



'VIOLET TALK'

March/April/May Issue 2 of 2017

The AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY of WA (Inc)

Affiliated with the Gesneriad Council of Australia and New Zealand

We are celebrating 52 Years

PO Box 197, Como 6952.



Sinningia Margie

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The 2016/2017 AVS-WA Inc. Committee

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE March April May 2017

Hello members, I hope you all enjoyed the March and April Meetings. The Committee has been very busy and I wish to thank them for their wonderful support for the Society on your behalf. The Table Competition is going strong with the tallies very close at this point in time.

Our biggest event of the year came up on the Mother's Day Weekend at the Kardinya Park Shopping Centre. The Wednesday was set aside to arrange the entries and judging the 39 Categories within the Open, Intermediate and Novice sections. 140 entries were made this year and it is a credit to our growers (a small but very talented group) for entering after some variations in the temperatures, earlier in the mid 20's which some say are very high for Autumn now headed down to more standard fare. The judge(s) have made their respective decisions. The results are in and we have celebrated our success. The biggest thank you goes to the Management staff at Kardinya Park Shopping Centre, corner of South Street and North Lake Road, for their invaluable assistance in helping to set up, providing security and advertising in the local papers over the four days. We have a great association with them starting in 2010. We were also assisted by advertising in the Habitat (West Australian newspaper), the local papers, 96.5FM and John Curtin Radio. The Luncheon celebrating the event to present trophies and awards with special guests Sandy Beverley (President) and Helen Martin-Beck (Executive Officer) from the Horticultural



Achimenes Grover

application state-wide to any grower of African violets and/or Gesneriads however; we have had no entries from the wider community. Entries closed on Thursday 4th May 2017 so that preparation of entry cards could be assembled and entries checked by our Steward. The Committee and I have worked tirelessly toward making this event a success, with four members being key growers themselves. Another concern is that in coming years, we will need to look at additional qualified judges to assess entries as is probably the case in other states. I encourage all of our members to engage in the workshops strategy as this can only help understanding our passion more. I hope everyone enjoyed a Happy Mother's Day as I did, as our families are so precious.



Jacqui President AVS-WA 2016/2017

Introduction

In this issue, we are having a look at Trailers. They are such a beautiful part of growing African violets and take a lot of TLC and patience. They are not for everyone however, and I have had the privilege over the last few years of viewing the best from each State. Participating in these various Annual Shows here and in the Eastern States (includes our friends in SA) has benefited in viewing the product of the growers who undertake this task to provide their colleagues and the public with the result of their skills in growing Trailers. In addition, the AVS-WA Inc has a responsibility to provide a Newsletter and as yet another Editor has yet to be appointed. There are three articles, Trailers – An In Depth Look; Culture Of Trailers In General; How to Grow Trailers; Propagation of Trailers; and Potting on Trailers. In addition there is an article on Streptocarpellas which the reader might find interesting.

TRAILERS - AN IN DEPTH LOOK

One of the more recent types of African violets is the Trailer, and these have become very popular among all African violet enthusiasts and are very easy to grow. There are micro-mini Trailers, miniature and standard varieties. The micro-minis have very small leaves and are very compact. The miniatures have small leaves, grow larger and have an abundance of leaves. The standard Trailer has larger leaves and long trails, but does not usually flower as prolifically as the miniature type and because they take up more room most growers prefer the miniature type.



S.Grotei

Trailers have been evolving gradually since 1957 when they were first hybridized. *Saintpaulia grotei*; a species unique in its climbing habit in the wild, needed a support. Grown in the average home conditions, it trailed instead of climbing without this support and became somewhat popular.

S. grotei has round leaves that are slightly spooned with medium green, deeply serrated edges, and the leaf stems, (petioles) are thin, dark brown and flexible. It produces a small, medium blue flower with a slightly darker centre and is not particularly an attractive plant in itself. But the species possessed enough fascinating qualities to keep it of interest to hybridizers of the day. The first hybrid Trailer was made with *S. grotei* which produced 'Sailor Girl,' which was not an outstanding plant. Hundreds of seedlings were analyzed, but none were proven of exceptional beauty. Most exhibited small flowers about the size of a five cent piece. Colours were all shades of blue.

