

PRESENTATIONS
2016 AVSA ALBUQUERQUE CONVENTION

Session 1

“Show, Place, Win”

Thursday, June 2 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Debbie McInnis, Floyds Knob, IN

Your violets **can't** win blue ribbons if they are left home on the stands... No more sitting on the side lines. “Just do it” - take them to show!

Here's a little help you may need to get them there. First, let's build your confidence. From solo cups to their protected pots on the show tables, we'll discuss standard and miniature African violet growing techniques: potting mixes, fertilizers, lighting, ongoing grooming, travel boxes, First Class entries, grooming tips for show, after show maintenance and isolation. All the basics for growing beautiful show-worthy violets, and the simple preparations to go the distance; Placing Your Violets on the Show Tables! Develop your competitive edge with consistent growing habits. **Grow the Best You Can Grow. Grow for Show....and “Bring It!!!”**

Session 2

“Oh, The Places You'll Go!”

Friday, June 3 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Penny Smith-Kerker, Austin, TX

Taking care of your African violets and Gesneriads at home, in a fairly well controlled environment, can be challenging. Traveling with your plants or needing to mail those long distances can put additional stress on both you and your plants. In this session, a panel of seasoned plant travelers will discuss and demonstrate their tools and techniques for traveling to convention with show plants and getting both show plants and your new convention purchases back home in good condition. Topics to be discussed include: preparing plants for transit, recommended containers, packing show plants for traveling by air and automobile, taking care of your exhibits during transit, unpacking and final preparation for entry in the show, and packing plants for traveling home. This will be an interactive session, with time for questions from the audience and an opportunity for attendees to "show and tell" their methods for transporting plants; so please bring your favorite container and traveling information to share.

Session 3

"Coping with Rhizomes"

Friday, June 3 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Bill Price, West Vancouver, BC, Canada

Do you feel frustrated trying to grow these plants well? Do you feel like throwing out your pot of long, scraggly rhizomatous Gesneriads with only a few flowers at the tips? What do I do with the pot now that the top growth has died back? And do I really have to TOUCH those wormy-looking rhizomes???

Growing the rhizomatous Gesneriad genera successfully can be a challenge for both new and experienced growers alike! In this presentation/workshop, Bill will discuss all aspects of growing these interesting Gesneriads from initial starting and propagating to the cultural requirements of the various genera, as well as tips for producing beautiful show specimens. You will learn to be more comfortable in handling these "worms" and hopefully will be motivated to grow even more varieties. Please bring your questions and problem experiences as well.

Session 4

"Don't Spray and Pray: Integrated Pest Management and You"

Saturday, June 4 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Jenny (Freed) Enchayan, Loomis, Nebraska

Do you apply a pesticide on a weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly schedule? Get out of the 1950s and learn about integrated pest management, the "modern" method of dealing with those pesky pests and troublesome diseases. With her recently acquired Master's Degree in Entomology, owner of Violets and More, LLC, Jenny (Freed) Enchayan hopes to give you some insight for pest management beyond just applying a chemical. Because the "resistance" is coming!

Session 5

"Container Gardens from All Perspectives, Construction to Judging"

Saturday, June 4 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Paul Kroll, East Aurora, NY

Paul Kroll will present a program on container gardens of all types. He will construct a dish garden while talking about it and then this new garden will be given to a lucky winner. See how easy it can be to construct a dish garden when you have the correct size plants and materials.