

Englewood Area Orchid Society



April, 2023

also at EAOS.ORG

From the President's Desk

Recently my friends, Charlie & Pat Rose of Port Charlotte had to sell their home and relocate to South Port Square. Charlie has been active in the orchid world for many, many years. Now at South Port Square, he has organized an orchid club for the residence. On Saturday of the show, they and 11 others boarded their bus and came to the show. What a surprise to see Charlie and Pat and how nice of them to bring the others to our show. They all had a great time and I sent them home with some of the orchid magazines for their reading pleasure.



After lots of planning, etc. our March 3 & 4th, 2023 show arrived. With the help of so many wonderful volunteers we were able to have a beautiful display. Everyone thought all three displays were really lovely and they were! Well done Ken and your helpers. Lots of people showed up to help set up the room for the show. Many more helped by bringing food or drink for the volunteers and vendors. Many more helped by volunteering their time to work the different stations of the show: admission, raffle, culture, and membership. When the show was finished, the troops came out again to help take down the show and pack the trailer.

I cannot thank you all enough for your tireless help and stepping up to help make our show one of the best that we've had. I give you a heart felt "THANKS"!

It was nice to see some of the new members who had signed up at the show come to their first meeting. We welcome them and our other 7 new members who joined last night. We look forward to getting to know you and having you become a participating member of our society.

Calendar

Meetings (except Aug. and Dec.) are on the 3rd Monday of each month at St. David's Episcopal Church, 401 S. Broadway, 6:30 pm.

Apr. 17 – Regular meeting - 6:30
Plant Table setup, 7:00 meeting.
Rick Belisle – speaker

May 15 - Regular meeting - 6:30
Plant Table setup, 7:00 meeting.
Roy Krueger - speaker

March Plant Table



First Place – Den. Oriental Smile 'Fantasy'
- Debra Remic

Dr. Tatiana Arias gave a very informative and interesting talk about her work with Selby Gardens. She told us a little about her expeditions to Columbia where she has done a lot of traveling and teaching and working with communities to develop orchid nurseries, etc. I am sure it has been rewarding work for her.

Next month we will be having Rick Belisle speak and give his presentation of Orchids 101 which will be great for new people and a good refresher to us about orchids and their care, etc. Be sure and come to hear him speak.

In April we will start to sign up for our June picnic. The society will provide the main food and you may sign up, if you'd like, to bring sides and desserts. It should be a fun evening. What is better than food and fellowship with others orchid lovers?

Mary Anne DiGrazia, EAOS President



Speaker Dr. Tatiana Arias at the March meeting.

Dues are payable for 2023.

Just a reminder that we are in a new year and that dues of \$15 per household are now payable. This helps to cover expenses for our meeting place and speaker. Be a member and pay your dues now. You can send your renewals to: EAOS, P O Box 257, Englewood, Fl. 34295.

Raffle Table

When you are dividing your plants, keep the society in mind. If you have an extra division, think about donating it to the raffle table. You would be helping your society. Other donations such as potting supplies hangers, baskets, any orchid supplies that you don't need, would be welcome. Thanks for considering this.



2nd Place: Den. Unknown Hybrid – Holly DeVogt



3rd Place: Den. Unknown Hybrid – Kitty Saddler



3rd Place: Phal. Oh My God – Debbie Robbins



3rd Place: Phal Unknown Hybrid - Bonnie Swanson

Membership Committee Update

We surveyed members at the March 20th meeting and received excellent feedback. Some of the ideas for our Committee to work on:

Social Media Presence – Facebook, Next Door App, other apps?
Meeting Format – Changes – not just speakers, hands-on workshops, plant swaps, ID help for unnamed orchids, general tips on repotting
Reach out to Rotary, Chamber, Libraries, Schools, Realtors, Nurseries, Flower Shops, Englewood Farmers Market, Boys & Girls Clubs, Master Gardeners, Garden Clubs.
Membership Packet for new members
House Tours/Trips
Orchid Trouble Shooting Team
Reports at Meetings from Board and Committees
Youth Table at Shows
Affinity Groups – Phalaenopsis, Dendrobiums, Cattleyas, etc.
More Social Events
More Speakers for Beginners
Orchid of the Month
Time Management for Meetings; Speakers for half an hour; more time for social/raffle etc.
Hibiscus Festival -- Punta Gorda
Home Shows Booth
HOA meetings – Rotonda, South Gulf Cove, Gulf Cove
Institute more regular Board Meetings

For information about joining the committee or ideas on membership, contact Terri Carr at tviohl@live.com

April Speaker

The speaker at the April meeting is Rick Belisle for VAOS. Rick has been growing orchids since 2009 when, in a meeting of newcomers to the Venice area, he heard that “orchids offer you the opportunity to have color year round.” He joined the Venice Area Orchid Society to learn more about the concept, and now has approximately 100 orchids in his collection. He is an active member of VAOS, is the Mentoring Program Coordinator for the club, as well as the Director of Training and Education. He has taught classes on orchids and orchid care in orchid shows and to orchid clubs, garden clubs and other service clubs. His topic is “Orchids 101.”

EAOS Now On Facebook

If you are a facebook user, you will find an Englewood Orchid Society page on facebook. We thank Michelle McClenney Speyrer for setting it up and starting the society off on social media.