Just one seedling, 'Wild Girl', was selected from that generation to be used in further hybridizing pursuits. The foliage of 'Sailor Girl' had an interesting toothed edge and white spot at the base known as "girl type" foliage. (The first girl foliage plant was 'Blue Girl', discovered in 1941). 'Wild Girl' was not a Trailer, but it was floriferous and had the unusual girl foliage. It offered to the hybridisers, a promise of possibilities

through further efforts. When 'Wild Girl' and *S. grotei* were crossed, actually a back cross, seedlings showed the climbing, or indeed, the trailing habit, with larger flowers and a more exciting colour range. The seedlings were evaluated on the basis of floriferousness, colour, and trailing characteristics.

At that first introduction of the new type of plant, the Trailers were almost ignored by the public. The first double pink flowers on African violets were then introduced and the new trailing form of African violets went by the wayside. Perhaps had Trailers been introduced either before or after the excitement about the double pink, Trailers would have been received with more interest and with the gratitude they deserved.

In 1954, the following Trailers were exhibited: 'Sky Trailer', was a soft pale sky blue plant with double flowers. 'Royal Blue Trailer' had deep purple flowers and attractive green foliage with red reverse. It had single to semi-double blossoms with a bright yellow eye. 'Snow Trailer' had glistening white blossoms of good form and size, sometimes lightly tinged in blue. 'Star Trailer,' had blue two-tone blossoms. Some of these varieties are still available today. The Trailers had been overlooked and with the lack of public response they decided to "scrap" the idea of a Trailer and to move on to other hybridising pursuits.



Saintpaulia Magungensis var Minima

Ten years passed, and still no one showed interest in Trailers. Then Lyndon Lyon began a project to capture the trailing quality of the species Trailer. In 1966, *S. grotei* was crossed with 'Tiny Rose,' a pink miniature violet. The best seedling of this

cross was crossed again with the standard 'Hello Dolly,' but the second generation, named 'Pink Angel' trailed very little. Next were the Trailers which trailed with success over the sides of a pot, conveniently cascading so that it could be used in a hanging basket. Having developed the trailing "mould", other hybrids were developed with the cascading habit and with larger and more varied colours of bloom. It was still necessary to back cross to cultivars frequently to retain the trailing foliage, but normal experimentation could bring about the lovely colours and the different type blooms. Demand and support arose from the public, and the market was flooded with new standard Trailers. A commercial grower had a very small species called *S. magungensis minima* that seemed to have some characteristics of the Trailer. The *S. magungensis minima* possessed a growth habit similar to *S. grotei*, but this smaller plant had very small leaves on shorter petioles and petite flowers of a deeper violet blue.

S. magungensis minima was crossed with a standard pink Trailer, and then re-crossed the hybrid onto other pink Trailers. The result was seedling Trailers with 2.5cm leaves

which extended 15cm across the pot. Included in these semi- miniature hybrids was a pale violet, 'Happy Trails' (*pictured below*), and a single blue called 'Pixie Blue,' the latter of which we have had excellent results with the leaves producing babies and the plantlets producing flowers in record time.



In 1974 miniature Trailers were first produced. Miniature Trailers are intriguing because so much happens in such a small space. Growers must endeavor to keep the spread of the foliage in balance with the size of the flower. 'Mohawk Trail' a Semi-miniature trailer with double light blue and dark green leaves which spread in a 15cm circle possessing 2.5cm flowers, keeping the size of flowers in balance with the spread of

foliage. Micro-miniature Trailers were soon hybridized with leaves as tiny as the fingernail of a baby. The root system of micro- miniature Trailer, 'Pip Squeak' could easily fit into an egg cup.

A Trailer was hybridized that carried the white variegated foliage of a standard plant, 'Tommie Lou'. The first variegated Trailers were standard Trailers, 'Blue Star Lou' and 'Pink Star Lou'.

STREPTOCARPELLA

In the same family as the African violet, the Streptocarpella is a perennial evergreen with lots of showy hanging flowers, hence the common name Nodding Violet. The leaves are small, dark green and fleshy. The flowers are clusters of small, tubular, soft mauve blooms. The Streptocarpella grows to 30cm although in the right conditions it can be a lot bigger.



Growing in a medium tub on the Patio



Growing under a Yucca in the Northern facing side of our property

To keep flowering well indoors, it should have bright light away from direct sunlight. Outdoors, morning sun is fine. It's great in a pot or hanging basket on a patio and does best in an area that's frost-free. It likes humus-rich, moist soil and can be propagated by tip cuttings in spring and summer.



