

PRESENTATIONS
2017 AVSA ORLANDO CONVENTION

Session 1

“Helpful Show Preparation Tips”

Thursday, June 1 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Barb Werness, Blaine, MN

How often have you been setting up your exhibits at the show and you realize things are not running too smoothly? You forgot this, that and the other thing. This presentation will help you save the day! Plus there are a number of little tricks that will help show off your African violets and designs to their best and possibly earn them a few more precious points. Here are some ideas you can apply a day or two ahead of time to help smooth things out. Plus there are many last-minute tips for just before judging. Experience is a great teacher; and between my own and those of my fellow club members, that is what prompted each item in this presentation.

Session 2

“Water Quality & Fertilizers – Effects on African Violets”

Friday, June 2 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Steve Gonzalez, Stillwater, MN

Steve will discuss the basics of water quality (pH, total dissolved solids, RO water) and different fertilizer formulations (i.e. mainly types of nitrogen and trace elements) and then show the practical effects on growing plants until their first bloom. Then he will itemize what might be the better practices for growing healthier, stronger and better-blooming plants.

Session 3

“How Unique Are Your African Violets?”

Friday, June 2 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Linda Hall, Ravenwood, MO

Do you grow the unusual leaf forms and unique blossom type plants? Come join in the fun and learn their origins, how long they have been in existence and what current hybridizers are working on, as well as viewing some of the originals, bustle leaf and wasp blossom forms from Jimmy Dates.

Session 4

“African Violets Need Haircuts Just Like People Do”

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

Kurt Jablonski, Miami Beach, FL

Have you ever wondered when and how to groom your African violet show plants? Have you ever had trouble seeing the “pattern of three”? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then this program about grooming your violets for show will help you. I will discuss how to grow your violets from solo cup to show and all the steps you need to do to exhibit a near perfect, high-scoring show plant.

Session 5

“Judging by the Book”

Saturday, June 3 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Pat Hancock, Middletown, OH and Paul Kroll, East Aurora, NY

“How many reds and how many blues have we given?” “I know there are only 3 blooms, but they are so large.” “The best semi-mini has to come from the collection class.” “Which one do you like best?” “Maybe we should vote.”

Although these are actual comments made by AVSA Judges, they have nothing to do with the merit system by which all African violets should be judged. Join Pat and Paul for an informative session and find out what “Judging by the Book” actually means.