

# VioletsFun

The Violet Barn newsletter

June 2018 - No. 52

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For best results, view in HTML

**(Some of) What's New:**



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**Our calendar:**

**June 19, 2018.**

International orders must be placed by this date for shipment week of June 25.

**July 6-7, 2018.**

**Gesneriad Society Convention Show.**

Held at the Sheraton Hotel, in Framingham, MA. Open to public Friday 2:30-6:30 and Saturday 8:30 to 3:00 pm.

For more info:

[www.geseriadsociety.org](http://www.geseriadsociety.org)

**Free stuff and how to get it!**

**2019 AVSA Show awards.**

Best Robinson collections  
1st place: \$200  
2nd place: \$100

Congratulations to Sandra Skalski and Kathy Lahti, winners of these awards at the 2018 show!

**Write a review.**

Write a review before ordering, good or bad, we'd like to know. Get a free plant added to order.

**Contact us:**

email. [comments@violetbarn.com](mailto:comments@violetbarn.com)

mail. POB 9, Naples, NY 14512



**Ma's Double Charm.** Large, very fluffy, fully double, sparkling pink carnation blooms with rose tones. Medium green quilted, foliage. Compact, standard.

**Ma's Pink Pistol.** Sdbl. white pansies with wavy pink edges. Quilted, medium green foliage. Compact standard

**LE Copper Horseman.** Very aptly named, an exotic bloomer. Heavily ruffled, white to coppery-pink double blooms with frilly, deep green edges. Medium green, ruffled, foliage. Standard..

**Bristol's Turkey Tracks.** A new streptocarpus with large white blooms having yellow throat and pink lower lobes, with the look of "turkey tracks". An eye-catcher with compact, flat growing foliage.

**Many more!** These are just *some* of the new varieties that have been listed in the past month.

**What's News:**

**AVSA/AVSC 72nd Annual Convention in Buffalo, NY.**

This year's convention show seems to have been a big success. Being in our "neighborhood" we had a chance to bring more plants (more than 1,000 plants in bloom were on our sales table) than we have in recent years when we've had to fly, and ship plants ahead.

As always, there were many wonderful exhibits--showplants and designs. Best in Show was won by Debbie McInnis. We were pleased to see some of our hybrids winning top awards, '[Rob's Love Bite](#)' as best miniature, and '[Rob's Fuddy Duddy](#)', as best semiminiature in show. Sandy Skalski won \$200 for the Best collection of Robinson hybrids with three trailing varieties--'[Rob's Gundaroo](#)' was spectacular! Kathy Lahti won the \$100 2nd place award for three seminiatures.

Another thank you to all who attended the show for the first time and/or visited upon our recommendation. We gave away a few dozen free plants to those who brought their

**phone.** 585-374-8592  
Mon. thru Sat., 12-5 pm ET

copy of 'VioletsFun' with them, and gave away the daily gift baskets to customers of our sales booth. Please come again!

**Our shop and glasshouse at:**  
7209 County Road 12  
Naples, New York 14512

To view more photos from the show, visit our [facebook](#) page.

#### **Inventory updates:**

Open to public Wed-Sat, 12-5 pm

After a short absence, '[dandy pots](#)' are available again. Our apologies for the listings of some items being more limited than usual recently. We shipped a record number of orders in April and May, in addition to the recent show, and are trying to "recover". We're growing more as best we can, and online listings will improve as plants become mature enough to ship.

#### **Are you a member?**

Consider joining the African Violet Society of America. Sign up through [our](#) website and get a free plant! For more information on AVSA, visit [www.avsa.org](http://www.avsa.org)

#### **This month's question:**

I have a '*Chicago Flair*' that I purchased from you last year. It has done spectacularly! I currently have it in a 4" pot, but it is now about 12" in diameter and has been in the same pot since it was purchased 6 months ago.

Has your collection grown far beyond violets? Consider joining the Gesneriad Society. For more info: [www.gesneriadsociety.org](http://www.gesneriadsociety.org)

I have a couple of questions: 1. Should I go ahead and repot it after coming out of a 2.5" pot? 2. Should I repot it into a larger pot and the leaves as is? 3. Should I remove some of the lower leaves, root prune, and then repot into the same 4" pot, or leave it alone for a month or two?

*From the size that we ship (2.5"), the plant can go into a 4" pot. This is usually sufficient when a standard African violet is grown as a houseplant (i.e. your 12" diameter plant). About every 9-12 months, you'll need to repot your plant into this size (4") pot. The idea is to give the roots some fresh soil and to lower the plant in the pot to eliminate any neck that likely will develop as older, outer, leaves have naturally been lost or removed. This usually means removing at least some of the lower rootball, so you can sink the plant lower in the pot and cover the neck with fresh soil.*

*You don't need to purposely remove additional leaves, though we do, simply because we like to give the plant as much of a "fresh start" as possible. We have a saying here, "if the old doesn't go, the new won't grow".*

*If you choose to grow a much larger plant--a "show" plant for example, perhaps a 5" or 6" pot can be used. You can leave the root ball and leaves intact. Fill the larger pot with soil, and using an empty 4" pot, make a hole in the center of the pot, like a "jello mold". Remove your plant from its current 4" pot (carefully to keep the soil and rootball in one piece), and drop into your pre-formed hole. If you disbud as well, this will encourage a larger plant with larger leaves.*

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