Streptocarpella 'Pee Wee'

Streptocarpella saxorum has wonderful cultivars and is one of my favorite plants. It has cute, velvety, deep-green leaves, and dainty flowers that hang from long stems and almost look like a cloud of butterflies flocking around the plant. There are many cultivars, one of the most common of which is Concord Blue. The different varieties available vary in the size of the flowers and the shade of blue from violet to deeper blue, light and darker blue. There are also white cultivars. Some are purely white, others are very pale blue or are white with fringes of blue. There are also variegated forms, like 'Lemon and Lime'. The wild form is somewhat smaller leaved, more of a lavender flower colour, and I am still waiting to see how well it blooms (it's almost blooming size). So far it seems to me to be a shy bloomer. The commonly sold cultivars are heavy bloomers and put on a wonderful display.



Streptocarpella 'Lime and Lemon'

Streptocarpella saxorum originates from Tanzania and Kenya. It is a tropical plant though it seems to enjoy cooler environment around 18° Celsius. This plant is frost sensitive. It belongs to the Gesneriad family and is an African violet relative, even called false African violet. The growing conditions are almost the same as for African violets. This plant grows to about 30cms in and makes a wonderful hanging basket plant. Once it reaches a decent size this plant is ever blooming. Streptocarpellas seems to do better kept in a cooler place. From my personal observations it seems to flower better when the temperatures are a bit on the low side. Pruning disrupts the flowering, but sometimes it's needed.



Streptocarpella Concord Blue

Cleaning the old leaves or spent flowers and occasionally pinching off a leggy stem will keep your plant looking good. It can suffer mealy bugs, and aphids (those seem to only go for the flowers). Spraying with insecticide will make the leaves get spotted and



The 'Carpella' under the Lemon Tree

Streptocarpellas can be propagated by cuttings, from offshoots or seeds. You can even propagate them from a leaf. Cuttings root well in both water and moist soil. Generally speaking this is a very easy to propagate plant. When propagating from

eventually dry off, so my advice would be to remove as much of the infected plant, simply cut back as much as you can, remove overly infested leaves and then spray out plant.

cuttings it helps to keep the humidity high, but keep the leafy part of your cutting from any water droplets as it will rot.

TRAILER PROPAGATION



The Trailer may be divided at its roots, creating two separate plants from one. However, another method is even simpler. A mature sucker may be cut off, and then rooted in vermiculite. Ciralda (top left) and Jays' Icecastle (below) are very popular Trailers.

When taking a mature crown for propagation, detach a six-leaf crown and remove leaves from crown's lowest 2.5 centimetres. Scrape the surface to stimulate root production, dust with rooting hormone. Then plant in your regular soil mix or in vermiculite.

The crown may be placed in a plastic bag for humidity. Provide air holes. After four weeks, the plastic should be removed. As with the standard violets, leaves from the Trailer will root very quickly. Keep rooting leaves out of direct sunlight and water from the bottom to prevent rot before roots may be formed. Babies may be seen within six to eight weeks, sometimes earlier. Trailers may be propagated in the usual way, with a leaf cutting. The plant will grow more side shoots which will eventually grow out and cascade over the side of the pot. It is desirable to have four or five of these leaders spread evenly around the pot and in a reasonable time you will have a beautiful plant with many blooms. Trailers require plenty of light, but no direct sun and they will take a little more fertilizer than standard violets and because you will have quite a lot of plant matter in the pot they will need to be watered more often.



The grooming of Trailers consists of removing spent blooms and any leaves which are becoming pale in colour. Try to space the trails evenly around the pot called a Shum Bowl. These are shallow, wide and raised, which is just what is needed. You may have to drill some holes in them for drainage because they are designed for floral arrangements and not as flower pots.

POTTING ON A TRAILER

Potting on a Trailer is no different to potting on an African violet except for using a Shum Bowl. There are several size Shum bowls, small, medium and large. There is no real standard size of pot however, it is the rule of thumb that when starting off the normal progress from a leaf or plantlet is to use a small container.



