be sent to AVSA and will not be handled by MVAVC.*

Some of our members in the St. Louis area are at work trying to put together plans for our 2008 MVAVC show, and hopefully it will all come together. At this point in time, nothing has yet been confirmed. Should that fall through, we may need to do some more scrambling to come up with a location. But we're keeping our fingers crossed. Looking further ahead, we have been invited by the Loess Hills club to have our show in Sioux City, Iowa in the fall of 2009.

My best wishes to all of you in the coming holiday season. Merry Christmas! Happy New Year! And Happy Growing in the months ahead!

Kent

Dear members of the MVAVC,

Thank you so much for inviting us to be a part of your show. Your show was beautiful, your sales room impressive, and your hospitality was so warm and inviting. We felt at home among wonderful friends.

We look forward to seeing all of you in Tulsa. Have a wonderful holiday season.

Anne and Richard Nicholas

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To enjoy the color photos be sure your email address is correct on the roster!	

Happy Holidays!



Coming Events

February 9 & 10, 2008

AVC of Greater Kansas City Annual Judged Show & Sale
Loose Park Garden Center 51st Street & Wornall
Kansas City, MO
Hours: 10 am - 3 pm both days
Info: Fred & Pat Inbody (816) 373-6915
E-Mail: kskd1@juno.com

February 23 - 24, 2008

AVS of Greater Tulsa presents their
32nd Annual Show and Sale
'Violets Get Their Kicks on Route 66!'
Tulsa Garden Center
2435 S Peoria Ave
Tulsa, OK
Saturday Hours are 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM
Sunday Hours are 12 noon - 4:00 PM
Info: Sherrie Wallace 918-245-3199 or wallace4@hotmail.com

April 19 & 20, 2008

Unpredictables African Violet Society
of Blue Springs, MO hosts its
25th Annual Show and Sale
Where: Grain Valley Historical Society Bldg.
506 Main, Grain Valley, MO
When: April 19 & 20
Hours: 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Saturday
11 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Sunday
Info: Fred & Pat Inbody (816) 373-6915
E-Mail: kskd1@juno.com

May 25 - June 1, 2008

AVSA National Convention & Show
Renaissance Hotel & Convention Center
Tulsa, OK
Entries - Wednesday, May 28th

Sunday, June 1, 2008 12:00 Noon

MVAVC Spring Meeting Tulsa Renaissance Hotel
Catered Lunch - Register for the meal with your AVSA Con-
vention Registration. If you are not registering for the con-
vention and want to come for the meeting you may pay for
the lunch through AVSA without registering for the conven-
tion. The lunch must be paid in advance.

The meeting was scheduled at this time for your convenience
so you will not have to travel to another meeting the next
weekend when we generally have our meeting. We will not
have the plant sales that we have had in the past since you
have just spent your money at the convention plant sales.

Please share your event schedule with us!

'And the Winners Are...'

Mid American African Violet Society
November 2007 Show Results

AVSA Standard Collection

Gold Rosette - Fredrick G. Inbody
Ma's Taffy Swirl, Ma's Moody Monday, Ma's Lily Pad

AVSA Mini/Semi Collection

Gold Rosette - Lynn Canning
Red Tiger, Rob's Grey Ghost, Irish Flirt
Purple Rosette- Fredrick G. Inbody
Rob's Green Jeans, Rob's Squeeze Toy, Little Pro

Table with 2 columns: Award Name and Winner Name. Includes categories like Best African Violet in Show, Sweepstakes in Horticulture, etc.

Arklahoma African Violet Society
November 2-3, 2007 Ft Smith, AR
'A Holiday of Violets'

Best in Show & Best Semiminiature African Violet - Precious Pink -
Won by: Sherry Whitmer from Muldrow, OK
Best Standard African Violet - Tropical Sherbet -
Won by: Sherry Whitmer from Muldrow, OK
Best Miniature African Violet - Peppermint Girl -
Won by: Beth Meadows from Bokoshe, OK
Best African Violet Trailer - Pixie Pink - Won by: Floela Kahsner
Best Unusual Container - Victorian Ribbons -
Won by: Beth Meadows from Bokoshe, OK
Best Project Plant - Rob's Loose Noodle - Won by: Judy Eichling
Best African Violet Species - Saintpaulia tongwensis -
Won by: Sherry Whitmer from Muldrow, OK
Best Seedling, Sport or Mutant - Carnation Sprinkles -
Won by: Jenny Henry from Mulberry, AR
Best Other Gesneriad - Episcia 'Cleopatra' - Won by: Beth Meadows
Best Standard AVSA Collection - Wrangler's Cowboy Blues, Wran-
gler's Gambling Fever, Golden Plume - Won by: Beth Meadows
Best Miniature/Semiminiature Collection - Sassy Sister, Rob's An-
tique Rose, Precious Pink - Won by: Sherry Whitmer
Best Design in Show - 'Let Freedom Ring' - Won by: Beth Meadows
Horticulture Sweepstakes - 28 blue ribbons - Won by: Beth Meadows
Design Sweepstakes - 4 blue ribbons -
Won by: Jenny Henry from Mulberry, AR



