

A Worthwhile Contest

By Pat Hancock

How would you like to have a total of thirty-two (yes, 32), New Introduction leaves to share with friends, your club, or just to enjoy for yourself?

In every issue of our *African Violet Magazine*, there is a plea from the Editor, Ruth Rumsey, for members to write original articles to make the magazine more enjoyable.

Sadly, with each issue, she must come up with reprints, or articles from other newsletters or publications in order to fill the space.

Are we all just too busy, too lazy, or perhaps just too indifferent, that we cannot take the time to write an original article about some part of our African violet or Gesneriad experience, that others would enjoy reading about?

With other Commercial members and hybridizers, I have put together a contest with the hope that these great Prize Packages will excite our members to write original articles and submit them to our AVM Editor.

All those entering the Contest must be current members of AVSA.

The Winners of the contest will be announced at the 2017 AVSA Convention in Orlando, Florida. It is not necessary to be present to win.

The **3rd Place Winner** will receive a total of **eight** “New Introduction” leaves from the Commercial Members and Hybridizers taking part.

The **2nd Place Winner** will receive a total of **sixteen** “New Introduction” leaves from the Commercial Members and Hybridizers taking part.

The **1st Place Winner** will receive a total of **thirty-two** “New Introduction” leaves from the Commercial Members and Hybridizers taking part.

Five experienced African violet growers, and writers, have agreed to judge the entries: *Laurel Goretsky, Bill Price, Anne Nicholas, Sue Hoffmann, and Mel Grice.*

The **Contest Rules** are as follows:

1. ALL entered articles must be Original Work, and cannot have been published before.
2. You may write as many articles as you wish, and each entry must be marked, **CONTEST.**
3. **Submissions must be received AFTER March 1, 2016.**

Cutoff date for entries is April 1, 2017. Articles received after this date will NOT be considered.

1. Hybridizers, Commercial Members, and Judges, taking part, are not eligible to receive prizes.
2. The decisions of the Judges will be FINAL.
3. Due to the high cost of shipping leaves internationally, leaves will only be shipped to winners in the US. International members will be required to pick them up at the 2017 Orlando Convention.

Our AVSA Commercial Members and Hybridizers who have pledged to take part in awarding the prizes are as follows:

1. **Buckeye Violets**, Pat Hancock: Buckeye & Jitter Bug African Violets.
2. **Paula’s African Violets**, Paula Bal
3. **Stars n Streps**, Steve and Donna Turner: Russian AVs & Streps
4. **Dale’s *Streptocarpus***: Dale Martens
5. **Fancy Bloomers, ‘Donna’s African Violets**: Donna Brining

6. **Lyndon Lyon's African Violets:** Paul Sorano
7. **Dmitry Ozherelyev:** Russian & Ukrainian African Violets
8. **BJ Ohme:** *Streptocarpus* Hybrids & Cajun's African Violets
9. **Ron and Jan Davidson:** Jolly Series African Violets

Think about it! How great would it be to be the recipient of 32 New Introductions, or 16, or 8, from nine of our Commercial Members and Hybridizers?

Every year at the AVSA Convention, we all line up when the doors are about to open to have a chance to get the Newest and Best African violets!

Winning this contest would mean that you would have these New Introductions before anyone else can buy them.

So, take the time to write an article for the AVM, and be in the running for these great prizes. It's a "win/win" situation! Our magazine will be more interesting with new, original articles, and you will be eligible to win.

Write about anything relating to our hobby: African violets, Gesneriads, Designing, and so on.