



# Council News

Missouri Valley African  
Violet Council

Volume 23, Issue 2  
June 2007

## *The President Speaks*

Well, well, well, isn't life interesting?

Just when we think we're heading one direction, suddenly something happens and we're headed off another way.

Spring weather has been crazy. It looked like it was going to be a wonderfully early spring, and then around Easter we got plunged back into the deep freeze. We didn't like that much, nor did plants in our yards.

In the middle of getting violets ready for the Omaha show in March, I suddenly found myself being driven to the hospital and ended up having surgery for a kidney stone. I didn't like that much either, but on this occasion, the plants in my yard really didn't care.

And now, here comes an MVAVC newsletter that wasn't really to be published until later on. However, after the last issue was sent out, we realized that important information was left out that should have been there, mostly having to do with the spring meeting coming up in June.

The Nominating Committee report with the proposed slate of officers must be published prior to the spring meeting, and so that may be found here in the newsletter, as well as other things you will need to, or want to, know. Hope to see many of you in Iowa in June!

Safe travels to all who are going to Denver for the AVSA convention, and may there be only good surprises for those who are entering plants or doing designs. Those of you who are chairing or on committees for the Tulsa convention should be sure to observe carefully and learn as much as you can. People from around the violet world will soon be turning their thoughts to gathering in Oklahoma.

Kent

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***Spring Meeting  
June 10, 2007  
Harwarden, IA  
Keep This Handy!***

We nominate the following for officers for MVAVC 2007-2008.

President-----Kent Stork  
1st Vice President-----Randy Deutsch  
2nd Vice President-----Barb Pershing  
Secretary-----Pat Sutton  
Treasurer-----Linda Golubski

Nominating Committee: Joan Watts, Dona Stilwell, Danny Tidwell



Coming Events

May 5 - 7, 2007

The Evening African Violet Club of Des Moines presents "Violets Around The World in 80 Days" Show and sale At Merle Hay Mall in Des Moines Iowa The show hours are Saturday, May 6th from 12-9 Sunday, May 7th from 12-4 Sale hours are Friday, May 5th from 12-9, Saturday, May 6th from 9-9 and Sunday, May 7th from 12-5 Contact: Joan Watts 641-377-2656

May 20 - May 27th, 2007

AVSA Convention - Denver

June 10, 2007 - MVAVC Spring meeting at Hawarden, Iowa

June 9th & 10th, 2007

Metropolitan St. Louis African Violet Council Presents It's Fifty-second Annual Show "Dancing With Violets" Missouri Botanical Garden Ridgeway Center 4344 Shaw Boulevard St. Louis, Missouri Saturday and Sunday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Contact person: Patricia Dunlap (636) 789-3604 patspets@sbcglobal.net

September 29, 2007

African Violet Society of Greater Tulsa Fall plant Sale 9:00 AM until sold out Tulsa Garden Center 2435 S. Peoria Tulsa, OK Contact: John Carter, Ph. 355-8020, johntcarter@valornet.com

October 19 - 21, 2007

MVAVC Fall Meeting and Show Jacksonville, AR Contact Danny Tidwell for info: dantwell@yahoo.com Or call 501-288-3021

(Please provide notice of your shows and sales.)

2008 Promotion Table in Denver

We need You! If you are going to the Denver convention we need you to help with the Tulsa promotion table. You do not need to worry about selling tickets since we are having a silent auction. We just need someone there to see that nothing walks away and to pass out literature about Tulsa, the hotel and the plans for the convention. It is only about 12 hours total time. If you can help call 918-355-8020 or email johntcarter@valornet.com. Thanks!!

And the Winners Are...

