
THE ROSETTE

Albuquerque African Violet Club (AAVC)

AAVC Officers

President: Sharon Shannon

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Michael Garcia

Newsletter Photographs

Lona Pidanick

News Bits:

- Garden Center News:
Garden Center is currently closed per the COVID-19 State Guidelines; Holiday Flowers (Poinsettias & Christmas Cactus) can be ordered using the Order Form on the Garden Center website:
abqgardenctr@swcp.com
- Next AAVC Zoom call:
December 8, 2020, 1:00pm

Sharon's Notes:

Greetings Violeteers!

I'd like to extend a big welcome to our newest member, John Milholland who joined last month. John has grown African violets in the past and is now getting back into growing them. He's wisely starting out reasonably with just a few violets (but don't worry – we'll fix that!!! Ha! Ha!).

Our COVID-19 situation is not yet getting better and we are still isolating and meeting online. But happily our violets are immune to this new threat and we can continue working with them and enjoying them! I usually get more blooms in the fall and so now everything is starting to really open up and look bright and cheery. I'm sure it's the same for everyone!

For those who missed last month's meeting, we had a DAWG show. A DAWG show is a show of our most awful looking violets. We had several fun classes to enter, and all who attended the meeting participated and had a lot of fun. Winners are listed below.

In the upcoming months, please take care and be safe when reuniting with loved ones during the holidays.

Happy Violeting!

Chlorophyll, To Be or Not To Be: Lona Pidanick

At our recent Zoom meeting, members had the opportunity to participate in a 'Dawg Show,' showcasing our less than perfect African Violets. I was lucky enough to win the category of Doggone Dalmatian (the violet with

AV Q&A's

As we enter into the winter season, what can I do to raise humidity when the furnace heat dries the air so much?

Provide trays for your plants (especially the small ones) and fill them with loose sand or small pebbles. Place open containers of water among the plants. A warm air humidifier or an ultrasonic humidifier is beneficial to both plants and people; containers of water in the wells of floor registers also help. Use a good misting sprayer to give the plant a light, daily mist when the sun is not directly on the plants. The more plants you have in a group, the better humidity you will have. Also, using an old-fashioned teakettle boiling on the stove provides wonderful humidity for plants in the kitchen. The primary goal is to increase the overall humidity in the home that will benefit both you and your violets.

the most water spots.) The violet which won was a Rob's Vanilla Trail and, in fact, did not suffer from water spots. The yellow pigmentation present on the leaves actually occurred because of a shortage of chlorophyll. (See Below)



This frequently happens on trailers especially, either because of rapid growth or lack of adequate light to produce enough chlorophyll. Most commonly for me, it happens in the winter when I decrease the amount of time my artificial lights are on to about 8 hours a day.

In the Spring, usually when I start preparing for the Show, I first remove any leaves on my trailers that don't contribute to the beauty of the plant. This includes a large number of affected leaves. When I increase light time, start feeding with a stronger fertilizer and continue grooming the plant, the new leaves take the place of any leaves I have removed and also are perfectly green since the plant is now producing enough chlorophyll. All plants require sunlight (or artificial light) to perform photosynthesis and produce chlorophyll to make the plant green. Violets are no exception.

Winners of the DAWG Show, October 13, 2020:



Class 1: **Biggest Litter** award (the AV with the most suckers)

Winner: Sharon Shannon

Class 2: **Leash-too-tight** award (the AV with the longest neck)

Winner: Lona Pidanick

Class 3: **Big Paws** award (the AV with the single largest leaf)

Winner: Sara Trice

Class 4: **Doggone Dalmatian** award (the AV with the most water spots)

Winner: Lona Pidanick

Class 5: **Hard Dawg to Keep Under the Porch** (the scraggiest trailing AV)

Winner: Lona Pidanick

Class 6: **Ugly Mutt** award (the ugliest "no name" AV)

Winner: Sara Trice

Class 7: **Putrid Pedigree** award (the ugliest named AV)

Winner: Sharon Shannon

Class 8: **Runt of the Litter** award (the smallest standard AV in bloom)

Winner: Dena Brent

Class 9: **Cockeyed Spaniel** award (the AV most angled towards the light)

Winner: Dena Brent

Class 10: **Big Dawg in a Small House** award (the AV most in need of repotting)

Winner: Lona Pidanick