Convention Countdown

This time of the year most of us are counting down the days until Christmas. However, another countdown is going on that also impacts all of us as members of MVAVC. That is the countdown until the AVSA national convention which we are co-hosting with AVSGT in Tulsa next May.

Many of you are already working on table arrangements and growing your plants for entry in the show. That is greatly appreciated. There are a number of tasks available for you to do now and also to assist with when you get to Tulsa.

1. Assist Chair Nancy Moerer with putting centerpieces and table favors out before the banquets.
2. Assist with the placement of the entries during the day Wednesday. We hope to have enough volunteers so no one has to spend too much time on their feet. Chair Susan Hapner will be glad to schedule you for a couple of hours.
3. Help with the judging of the show on Thursday morning. Many Judges and Clerks will be needed. Complete the form from the AVM and mail it in to let Bill Foster know you will be there to help.
4. Assist in the Showroom Friday and Saturday. We need persons to watch the exhibits and answer questions from the public. You may send in the form from the magazine to sign up.
5. Make a personal or affiliate donation to the AVSA award fund. Remember, you are entering exhibits and you want to have the cash there for your winnings. A form can be found on the AVSA website.
6. Advertise in the Convention Program book. Individuals or affiliates may purchase an ad. 1/3 page is \$25, 1/2 page is \$50 and a full page is \$75. This is a great way to honor one of your members or promote your club. Send the ad copy that you wish with your payment. Or if you just want your affiliate listed on the MVAVC page, you may do that for \$10. Please make your check payable to the AVSA Convention Fund and mail to John Carter, 1825 W Lincoln St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012.

We need everyone to bring your plants and arrangements to make this a beautiful show just as you do for our MVAVC shows. Don't worry if you can only bring 4 or 5 exhibits. They are just as important to the show as someone bringing 30 exhibits. You only need one exhibit to win best in class or even best in show.

Please look at your January issue of the AVM and complete your registration early and send it in soon so we know who is coming and it makes it easier for the AVSA office to process them rather than receiving them all at the last minute. The Renaissance is a beautiful facility and will be easy for you to get around and find things in. The room rates were negotiated down to \$99 per night which is a big discount for this hotel. To get the lower room rates AVSA is obligated for more meals in the hotel. The meals functions are a little higher but are just priced at AVSA costs to encourage as many as possible to attend them. Remember you are saving \$30 a day on your room rate so you can afford another \$5 - 10 for a meal function.

One of the requirements to enter exhibits in the National Show is that you are a member of AVSA. If you have been procrastinating joining AVSA it is time to make the step and pay your membership fee. Not only will that enable you to enter your exhibits but you will get a great magazine, the *African Violet Magazine* that will also provide you with the registration forms you need.

To join, you may go to the AVSA website - www.avsa.org or you can send your check to AVSA at 2735 North Street, Beaumont, TX 77702. You only need to include your name, address, phone and email address along with your check for \$30.00 for a one year membership. Be sure to get it in during the next couple of weeks so you will receive the January issue of the magazine. Membership also makes a nice gift. If you have a friend that is hard to buy a gift for consider a membership in AVSA. It will be a gift that keeps giving and they will remember your generosity with every issue they receive.



Missouri Valley African Violet Council
Fall 2007 Business Meeting
October 20, 2007
Jacksonville Community Center, Jacksonville, AR

President Kent Stork called the meeting to order at 7:50 pm.

The minutes of the Spring Meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's report as of 10-17-2007 was approved as read.

Balance in Checking	\$ 9,670.37
Balance in North American Savings	\$ 3,186.01
Total Cash and CD	\$12,856.38

Randy Deutsch reported we have 52 single memberships, 7 family, and 13 affiliates. He said all of the award money was given out for the show.

David Harris said he needs items for Historian Book. He would like to have pictures.