Removing from the medium Shum Bowl



Pre filling the larger Shum Bowl



Positioning the wicks



Teasing out the roots



Placing the plant



Filling the space



Topping with new potting mix



Ready to grow into a beauty

AVS-WA Inc. Competition Table Progress Charts and Results 2017

Points Tally February 2017

Open		Intermediate		Novice	
A. LaRosa	15	J. Meadowcroft	6	S. Pratt	3
R. Lee	15	D. Osler	5		
J. Bateman	9				
G. Currie	3				

Progressive Points Tally February to March 2017

Open		Intermediate		Novice	
A. LaRosa	26	J. Meadowcroft	6	S. Pratt	3
R. Lee	24	D. Osler	5		
J. Bateman	23				
G. Currie	7				

April 2017

Open			
<u>Class 1</u>	Single colour AV	2 nd Rodeo Country	G Currie
		2 nd Ultra Violet	A LaRosa
<u>Class 2</u>	Multi Colour AV	1 st NOID	G Currie
		1 st Ever Grace	J Bateman
<u>Class 4</u>	Mini AV	1 st Frosted Denim	J Bateman
		2 nd Montrose	J Bateman
<u>Class 5</u>	Semi-mini AV	1 st Rob's Slap Happy	J Bateman
		1 st Magic Blue	R Lee
<u>Class 6</u>	Trailing AV	2 nd Jay's Ice Castle	A LaRosa
<u>Class 7</u>	Species AV	1 st Sp. intermediate	A LaRosa
<u>Class 9</u>	Gesneriad, Fibrous root	1 st Mini-Streps. RL#7	R Lee
<u>Class 11</u>	Gesneriad, Tuburous	1 st Sinn. White Sprite	A LaRosa
<u>Class 12</u>	Gesneriad, Trailing	1 st Episcia, Edge of Night x Pink Flamingo	R Lee
			R Lee
Intermediate			
<u>Class 18</u>	Multi-Colour AV	1 st Opt. Monet	E Bateman
<u>Class 19</u>	Mini-Semi mini AV	1 st Frosted Denim	E Bateman
		2 nd Montrose	E Bateman

Novice

<u>Class 24</u>	Trailing AV	1 st Rob's Boolaroo	S Pratt
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Progressive Points Tally February to April 2017

Open		Intermediate		Novice	
A LaRosa	36	E Bateman	8	S Pratt	8
J Bateman	34	J. Meadowcroft	7		
R Lee	33	D Osler	7		
G Currie	12				

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017

Subject to change

- ***The 2017 Annual May Show Presentations***

A lovely luncheon, presenting trophies to the winners and celebrating with the exhibitors of this very important event.

- ***General Monthly Meeting June 17th 2017***

Workshop Preparing to Pot On, How to choose a Show Plant for next year and much more.

- ***Membership Renewal 1st July 2017***

Hey members please renew your Membership with Aileen LaRosa. The fee is \$25.00 for singles and \$30.00 for a couple. If you are single, name a friend or family member and pay the extra \$5.00 for them to join with you as a new member.

- ***AGM August 19th 2017***

This is a very special meeting. It provides you the member to nominate for one of four Executive positions or one of eight Committee Member positions. Please nominate by filling in your applications (available from the current Secretary Cheryl Gadellaa) in the June Meeting or before Friday 11th August by contacting our Secretary by email or phone.

Nominations will be available on the website.

THE ANNUAL MAY CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017

Kardinya Park Shopping Centre was once again the host venue for the our Annual display to the public and a chance to share the talents of our growers, exhibiting the entries in the 39 categories available to our Open, Intermediate and Novice sections. Our Theme this year was 'Rhythm in Blue' and our exhibitors engaged with enthusiasm. A lot of preparation goes into the organisation of the event and one can easily overlook the effort of the volunteers who take on the various tasks required to make it all come together. Invariably it is the Committee members, who are the main growers as well, carrying out the responsibilities of bringing it all together. African Violet Societies encounter the same problems and meet them each year with success and satisfaction but mainly relief that it all went well. For AVS-WA, it started in October alerting our members that preparation should start with selecting possible Show quality entries after a number of workshops aimed at refreshing, motivating and preparing members to grow and compete in each of the Monthly Table Competitions. It continued with the issue of a Grower's Handout, applying lighting schedules and helping other members with grooming, sorting problems experienced with the fluctuating weather patterns, potting mixes, fertilising, timers, watering, TLC and crossed fingers. The Steward received the entries, processed them, checked authenticity and categorised up to 139 plants that were submitted by the exhibitors. The Steward also arranged entries on the table, labelling, checking prices, bugs,

