



RICHMOND AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

VOLUME 176

AFFILIATED WITH AVSA AND MAAVS

JANUARY 2008

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 5



I hope each of you had a very pleasant Christmas and a great New Year. **Sharon Long and**

Barbara Stewart will be presenting a Design Workshop during Saturday's meeting. Each member is asked to bring in one blooming African violet (or some cut blossoms) and some greenery to use in designs. This will be a hands on workshop in which everyone will have a part. Hopefully we will have a lot of fun and inspire some new designing talent.

Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Nell Reese 1/5
Grace Bailey 1/24



HOSPITALITY SCHEDULE

- *January: **Barbara Stewart**
- *February: Vicki Carr
- *March: Debbie Woodruff
- *April: Kitty Hedgepeth
- *May: Josane Wagner
- *June: Anniversary Luncheon

RAVS NEWS



Club pins are available for \$6.00. See **Sharon Long** at the meeting.

Barbara Stewart still has a few AVSA calendars left. Interested members can call her and she will bring them to the meeting.

Heidi Helbling is still collecting empty printer ink cartridges.

Barbara Stewart is in the process of getting photos of each and every member for next year's anniversary edition of our yearbook. If you have not had your photo taken, see her at Saturday's meeting.

Last month, questionnaires were sent to members to fill out for the 2008/09 yearbook. Please make sure that you return the questionnaire to **Barbara Stewart** as soon as possible.

IN SEARCH OF

Diane Eddleton, Alice Grundy's daughter, is looking for an issue of the AVM that featured Alice's Best in Show trailer on the cover. If you have an issue that you are willing to part with, please contact **Barbara Stewart**.

Mary Sue Hudson is searching for a plant of: *My Mary Sue (8835) 10/04/1999 (David Hudson) Single chimera purple/white stripe. Light green, pointed, quilted, glossy. Standard*
If you have or know of a plant, please contact **Mary Sue or Vicki Carr**. Thank you!

CULTURE TIP

A very interesting article appeared in the November/December issue of the AVM entitled

“Lopsided Violets” by Joyce Stork. It briefly discussed the importance of centering a plant in its pot. If the plants roots are up against the pot wall on one side, the leaves will grow shorter and smaller on that side, while the leaves growing toward the free space will be longer and bigger giving your plant a “Lopsided” appearance. Joyce also points out a similar problem when repotting plants with long crooked necks. If you sit your plant in the pot so that it sits level, it will grow as if its roots are pushed to

one side of the pot and continue to grow in a lopsided way. But if you repot the plant so that the neck is straight inside the pot, the plant will correct itself within a few short weeks.

Deadline for February’s newsletter is January 23, 2008.
--

About three months before the show is the time to begin grooming plants for show. If problems are discovered now, they can be eliminated by show time without causing damage to your plants. Try to avoid bringing any new plants into your collection during the next three months. To help you along, the Pre-Show Schedule from Pauline Bartholomew’s Growing to Show is printed below. Place it near your plants for a reference.

GROWING TO SHOW

12 WEEKS (January 24): Remove leaves, pot down necks or pot up. Foliar feed once in addition to regular fertilizing program.

10 WEEKS (February 7): Completely disbud all plants except perhaps miniatures and trailers. Replace Put one new tube in each fixture. Start bloom booster fertilizer formula.

9 WEEKS (February 14): Increase light time by one hour. Disbud heavily variegated varieties and double varieties, such as Rhapsodies, etc. for the last time. Continue to disbud all other varieties. Continue “bloom booster” fertilizer.

8 WEEKS (February 21): Increase light time by one hour. Disbud doubles and lightly variegated varieties for the last time. Continue to disbud semi double stars and singles. Check for suckers. Continue “bloom booster” fertilizer. Foliar feed once more.

7 WEEKS (February 28): Increase light time by one hour. Disbud semi double stars for the last time. Change to 12-36-14 or 15-30-15 etc. fertilizer formula for the remaining weeks.

6 WEEKS (March 6): Disbud singles for the last time. Check for suckers. Wash foliage using tepid water.

1 WEEK (April 10): Remove spent blossoms, peduncles, and pedicel stubs. **Check for suckers.** Brush away soil particles, etc. Pot down necks or pot up only if necessary. Prepare boxes to transport plants to the show. Don’t wait until the last moment to find boxes to fit your plants.

1 DAY (April 16): Again remove spent blossoms, etc. Remove leaf support rings and prepare pots as required by show schedule. Place plants in transporting boxes so that the foliage is supported.