Joyce Stork made an announcement about the Spring Meeting after the Tulsa Convention. We will need to sign up for lunch when we register for the convention.

Barbara Pershing said we did not have a firm commitment for next fall but is working on it. We will be going to Sioux City, Iowa in 2009.

John Carter needs articles for the newsletter. John said the December issue will be on the website and we will be able to print it. Those who do not want to receive it by e-mail need to tell him and they will receive it by mail. John also discussed the Tulsa Convention. He said Nancy Moerer needs table favors.

Joyce gave a report on the new IRS requirements for tax-exempt organizations.

Anne and Richard Nicholas were thanked for the interesting program that was given in the afternoon.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Pat Sutton Recording Secretary

Show Financial Report-Jacksonville 2007

Income		Expenses	
Awards	715.00	AVSA Show Packet	20.00
Banquets	1,400.00	Awards	710.00
Donations (leaves)	57.75	Banquet	968.63
Judge's School	130.00	Banquet Table Favors	38.88
Registrations & Late Fees	1,086.00	Community Center	1500.00
Sales	<u>3,466.25</u>	Entry Tags/Culture Folders	89.75
Total Income	6,855.00	Goodie Bags	8.39
		Judges Gifts	36.27
		Judges School	40.00
		Marbles for Bingo	8.68
		Postage	9.31
		Ribbons/Rosettes	346.90
		Sales Commissions	2,773.00
		Schedule Printing	36.54
		Staging	<u>78.84</u>
		Total Expenses	6,665.19
		Show Profit (Loss) to date	189.81

The Treasurer requests that you cash your checks from the Jacksonville Show as soon as possible to make her work easier. She thanks you for your cooperation.



Missouri Valley African Violet Council
October 20-21, 2007 - Jacksonville, Arkansas
'African Violets Waltz Down Memory Lane'

Best AV in Show and Best Miniature - Smitten Kitten
Second Best in Show & Best Standard - Optimara Everlove
Third Best in Show & Best Species - Saintpaulia ionantha
Best Semiminiature - Rob's Ice Maiden
Best Trailer - Kissaway Trail
Best Other Gesneriad - Cobananthus calochlamys
Best Vintage Violet - Autumn Honey
Best AV in Decorative Container - Ness' Blueberry Puff

won by Catherine Thompson of IA
won by Danny Tidwell of AR
won by Barbara Pershing of IA
won by Catherine Thompson of IA
won by Joan Watts of IA
won by Sherrie Wallace of OK
won by Martha Walker of AR
won by Judy Carter of OK

Best Design & Best Interp. Flower Arr. - The Last Waltz
Second Best Design & Best Container Garden - Tiptoe Through the Tulips
Best Interpretive Plant Arrangement - I Love

won by Fran Russom of MO
won by Pat Sutton of OK
won by Fran Russom of MO

Best Std AVSA Collection -
won by Danny Tidwell of AR
Best Mini/Semimini AVSA Collection -
won by Catherine Thompson of IA
Second Best Std AVSA Collection -
won by Kent Stork of NE
Second Best Mini/Semimini AVSA Collection -
won by Danny Tidwell of AR
Best MVAVC Hybridizer Collection -
won by Kent Stork of NE

Buffalo Hunt, Optimara Everlove, Blanche Holt
Irish Flirt, Ness' Satin Rose, Rob's Pink Puff
Chinook Wind, Serenade, Optimara Kentucky
Precious Pink, Cool Blue, Rob's Squeeze Toy
Smooch Me, Not Tamales, Big Bang

Horticulture Sweepstakes: 40 blue ribbons
Runner-up Sweepstakes: 24 blue ribbons
Design Sweepstakes: 10 blue ribbons
Runner-up Sweepstakes: 4 blue ribbons

won by Catherine Thompson of IA
won by Danny Tidwell of AR
won by Fran Russom of MO
won by Betty Ferguson of AR

Entries: 233 horticulture, 44 design, 2 special exhibits
Total entries: 279
Exhibitors: 35



Best in Show Smitten Kitten shown by Catherine Thompson



Best Standard/2nd Best in Show Optimara Everlove shown by Danny Tidwell



Best Trailer - Kissaway Trail - shown by Joan Watts



Design Made Interesting

By Linda Golubski

(reprinted from June 1996 MVAVC newsletter)

When you look at a design, what about it appeals to you: is it the smooth lines, the color of the blossom or the texture of the plant that grabs your attention?