Omaha AV & Gesneriad Society Show, Mar. 24, 2007

- Best in Show: "Fresh Air"
Second Best: "Smooch Me"
Third Best: "Kathe Denise"
Best AVSA Std Collection: "Hot Tamales", "Smooch Me", "Wisdom"
Best AVSA Small Collection: "Classic Rock", "Irish Flirt", "Optimara Little Pawnee"
Best Semiminiature: "Optimara Little Pawnee"
Best Miniature: "Orchard's Bumble Magnet"
Sweepstakes in Horticulture Won by Kent Stork
Best Trailer: "Baby Brian"
Best Other Gesneriad: Episcia "Cleopatra"
Second Best Design and Best Container Garden Sweepstakes in Design Won by Mary Jo Bradley
Best in Design and Best Interpretive Flower Arrangement Won by Joyce Stork
Best Novice Plant: "Lavender Thunder" Won by Bill Cadwallader
Sweepstakes in Horticulture runner-up: Won by Scott Evans

Memphis AVS Show Mar 30, 2007

- MVAVC Members who won awards:
Best in Show / Best Trailer - Cherokee Trail
Best Semi-mini - Rob's Antique Rose
21 blue ribbons and 6 Best in Class Franki Barnett from Royal, Arkansas
Best Design / Best Container Garden / Best Int. Plant Arr. / Best Int. Flower Arr., Design Sweepstakes / 19 blue ribbons, 14 Best in Class - Betty Ferguson from Little Rock, Arkansas
Best AVSA Std Collection: Buffalo Hunt, Hot Tamales and Frozen in Time / Best Other Gesneriad: Sinningia - Ozark Sentimental Journey; Horticulture Sweeps / Show Sweeps - 38 blue ribbons, 7 Best in Class - Danny Tidwell from McRae, Arkansas
15 blue ribbons, 4 Best in Class - Mike Ramsey from Memphis, TN
1 blue ribbon - Lorraine Johnson from Memphis, TN



### *Why Should I Go to the Spring Meeting?*

*John Carter*

Chances are if you are reading this you are reading it in the MVAVC Newsletter. If this is your newsletter that further means that you are a member of the Missouri Valley African Violet Council. Do you consider yourself a member or are you just a newsletter subscriber? Why? Is there a difference?

There is a difference. A member is interested in the overall goals of the organization and “benefits” of membership rather than being a subscriber who is just interested in looking at the newsletter. I am afraid that many of our members are subscribers because we have not made our goals well defined and readily available to our members.

Our goals simply stated are to educate persons interested in growing African violets and help them grow healthy plants that they will enjoy. The publication of the newsletter is but one way we try to achieve that goal. We also maintain a website to help those who are in the electronic world now. We hold educational programs at our two yearly meetings and additionally we support affiliate organizations so that they can serve you in your home town.

Wow, all of that sounds like a lot of work. It is. MVAVC is an “educational” business. As a member of MVAVC you are part of that business. You support the business by purchasing a membership; therefore, you receive the newsletter. If you read everything in the newsletter you will see that you can also support MVAVC in other ways. You can start at the local level by becoming a member of a local affiliate and join in that educational process. Is this sounding like too much to get involved in? It really is not. Your local affiliate probably only meets a couple hours a month and you may get some new violets and many new friends.

You probably think I have gotten off track since I started with a question as to why you should go to the MVAVC Spring Meeting. Well, here you have another opportunity to expand your violet friends and sources for violets and everything else that you need for your violet hobby. This is just a twice a year event and may be the opportunity of a lifetime.

The spring meeting of MVAVC is a business meeting of the society. I said earlier that MVAVC is a business. This is the time that business meetings are held, officers are elected and other business conducted that comes before the officers. As a member of the society you are invited to attend the meeting and have a vote on items that come before the membership. Your VOTE is important. The meetings are somewhat informal where members are free to ask any question of any officer and expect an honest answer. You will find that the officers are violet lovers just like you who believe that it is important to educate others so they can enjoy violets and learn to care for and share their precious plants. The officers are all volunteers who receive no payment from the society or anyone else for the many hours they spend to see that you have this newsletter to read and that your hobby can be continued for your enjoyment. The officers would like you to attend the meeting and ask your questions and offer suggestions to make your organization more effective in serving you and the other members.