suitability, spacing and catering to wildcard occurrences and late changes. Compiling results, paperwork, lists, tags, organising the Champions Table, handling plants, allocating names to trophies, etc. are a few of the myriad of detail that was attended to. Meanwhile, rosettes, ribbons, place cards, sale slips, floats, rosters, advertising, organising judges, liaising, website, reconciling monies, payment, banking and anything else that is proposed, approved and produced in a timely fashion that made it all happen over the four days and a few days beyond. Ultimately the Trophies, Sashes and Certificates are issued to the deserving exhibitors, always keeping in mind, those who just missed out but are so valuable to providing the competition and depth to the Show. Easy? ... just so, as the passion, comradery, teamwork, engaging the public, winning new members and beauty ruled just what we as a Society achieved. So, will the few photos below do justice? No way, it is hard to quantify visually other than to show the product of effort in that way. You just know that when your fellow members gathered at the presentation luncheon, it is the culmination of what we are about. Learning, loving and living the passion for this type of gardening and care of ornamental plants. Congratulations to all of the successful exhibitors, we needed your contributions and they were terrific and attracted many members of the public who were very interested in what was on display and investing in what was on offer. A big, huge thank you to Colleen M^cCormick for judging the Open Section and again Reiko Lee and Aileen LaRosa for judging the Intermediate and Novice Sections. Next year is going to be just as pleasing and our sponsor Kardinya Park Shopping Centre is looking forward to 2018.

We also had some very special members visit us and it was so lovely to see Norma Dougall, former Treasurer Heather Brandis, former President Doug and Joan McKirdy.



Eucodonia (Adele); Mini Strep x Crimson Rouge; and Mini Sinningia 'Freckles' (R. Lee)



Narelle Queen of the Show and Princess of Standards (J. Bateman)



**Princess of Trailers 2017 Jay's Icecastle
(A. LaRosa)**



**African Violet Championship Group Star Turn,
Little Pro & Jay's Icecastle (J. Bateman)**



**Artistic Arrangement to Theme Rhythm
in Blue (J. Bateman)**



**Princess of Miniatures 2017 Rob's Slap Happy (J.
Bateman)**

OTHER TROPHIES AND AWARDS

Most Successful Exhibitor Overall	1 st Jacqui Bateman (52 points) 2 nd Eric Bateman (22 points) 3 rd Reiko Lee (14 points)
Most Successful Open Exhibitor	1 st Jacqui Bateman (42 points) 2 nd Reiko Lee (14 points) 3 rd Aileen LaRosa (11 points)
Most Successful Intermediate Exhibitor	1 st Eric Bateman (22 points) No Second No Third
Most Successful Novice Exhibitor	1 st Joan Meadowcroft (6 points)
Most Successful Artistic Exhibitor	1 st Jacqui Bateman (10 points) 2 nd Pat Humphreys (9 points) Equal 3 rd Gwen Currie (3 points) and Alan Humphreys (3 points)

RESULTS OF THE 2017 ANNUAL MAY SHOW HELD AT KARDINYA PARK
SHOPPING CENTRE, KARDINYA

OPEN TO STATE WIDE ENTRIES (No Membership required)	
Class 1 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP - AFRICAN VIOLETS. <i>Exhibit - 3 x African violet (i) Standard; and (ii) Mini or Semi Miniature; and (iii) Trailer.</i>	1 st Jacqui Bateman (Star Turn; Jay's Icecastle; Little Pro) 2 nd Reiko Lee 3 rd Aileen LaRosa
Class 2 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS - GESNERIADS. <i>Open State wide. Exhibit - 3 x Gesneriad classes</i>	1 st Reiko Lee (Eucodonia 'Adele'; Mini Sinningia 'Freckles'; Mini Streptocarpus ' x Crimson Rouge 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Episcia - Cleopatra (protected in glass bowl); Strep Aussie Heartlands Butterfly; Sinningia Margie) 3 rd Aileen LaRosa (Alsobia Dianthiflora Columnea Frosty Hills)

RESULTS OF THE 2017 ANNUAL MAY SHOW (AVS-WA INC. MEMBERS ONLY)

