

## **African Violet of Ocala Monthly Program Schedule for 2014**

### **January 25 - So How Are Your African Violet Project Plants Doing?**

Welcome back and Happy New Year! This month's meeting will focus on our African violet project plants. We'll also have some fun playing Leaf Bingo

### **February 22 - A Tour of the Harmony Greenhouse via Pictures**

Laura is putting together a picture tour of the Harmony Greenhouse in Apopka and will give a power point on that topic. There will be many beautiful and interesting photos at this meeting.

### **March 22 - It's All About Trailers!**

Discover the wonderful world of African violets called trailers. This topic is by request of the members. We'll explore culture, the many types and growth habits of trailers and how to care for them. We'll see examples of blue-ribbon show winners and receive many tips from successful grower and award winner, Beth Promersberger, on how she grows her trailers.

### **April 26 - Grooming Your African Violets and Other Gesneriads for Optimal Health and Display**

Join us for a meeting about grooming your African violets and other gesneriads for optimal health and display. You will learn many interesting and easy tips to keeping your violets clean and happy. We are also prepping our violets and other gesneriads for our annual show and sale and will have hands-on demonstrations of that process. Feel free to bring your plants and grooming tools if you wish assistance with your own plants. Delicious refreshments are served at each meeting and all guests are always welcome!

### **May 24 - African Violet Basics**

This month's meeting is always fun and informational. We will present the basics of African violet growing and care. We are anticipating many new members from our show and sale contacts and this will be great information for our newer or novice growers and a wonderful review for our members maturing in that knowledge. We always discover something new for everyone!

### **June 22 - Officer Installation & Methods of Watering and Potting African Violets and Gesneriads**

Our AVCO officers for the 2014-15 year will be installed at this meeting followed by delicious refreshments. The format of our program, Methods of Watering and Potting African Violets and Other Gesneriads, will be a fun workshop! We'll explore and demonstrate many ways of watering and potting America's favorite houseplant, the African violet, as well as, her cousins, other gesneriads. We'll use hands-on techniques to repot older plants, put down leaves, and separate babies during the workshop. Members are encouraged to bring newspapers, potting supplies, including pots, soil and other necessary tools. Please come prepared with your older plants, babies that need separated, and leaves to work with during the workshop. We'll also assist you with anything you need help with during the workshop. Supplies and soil will be for sale if you run out.

### **July 26 - Meet and Greet**

We want to invite all guests and visitors to this meeting for a wonderful get to know you better program. We'll have wonderful refreshments and interesting learning games. We'll have a wonderful time learning more about each other during our "meet and greet". There will be delectable refreshments and a game of Violet Bingo where we will learn a great deal about the world of violets! Prizes will be awarded. This is sure to be a fun meeting ending with our raffle, so you won't want to miss it!

### **August 23 - Special Speaker on Design**

We are very pleased to announce a very special speaker for August. Mary Lou Harding is always a big hit with her designs and has won many, many awards for her outstanding creations in all areas of design. You don't want to miss her instruction on one of those design topics.

### **September 27 - What, Another Project Plant? Workshop and Identifying Pests**

We will be receiving our project plants this month! Thus, the focus of this month's program is a workshop on properly repotting and grooming our project plant. If we have time, we'll go over identifying and getting rid of common African violet pests.

### **October 25 - Field Trip to the AVCF Show and Sale**

The Annual African Violet Council of Florida (AVCF) show and sale falls on our meeting date this month. Since so many of our members participate and show in this event, there will be a field trip to the show.

### **November 15 - Leaf Extravaganza**

This workshop is always a hit with our members. Ten to fifteen plants will be provided along with soil, markers, plant tags, and other materials. The members will learn the appropriate methods for planting about a dozen leaves. Members are encouraged to bring their own table coverings such as newspaper and any other items they wish to bring for this process. Next year, members can bring in the tray of plants they started as leaves for show and tell, trading, and help with separating them if they desire.

### **December 13 - AVCO Christmas Gathering!!**

### **January 24 - Special Speaker on Other Gesneriads**

### **February 28 - Workshop/Hands-on**

Members will bring in the plants they started as leaves back at the November meeting for show and tell, trading, and help with separating them if they desire. Also members can bring in plants to divide and/or repot. Members are encouraged to bring the necessary equipment for this hands-on workshop including newspapers, pots and potting accessories.

We meet monthly at 10:30 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of the month (with the exception of meeting the third Saturday in November and no official meeting in December) at the Marion County Sheriff's Office, 9048 S.W. Highway 200. Check out the website at <http://www.AfricanVioletClubofOcala.org>.