There are many aspects of design to take into account: texture, line, color, dominance, scale, contrast, rhythm and . . . Where do you begin? I like to start with a simple sketch. Then I choose my container, which is very important. It should be simple (not covered with flowers or heavily designed) and the correct size. One common mistake is to have an oversized container.

Next I like to choose the blossom or plant that I need. After that I can choose background draping or some sort of colored cloth to put under my base. It should complement the color of blossoms used, but not dominate. A good example of what not to do would be a small design using greenery, deep purple flowers and a "bright yellow" cloth under an off white base. Been there, did that, got a red ribbon.

If you should have a "smooth design" like a porcelain container, blossoms, and shiny, smooth greenery, consider using a heavily textured, but light colored backdrop. It will add texture to your design without being dominant.

Lastly, if you use accessories be very careful. They should never be your focal points. Example: The design has a circus theme and you want to use a brightly colored clown in your design. Set up your design without the accessory, now place your clown in front of your design where it can be seen. Stand back and look at your design, What do you see? Right, the clown! The clown should not dominate. Now take the accessory and place it in the back of the design, only partially visible. Stand back and observe. Your violet blossoms are dominant, but the theme is carried out by just a small portion of the clown showing.

Learn from your mistakes and always try to take your designing to the next level, trying to improve. Always

stand back and look at your design and see if everything is in its proper place. A good friend once told me that, "If you think you need something else, take something out!" It works for me.

The last piece of advice I can give you is to remember that judges are human. They may not see what you intended. If you had three different panels of judges judging your design you would probably get three different results and three different interpretations. I have done well at my local show and have even gotten a couple blue ribbons at our Council show. I decided to enter my first convention show at Kansas City in 1989. Did I get put in my place in a hurry - one red and two white ribbons. The next convention I designed in was Columbus, Ohio. I got three blues and one best in class. The judges added a note that my under water design was just the best of a mediocre class. They really knew how to boost my ego! But the most important thing is to keep trying until you get it right. My goal is a best design in show at a national convention. I keep hoping that Bob Green won't show up one year or that I finally achieve a design that the judges think is better than his.

(Editors Note: Linda is now teaching her granddaughter to do designs. The photo below is her granddaughters (Megan Childs) first design entered in our Fall Show in the Novice Class. A great start!)





Treasurers Report:

Beginning Balance 10/17/2007	\$9670.37
<i>Deposits</i>	
Sales (includes \$150 bank)	3674.00
Miscellaneous	55.00
Registrations	52.00
Banquets	100.00
Awards	60.00
Judges School	<u>10.00</u>
Total deposits	\$3951.00
<i>Disbursements</i>	
Refund of Registration	8.00
Show Expenses	456.16
Banquet	968.63
Judges School	40.00
Awards	710.00
Awards - AVSA Tulsa 2008	250.00
Sales Commissions	<u>2773.00</u>
Total disbursements	\$5205.79
Balance as of 11/15/2007	8415.58
Balance in North American Savings	<u>\$3186.01</u>
Total cash and CD	\$11601.59

Council News is published four times a year (March, June, September and December). Deadlines:

- March: February 15
- June: May 15
- September: August 15
- December: November 15

Submit articles and activities to John Carter, Editor at the return address or email at johntcarter@valornet.com or call 918-355-8020.

Newsletters are mailed to MVAVC members. Membership is \$15.00 for individuals and \$17.50 for family or affiliate memberships. Dues are payable by May 1st. Dues are half price after December 1st. Send Dues to Randy Deutsch, 2305 E 19th St, Sioux Falls, SD, 57103 (605) 338-8846



Best Novice Design
Chelsea Tidwell
CAAVS

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THANK YOU-----I want to thank everyone who gave a cash award for the recent Fall Show held in Jacksonville, AR. Your gifts helped us raise \$715 this year. We not only were able to avoid needing to 'dip' into the treasury this year, but we were also able to give a little "extra" to the winners. Thanks so much for helping to reward and recognize those that work so hard year round to grow and show those beautiful African violets. You are great group one and all. We couldn't do without both the great growers and loyal supporters. You should all be very proud of yourselves!!!

Randy G. Deutsch, Awards Chairman



Awards Table from Fall Show 2007



Linda Golubski oversees Judges critique.



Missouri Valley African Violet Council

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Mayor Ray Baker of Ft Smith presents President Sherry Whitmer with a proclamation in honor of the Arkklahoma African Violet Society's first show. Shown with Sherry are Judy Eichling (left) and Patty Elkin (right). A great start for one of our newest affiliates!