OPEN CLASS	
Class 3 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Standard, single colour - pink, white, pale mauve.</i>	No First 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Jay's Just Pink) 3 rd Jacqui Bateman (Migaloo)
Class 4 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Standard, single colour - blue, purple, red.</i> Jacqui Bateman	1 st Jacqui Bateman (Narelle) 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Pueblo) 3 rd Aileen LaRosa (Corroboree)
Class 5 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Standard - multi colour.</i>	1 st Aileen LaRosa (Rainbow's Quiet Riot) 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Optimara Monet) 3 rd Jacqui Bateman (Optimara EverGrace)
Class 6 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Standard - variegated foliage.</i>	No First 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Kindred Spirit) 3 rd Jacqui Bateman (Ness' Candy Pink)
Class 7 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Miniature - single colour.</i>	1 st Jacqui Bateman (Montrose) 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Frosted Denim) 3 rd Reiko Lee (True Blue)
Class 8 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Miniature - multi colour</i>	1 st Jacqui Bateman (Rob's Cloudy Skies) 2 nd Reiko Lee (Bright Doreen) No Third
Class 9 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Semi-miniature - single colour.</i>	1 st Jacqui Bateman (Rob's Slap Happy) 2 nd Reiko Lee (Magic Blue) 3 rd Aileen LaRosa (Sugar Bear Blues)
Class 10 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Semi-miniature - multi colour.</i>	1 st Jacqui Bateman (Rob's Cool Fruit) 2 nd Reiko Lee (Rob' Whodunit) No Third
Class 11 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Selection - 3 x Mini or 3 x Semi- miniatures in any combination.</i>	1 st Reiko Lee (Magic Blue; Bonnie Ross; Minuet) 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Montrose; Rob's Slap Happy; Frosted Denim) 3 rd Jacqui Bateman (Rob's Cloudy Skies; Bonnie Ross; Sugar Bear Blues)

Class 12 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Trailer.</i>	No First 2 nd Aileen LaRosa (Fun Trail) No Third
Class 13 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Species - Saintpaulia.</i>	No First 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Sp. Orbicularis) 3 rd Aileen LaRosa (Sp. Intermediata)
Class 15 GESNERIAD. - <i>Fibrous rooted, Chirita, Gesneriad, and/or Streptocarpus.</i>	No First 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Strep MJ's Red Opal) No Third
Class 18 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>GESNERIAD. - Aeschynanthus, Nematanthus, Columnea, Episcia</i>	1 st Jacqui Bateman (Nematanthus 'Tropicana') 2 nd Jacqui Bateman (Codonanthus 'Sunset') 3 rd Jacqui Bateman (Episcia 'Frosty')
ARTISTIC CLASSES (Open to Members Only)	
Class 19 TERRARIUM. - Featuring African violets, Gesneriads. Growing plants.	1 st Alan Humphreys 2 nd Pat Humphreys 3 rd No Third
Class 20 MINIATURE LANDSCAPE - Featuring African violets, Gesneriads. Growing plants.	1 st Pat Humphreys 2 nd Jacqui Bateman 3 rd No Third
Class 21 NOVELTY CONTAINER - <i>African violet, Gesneriad. Grown in container 6+ weeks.</i>	1 st Gwen Currie ('My Favourite Chef') 2 nd Jacqui Bateman ('Cool Guys') 3 rd No Third
Class 22 ARTISTIC. - <i>African violet, Gesneriad. Arranged to theme, max. size 45cm.</i>	1 st Jacqui Bateman 2 nd Pat Humphreys 3 rd Rhiannon LaRosa
Class 23 ARTISTIC. - <i>African violet, Gesneriad. Free arrangement, max. size 45cm</i>	1 st Jacqui Bateman 2 nd Pat Humphreys No Third
INTERMEDIATE CLASSES	
Class 24 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Standard, single colour</i>	1 st Eric Bateman (Pueblo) 2 nd Eric Bateman (Winter Wonderland) No Third
Class 25 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Standard, multi-colour.</i>	1 st Eric Bateman (Chiffon Print) 2 nd Eric Bateman (Kazumi) 3 rd Eric Bateman (Girl Talk)
Class 26 AFRICAN VIOLET. – <i>Standard, variegated foliage.</i>	1 st Eric Bateman (Beverley) No Second No Third
Class 27 AFRICAN VIOLET. – <i>Miniature or Semi-miniature.</i>	1 st Eric Bateman (Rob's Slap Happy) No Second No Third
Class 33 GESNERIAD. - Any type other than Saintpaulia.	1 st Episcia Cleopatra Sport No Second No Third
NOVICE CLASS	
Class 37 AFRICAN VIOLET. - <i>Window sill - natural light.</i>	1 st Joan Meadowcroft (Ness' Puppy Charm) 2 nd Joan Meadowcroft (Sorcerer) 3 rd Joan Meadowcroft (Optimara Stockholm)