In addition to attending the business meeting, you will find some of the most knowledgeable people giving an educational session that will help you become more effective in growing your violets. And then there are the violets. You will find several members bringing violets to sell to those in attendance. This will be a good chance to pick up some new varieties to grow for the show this fall.

So why should you go to the spring meeting? Education, participation, fellowship, fun and violets! Be there!



### 2007 MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues are now due and payable for 2007-2008. Individual dues are \$15.00 and family dues are \$17.50. All Affiliate club membership dues are \$17.50 and should include the club contact person's name, address, phone number, and e-mail information.

Dues can be sent to me at:  
Randy G Deutsch  
2305 E 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sioux Falls, SD 57103

Or better yet, save the cost of mailing and bring them with you to the Spring Meeting in Iowa!

If dues are not received by August 1, 2007, the member's name may not be included in the membership list distributed at the fall show and they will not receive any further newsletters.

As always, there seems to be so much confusion when members win Horticulture Sweepstakes at their local affiliate shows. This entitles the member to a one year FREE membership with MVAVC, but I can't read minds so please be sure to pass along this information to me. A great deal of hard work goes into earning this credit, and it deserves recognition.

Hope to see everyone in IOWA, Randy

### 2008 Convention Request - Help Now!

I am the Table Decorations and Favors Convention Chairman for the AVSA Convention in Tulsa. I would like to ask if your club would be interested in supplying, or contributing toward centerpieces or table favors for one of the banquets at the convention.

If your club would interested in assisting with anything for the center pieces or table favors, please let me know. Suggestions for table favors are pens, pencils, key chains, bookmarks and of course starter plants and leaf cuttings. We would also like small blooming plants to be used with the center pieces.

If you do not feel that your club could provide enough for any one of the meals, monetary contributions will also be accepted to pay for items needed. Make your checks payable to: AVSA 2008 Convention Fund. I will be sure each club is recognized at the banquets.

Nancy Moerer  
413 N. E. 114th Terrace Kansas City MO 64155  
NMOERER@CERNER.COM

### Where Did They Come From?

Our spring meeting will help answer the above question. Barbara Pershing will give a presentation including many photos on the history of species. Topics include their origin, geography and origins. Information about the conservation program will also be shared.

Barbara has grown and shown a number of species for several years and has given this program in the past so this is sure to be an interesting program. Don't miss it!

### SPRING SALE RULES

Please make note of the following if you are planning to sell at the Spring meeting. There will be no exceptions to these rules. If everyone complies with these rules, the sale should go smoothly.

Thanks to everyone for your cooperation.

1. Sales will begin before the meeting is opened (can't keep people away from those plants once they see them). If the sellers want to sell after the meeting is adjourned, 30 minutes will be allotted for this. It is necessary to limit the sale time after the meeting so that people can put away their unsold plants and get on the road home. NOTE: Each seller is responsible for cleaning up their area.
2. You **must** contact Kent Stork, the person in charge of the sale and let him know that you will be bringing plants. It is necessary to know how many people are planning to sell so that the adequate number of tables can be secured. The cut off date for notifying Kent is June 1, 2006. Kent's email address is kents@tvsonline.net and his home phone number is 402-727-1244.
3. You may only bring 50 plants to sell. Since the sale is open to only MVAVC and hosting club members, the number of people present will not support more sales.
4. There will be a central collection table manned by our good moneychangers.
5. 20% of all sales will go to Missouri Valley and the remaining 80% to the seller. The Treasurer will issue checks to the sellers for their portion.



**Spring Meeting - Sunday, June 10, 2007  
Hawarden Community Center**

**Directions From the South:**

Direct Route- Go north on Interstate 29: If you wish to stay on I-29, take Exit 42 Alcester/Wakonda. Travel east on CR-13 into Hawarden. Follow 10th St to a 4-way intersection. Turn left onto Central Ave. At the Hawarden City Offices, turn into the lane to go behind the building. This is the Community Center. The address of the city offices is 1150 Central Ave.

