



# Newsletter

of the  
**Toronto African Violet and  
Gesneriad Society**

*We're not strangers - only friends you have not met!*

**Vol. 1 - No. 1**

<http://tavgs.ca/>

**January 2018**

*"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." ~ Edith Lovejoy Pierce*

## **Vice President's Message**

Happy New Year to All! I hope you enjoyed a festive season and stayed warm during some extremely cold days. The winter prediction for this year is that it would be colder than last and so far that prediction is on track. Mother Nature is ultimately in control. At least we have control over our indoor environment and can enjoy an array of plants to help us pass these cold winter days as we look forward to not only spring but the spring show(s).

Before we look at upcoming shows, let's take a look back at 2017, specifically to November where, following three years of discussion, members voted to accept the Seventh Draft Bylaws for the new "Toronto African Violet and Gesneriad Society". A second vote was cast for the new society name to better reflect what we have become. Not only has this been accomplished but our newsletter editor and webmaster Stan Sudol sprung into action and developed and introduced the new web site for the TAVGS, available to all at <http://tavgs.ca/>. Thank you Stan it's a welcoming and informative site to be appreciated and enjoyed by all.

Now, we move on to an exciting new year of meetings and, as the saying goes, on with the show(s) and I say shows, plural, as we not only will host our own spring show and sale on Sunday April 8th (setup up Saturday April 7th), with the appropriately named theme of "Come Together" but there are two additional conventions that will be relatively close to home. The African Violet Society of America and the African Violet Society of Canada will host a joint convention in Buffalo, New York from May 20th to the 27th and to top it off the Gesneriad Society Convention will be held from July 3rd to the 7th in Framingham, Massachusetts, located less than 30 miles from Boston.

I hope you will find time to attend one or both of these conventions; you will be treated to an amazing selection of plants which abound on the show tables, have opportunity to attend lectures featuring experienced growers, enjoy informative and fun side trips and mix and mingle with conventioners over meals to talk shop about our favourite plants and enjoy each other's company. Conventions provide an amazing opportunity to learn, connect and make great friends and memories.

In closing, your executive wishes you the best of health, happiness and good growing in 2018.



**Sue**



**You're invited to attend the next meeting on  
Sunday, January 14, 2018  
at the  
Toronto Botanical Garden  
777 Lawrence Avenue East at 2:00 P.M.  
Garden Hall Please bring a guest**



**The program will include  
Elections  
"African Violets,  
Miniature and Semi-miniature"  
Speaker: Brett Flewelling  
Mini Show, Sales Table  
Show & Tell**

## **TGS 2017-2018 EXECUTIVE**

### **PRESIDENT:**

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(Open)

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### **Editor's Deadline:**

Three weeks prior to the next meeting.

### **TORONTO GESNERIAD SOCIETY**

is an affiliate of the  
*The Gesneriad Society, Inc.*

We publish this newsletter monthly  
except July and August.

Annual memberships are available at the  
following rates: Individual: \$20.00  
Inquiries to our:

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<http://tavgs.ca/>



## **Playback by The Listener**

Our December 10<sup>th</sup> Holiday Social and Pot Luck was attended by thirty-five members.

We were supposed to have elections for the Executive, but we only had one nomination, so it has been postponed until the January meeting. There was a lot of negotiation and discussion with possible candidates and it appears we have a slate of nominees to present to the membership.

We would like to thank all members of the current executive for all the work that you have done over the past couple of years and wishing you all the best in your future endeavors.



The Pot Luck was incredible, something for everyone, and lots to go around.

Nasrin Jahed took some pictures and posted them on the TAVGS Facebook page,

a couple are reproduced here.

Arthur Jenkins handled the Chinese Raffle, with his usual flair. He also held an Auction of one African Violet and three bubble bowls full of pink/white Episcia plants. Thanks Arthur, and thanks to the people that brought items for the auction and raffle.



## **Happy New Year!**

## Holiday Pot-Luck Social December 10, 2017

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**Judy Zinni and  
Susan Cheung**



**Nasrin Jahed and  
Pat Barnett**



**Peter and  
Belinda Kok**





**Uwe Fedde and Sonia Brock**



**Joseph and Alla Smirnova**



**Thomas Vandebussche and Marianna Hollerbach**



**Audrey Burry-Plunkett and Jackie Mills**



**Dmitry and Irina Firer**



**Gillian E. Smith and Sue Smith**





**Patrick Smith and Marina De Souza**



**Sonja Sinclair and Robert Hall**



**Deanna Belli and Ron Myhr**



**Bev and Bruce Williams**



**Paul Lee and Doris Brownlie**



**Erwin Mertens and Leyla Eghbali**

**Show Awards  
Doris Brownlie**

Now that the holidays are over we must begin to look forward to one of our main events of the year, our annual show. This year we plan to keep with the custom of the violet show receiving awards and the gesneriad show receiving certificates because we have some perpetual awards from the former society which we must honour. Besides these awards we usually ask for award donations from the members to cover the cost of \$5.00 for the best in each class and slightly higher awards for best in section and over-all best in the show.

Emma Bygott and I have agreed to the unenviable task of collecting these awards, starting at the January meeting. Please approach us during the social time with your donations as neither of us are too nimble on our feet. We will accept any amount. It all helps to keep the budget healthy and shows that you are willing to participate in the show even if your plants are not growing to your complete satisfaction.

Looking forward to seeing you in January,

*Doris*

**Stan Sudol nominates:**

Please consider the following for the 2018-2019 executive.

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| President          | Paul Lee   |
| 1st Vice President | Sue Smith  |
| 2nd Vice President | Julie Thompson   |
| Past President     | Steve Kerr (as a Director)   |
| Secretary          | Karin Brockmueller   |
| Treasurer          | Doris Brownlie   |
| Directors          | Bev Williams<br>Bruce Williams<br>Bill Simpson<br>Steve Kerr (as Past President) |



**Julie Thompson and Emma Bygott**



**Stan Sudol and Karin Brockmueller**



**Arthur Jenkins**