

THE TUCSON AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
BY-LAWS
AMENDED: October 2012

ARTICLE I NAME

1. The name of the organization shall be the TUCSON AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY, herein referred to as "TAVS."

ARTICLE II NONPROFIT PURPOSE

1. The purpose of TAVS is to establish an organization of persons interested in growing African Violets; promoting the propagation and distribution of African violets in a desert climate; and educating the membership, as well as the public, about African violets.
2. TAVS has been recognized under the Internal Revenue Code as a 501 (c) (4) organization since June 1974, and is exempt from Federal Income Tax. However, because TAVS is not an organization described in section 170 (c) of the Code, donors may not deduct contributions made to TAVS.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in TAVS shall be open to persons interested in growing, showing, promoting and/or learning more about African violets.

ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, section Vice Presidents, section Secretaries, and the Treasurer, who shall govern and direct TAVS.
2. The Executive Board shall have the following responsibilities:
 - a) Negotiate and award contracts for plants to be sold at the shows and sales, project plants, school plants, and any other groups of plants purchased with TAVS money, when approved by a quorum;
 - b) Appoint other "Positions" as needed to further the interests of the club;
 - c) Make decisions not otherwise directed by the By-Laws or "Robert's Rules of Order."

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

1. Each Section shall hold meetings at a suitable time and place in all months except when joint meetings are held in December, May, June, July and August, or as needed for special programs.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS

1. A Nominating Committee of two representatives from each Section and a member of the previous year's Nominating Committee shall be appointed at the January meetings by the President. The previous member of the committee shall serve as the Chairperson. No current Executive Board member shall serve on the committee.
2. The Nominating Committee shall submit a list of candidates for the positions on the Executive Board, to serve for a term of two (2) years, to be announced at the March section meetings. Candidates cannot serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same office. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at this time. No member may be nominated for more than one office.
3. Elections shall take place at the April section meetings by those members present. **NO PROXY VOTES SHALL BE ALLOWED.** If there are two or more candidates for an office, written ballots shall be required. Ballots shall be sealed and counted by members of the Nominating Committee at each section meeting and reported to the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall notify the President and the new officers of the election results prior to the May meeting.

4. The outgoing President at the May combined meeting shall announce and install the new officers. At that time, the incoming President shall be presented with a pin.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS (continued)

5. In case an officer cannot fulfill his or her term of office, the Executive Board shall appoint a member to fill the position until the next election, when a permanent replacement can be elected. In case the President cannot fulfill his or her term of office another President shall be elected.

ARTICLE VIII. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

1. See Roberts Rules of Order for Officers and General Membership

ARTICLE IX. GENERAL

1. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings in matters NOT covered by these Bylaws.
2. In matters not addressed by the Bylaws and/or Robert's Rules of Order (Revised) the Executive Board will make decisions.
3. A majority of the membership in attendance shall constitute a quorum for regular TAVS business. A hand count is required for each motion voted on. Votes should be counted by two persons and recorded by the Section Secretary. (In the event a member attends other section meetings during a month, that member may not vote more than once on the same item.) In case of a tie vote, the presiding officer shall cast the deciding vote.
4. The Executive Board shall determine an appropriate gift, not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for guest speakers.
5. TAVS shall in no way be responsible for the personal actions or opinion of any single member.
6. Members who sell plants or other items at meetings shall contribute ten percent (10%) of the proceeds to TAVS.

SECTION X. AMENDMENTS

1. The bylaws of TAVS may be amended after the amendment has been presented in writing to the membership at least one (1) month prior to the regular section meetings when a vote will be taken. Passage requires a majority of those present and voting as totaled from each section meeting.

SECTION XI. Dissolution

1. If TAVS should be dissolved any funds on hand shall be donated to the Boyce Edens Research Fund, a 501 (c) (3) Federal Internal Revenue Code educational fund. The library shall be donated to the Tucson Botanical Gardens or an organization interested in African Violets, to be chosen by the Executive Board.