2017 PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

We are very happy to have the Manning Activity Centre as the venue for this day and our Committee and Monthly Meetings. A cloudy autumn's day provided cool showers and sunny patches outside but the warmth of friendship and a celebration of our capabilities to provide a great show for the public were enhanced with special guests from the Horticultural Council of WA; Helen Martin Beck (Executive Officer) and Sandy Beverley (President). It is a real part of a small group sharing their passion with a great luncheon preceding the presentation of trophies, two dating back 28 years. The wonderful part of that was that Reiko Lee, current grower and life member was a winner in 1989 of the *Frank Ruderforth Trophy* for best Open Grower that year and many times since. Along with another current grower and life member, Aileen LaRosa, they have provided the core of the excellence that continues to this day and beyond. Both ladies are so very modest about their respective achievements, nonetheless they are the true champions of the African Violet Society of WA Inc. for the last 30 years. Reiko again who the State Championship Gesneriad Sash for the umpteenth time. Reiko also took out the Set of Three (Miniatures) a perpetual trophy sponsored by Colleen McCormick and Aileen was successful as the Princess of Trailers with Jay's Icecastle. The 2017 Overall Successful Exhibitor (Frank Rudeforth Perpetual Trophy) is our current President Jacqui Bateman who had the outstanding entries as the Queen of the Show and Princess of Standards; Princess of Miniatures and the State Championship Sash. Congratulations to all of these growers and the other exhibitors including Gwen Currie and Joan Meadowcroft for an excellent demonstration of their growing skills. Helen Martin-Beck (HORTWA) spoke about the importance of the requirement of a revised constitution now required by the WA Department of Commerce new legislation enacted in 2015 and requiring incorporated bodies such as ours to regard their responsibilities in a resolute manner, maintaining the objects of our Society. The following list details of the 1st Places in the Classes that were adjudged so accompanied by images of the successful entries. 2nd and 3rd are listed without their respective images.



Sandy Beverley presenting Gesneriad Sash to Reiko



Champs Table



Sandy Beverley presenting AV Sash to Jacqui



Mini Strep x Crimson Rouge



Star Turn



President and Secretary presenting special guests with a gift each



Arthur Morris (Life Member) and Joyce Bulloch



Helen Martin-Beck addressing our members



Set of Three for Reiko



Judge Colleen



Colleen M^cCormick Trophy



Aileen receives the RICHGRO Trophy for Princess of Trailers



Champs Table



Jacqui receiving the Geoff Richards Trophy for Princess of Standards

The Joan Morris Trophy for Princess of Miniatures



Joan Meadowcroft with the Trophy for Best Novice



You will recognise the cartoon character to the left. Wile Coyote is famous for the inventiveness of ideas in the pursuit of a Roadrunner meal. So it is for growers of Gesneriaceae and this little segment hopefully will shine on the ideas of our colleagues wherever they may be. There are many thoughts on repotting and one suggestion is mould potting. Recently it has been revealed that the tried and true method of forming a cavity for your plant to be potted on is the way to go. They

say genius is doing it simple. In using this method one should make sure the soil is shaken from the roots, then trimmed and gently teased into the soil as it is filled with the remainder of the soil required to just below the top of the pot.

ANOTHER TEN TIPS

1. Growing violets is a terminal disease.
2. There is no cure, but you can get temporary relief by buying new varieties.
3. You must learn to throw away leaves.
4. You must concentrate (especially if you are in a club) On growing plants that are show quality and AVSA registered.
5. You will be attracted to many plants with the most beautiful blossoms and inferior foliage. Keep only a few of your non-show quality favourites. The foliage will never improve when it's bad to begin with.
6. Remember to isolate your new purchases.
7. Think twice before community wicking.
8. When hybridising, select plants with strong characteristics that will produce winning plants. Select the mother (pollen receiving) plant for the foliage you are looking for. The father (pollen donor) plant should possess a blossom type and/or colour that you wish to attain in your new hybrids.
9. Wicking individually will prevent the transmission of disease.
10. African violets will bring dear friends, not only locally, but from all over the world. Many of the friends we have met are like family, and the thing is, you continue to meet new friends constantly. This is probably the most positive reason to get involved in growing African violets!

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TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS ACROSS AUSTRALIA SHARING THE PASSION OF GROWING GESNERIADS AND AFRICAN VIOLETS



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