Scenic Route - **Note:** Spring flooding washed out part of Hwy 12 and the detour is not well marked so it is recommended that you follow I-29 directions above.

**From the East:**

Coming in on Hwy 20. Follow Hwy 20 through Sioux City until it merges with I-29. Then follow directions listed above.

We have a block of rooms at the Hawarden Harvest Inn, which is a recently built hotel located on Hwy 12. This is not too far from the Hawarden Community Center...also newly built in 2004. The phone number for the hotel is 712-551-3333. The room rates are \$59 per night. ***They will only hold this block of rooms until May 1st for us, so, we need to book soon.*** They are having a wedding in town that week-end also, and, won't hold them any longer than this.

If we need to get more rooms, there are two very nice new hotels just off I-29 at the North Sioux City exit also, which is about 30 miles south, but closer than Sioux City.

Cell phone numbers for people to call if lost are Terri: 712-251-6503 or Dennis: 712-490-2993.

***Save These Instructions!  
This is the last newsletter before the spring meeting.***

***Not going? Please read page 3 again!***

**"POT DIAPERS"**

by Danny Tidwell

Everyone that has ever had much to do with an African Show and/or Sale has come across the problem of leaking pots. Whether excess water seeping out or potting mix. It makes a MESS!

There are a lot of different ways to cover the drainage holes in the bottom of the pots to prevent such a mess. The way that I have found that works best for me is using "Glad Press N Seal" plastic wrap. Press n Seal has a sticky side that holds much better than ordinary plastic wrap but does not have as much adhesive as tape (Masking Tape for instance). There is just enough "sticky" to keep the wrap in place and not so much, as in tape, that will cause you to have a "FIT" trying to get it off and possibly pulling the wick out in the process. It is a little hectic sometimes trying to cut the wrap but good sharp scissors will help. It is worth the effort.

Press N Seal also holds well enough to prevent leakage when sale plants or show plants need to be watered during a show.

Absolutely the best thing I have found for slip potting and covering the bottom of sale plants.

Cut a piece an inch or two larger than the bottom of the pot. Set the pot in the middle of the wrap and press pull up around the sides and press in place, or put a slip pot over it and it works just great.





# WHAT IS SHE DOING???

# IT'S JUST KILLING ME --- I NEED TO KNOW!!!

by Randy G. Deutsch

I know she has a plan, I know she is working on something special, I know it's going to be good, but what is it, what is she going to do, what does she have up her sleeve???

I have to tell you a little story that might have gotten by you. Joyce Stork entered a design class two Missouri Valley fall shows ago. The class required her to use two different containers on a pedestal bringing the whole design together for one theme. She did an excellent job with her use of two separated clear containers and a background use of a gathering of small branches that appeared to swoosh to the right. She had painted them gold and then gave them a nice detail with the use of spots and splashes of silver paint. They really caught my eye (hmmm). Joyce received a well deserved blue ribbon for her hard work.

Well as the show was being torn down I saw her toss those branches in the garbage. That gave me a great idea (ding ding). I just couldn't stand the idea of just tossing those branches out like that. So that is where an idea started to come together for me. I thought, hey, I could re-use those in another design and see if anyone catches on. Yes, that's right, I grabbed them, hid them in my tote, and took off for home, a grand scheme under my cloak.

When it came time to prepare for last years Missouri Valley fall show in Omaha, out I took those branches, rearranged them to my liking, added three spray painted milk weed pods, attached my blossoms, and proudly entered my entry into the large-niche blossom design category, and waited. I waited and waited, but nothing - she never caught on. So after judging, also a blue ribbon, was over, I asked Joyce to come look at my design. She stood there, made some comment that I don't even remember, but nothing, click, nothing. She never caught on. So I mentioned to Joyce, "have you ever seen those branches before?" Ahhhh, the light began to come on! "I thought there was something about your design, but I just couldn't figure it out" was her comment. That was the end of it!!! (right?)