Speaker's Choice: Alcra. Marfitch
'Howard's Dream' – Holly DeVogt

In Memoriam

Member Carol Wood has recently lost her husband, Doug, after a long illness. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the family.

2023 Show Sponsors

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TREASURERS REPORT

FEBRUARY 2023

BALANCE		\$17,793.32
INCOME		
	SHOW VENDORS	1,050.00
	SPONSORS	300.00
	AWARD	50.00
	RAFFLE	52.00
	DUES	185.00
	INTEREST	0.27
	TOTAL	1,637.27
EXPENSES		
	SHOW EXPENSES	1,808.84
	SPEAKER	285.00
	TRAILOR STORAGE	600.00
TOTAL		2,690.84
ENDING BALANCE		\$16,739.75

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
HELEN MCCLASKIE, TREASURER

EAOS Officers

President – Mary Anne DiGrazia
V.P. – Matt Palucci
Treasurer - Helen McClaskie
Recording. Sec. – Laurie Motter
Corresponding. Sec. – Jami Hess



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March Minutes

Minutes of EAOS Meeting March 20, 2023

Meeting was called to order by President Mary Anne DiGrazia welcoming all guests and new members and to all our returning members. Nice to have you all here.

I'd like to introduce the officers of the society. Please stand up to be recognized. Mary Ann DiGrazia, President; Matt Palucci, Vice President; Helen McClaskie, Treasurer; Laurie Motter, Recording Secretary; Jami Hess, Corresponding Secretary.

Dues are now payable for 2023 at \$15 per household. This is quite a bargain as it helps pay for the rental on this room, our speakers among other things. Please make your check payable to Englewood Area Orchid Society. If you haven't paid yet, please do so on the break.

Plant Table: Please bring your blooming plant to show off at the meeting. Vote for your favorite plant on the plant table. The top 3 will be our winners. Thanks for bringing in the lovely plants.

We will be having Culture Classes at 6:30 at the meetings. You can bring troubled plants for answers. Great way to get extra training and more orchid knowledge. We need a volunteer to conduct the classes.

Old Business:

Englewood Orchid Show:

We had a very successful show. Attendance was 1,060 which was great. I am still working on the figures from the show, but we can all be very proud of the show. The three displays were beautiful and very well received. Ken, thanks to you and your team. Everyone loved our display. Thank you to all those who brought plants for the display. Next year we look forward to having our 10 x 10' displays, so now is the time to start working on all your plants and grooming them and staking them so they will be beautiful plants for show season. It is never too soon to start staking plants. Did you know that if you stake them so that they are tall and well kept, you can have more plants that way? A nicely staked plant takes up less room giving you more room for more plants.

The vendors were all pleased with the show, which is what we want to hear. A large thank you to Mary and Edna and team who took care of our kitchen making sure that none of us went hungry. A big thank you goes to those who brought food and drinks to the show. We couldn't have done the show without all the wonderful volunteers we had for the various committees. It takes a village and the village of EAOS really came through. Thank you all so very much. I had a number of volunteers comment how nice it was to work with other members and get to know them. I hope we can continue to work together to get to know each other.

We signed up 16 new members at the show. I know you will all make them feel welcome and be there to answer any questions they might have. During the break, I hope you will welcome the new members. We all look forward to getting to know the new and old members. We can learn a lot from each other. Let's make an effort to reach out to all members and help make everyone feel welcome. We want to grow the society and encourage members to grow their collections so that when show season comes, we will be ready with lots of beautiful flowers for the displays.

New Business:

Motion to Dissolve the Society:

At the February meeting, Ken Woodward made a motion to dissolve the society. Elaine Woodward 2nd the motion. He brought this motion to the floor, I think, to shock the society into action. Our membership has decreased, as has other organizations due to COVID, Hurricane Ian and cold spells. Many of the members plants were damaged or destroyed which made it hard to put in the 3 society show displays. We need to expand the membership and do whatever we can to have plants available for the shows. I feel this society will continue on for many, many years.

We will now open up the floor for a short discussion and then a vote on the motion.

Ken Woodward spoke to the members at the meeting. He suggested many ways to recruit and retain members. To reach out to other organizations and libraries and tell them about the Orchid Society.

Was also mentioned by members to have a more structured plan/agenda at our meetings.

An idea was brought up to have a class on how to repot orchids, having plant giveaways, support groups and house tours.

A suggestion was made to have Committees – Membership, Hospitality, Plant Table, Raffle. Each committee to have 5 to 6 members so they could rotate for each meeting.

After a discussion by the members a vote on the motion. All were in favor of continuing the Englewood Area Orchid Society.

During the break, buy raffle tickets, and vote for your favorite plant on the plant table. Also, sign up for one of our many committees for the society.

Our speaker tonight will be Dr. Tatiana Arias from Marie Selby Gardens. She will be speaking to us tonight about the orchid research she is doing.

Mary Anne presented the plants on the plant table with informative descriptions of each plant. Ribbons were awarded for the plants.

Attention then went to the raffle table where numbers were drawn. Winning numbers choosing from the plants and items that were donated for the raffle.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Motter, Recording Secretary