Well the rest of the show went as usual, and when it was all over there was the usual hustle bustle of taking everything down and getting all those boxes into the vehicles to drive home. I took my design, put it into the correct box and took off for home.

Well, what do you think when I got home, started putting things away, opened my box, and wow, my branches were missing, they were gone. I know I put them in the box, they were there, was I going crazy? My wife, Carla, saw me questioning myself and going crazy over this. I asked her if she remembered me putting them in that box. After a while, she looked at me a bit funny, finally told me, well, I saw Joyce Stork take them out of your box, and RUN, she said!!! (YEA GAWDS) What did she do that for, oh wait, oh wow, she has a plan!!!

My mind has been going crazy - is she going to bring them back to life in a new design in Little Rock? She better not get a best in class with those - I just couldn't take that! What does she have planned? What is she going to do? I just can't take it, it's just killing me not knowing!!!

I guess I will have to wait, I have no choice, I will have to see what her grand plan is when I get to the fall show. So now you too know the story behind these precious branches. I know you will want to make it to the fall show to find out, just what is she up to???



Randy's Blue-ribbon design for 2006



### Treasurers Report:

Beginning Balance 3/7/07 *				\$6,787.10
Deposits				
Total Deposits				\$ 00.00
Disbursements				
Newsletter			\$ 33.95	
Total Disbursements				\$ 33.95
Balance as of 04/24/07				\$ 6,753.15
Balance in North American Savings				\$ 3,186.01
Total cash and CD				\$9,939.16

- Balance 3/7/07 was incorrect. We had \$10.00 more in the account than was shown in last newsletter.

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 johncarter@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 Jeanne Cotten, 4402 East 105th Place, Tulsa, OK 74137, 918-299-6408.

**Don't Forget to  
 Pay Your Dues!  
 Mail or Attend  
 June Meeting**

### Your Officers

#### President

Kent Stork  
 2501 E 23rd Ave  
 Fremont, NE 68025  
 402-721-1478  
 kents@tvsonline.net

#### 1st Vice President

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 Sioux Falls, SD 57103  
 605-338-8846  
 605-321-0717 cell  
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#### 2nd Vice President

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 Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
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 417-887-8904  
 Plantman@ipa.net

#### Webmaster

Jimmy Toney  
 jtoney@kanokla.net

### Fall Show Awards

Last fall our awards fund fell a little short of what it had been in the past years. Awards are another form of recognition and prove to be a motivation for many people. We would like to get an early start on awards for 2007 and are suggesting that you and your affiliate make an award contribution as you renew your membership this year. I will be serving as Awards Chairman this year, so you may send your donations to me.

Thanks,  
 Randy G Deutsch 2305 E 19<sup>th</sup> Street Sioux Falls, SD 57103

### Affiliate Financial Planning

An African Violet Affiliate organization is a small business. In most cases it operates as a not-for-profit organization and generally with minimum funds. To continue the organization requires good management, not just of the organization but financially also. Some affiliates operate on a calendar year and some on a fiscal year, There is really no difference other than when your officers are installed.

2008 is an important year for the MVAVC with the hosting of the AVSA National Convention. Leadership is in place and plans moving forward. Each member and affiliate is an important part of this effort. We will require your help as individuals and affiliate organizations. We will need people to do "things". We will need money for awards, hospitality, publicity, centerpieces, etc.

As your group plans for 2008, please include the 2008 convention in your budget.



# Missouri Valley African Violet Council

# First Class Mail

John T. Carter, Editor  
1825 West Lincoln Street  
Broken Arrow, OK  
74012-8509

*Dues are Due!*

Driving directions are on page 5: Here are area maps to help you find our meeting.  
**Save these directions! This is the last newsletter before the Spring Meeting.**

