

# Englewood Area Orchid Society



August, 2018 Newsletter

Also online at [eaos.org](http://eaos.org)

## From the President's Desk

Our July meeting was a great one. We had over 90 members and guests present for our joint meeting with Venice Area Orchid Society. It was so nice to see such a great group. Thanks to all for coming, bringing goodies and things for the raffle table. It was very much appreciated.



Don't forget that in August, we'll be going to Venice for the joint meeting with them on August 1st. Meeting starts at 7:00, but be sure and go early and check out the speakers plants, check out the plant table and be sure to bring your blooming beauties also. They always have a great raffle table, so be sure to take advantage of that. You never know what you might win.

Speaking of a great meeting, it was such a pleasure to have Bill and Doris Thoms at our meeting. Bill is such a dynamic speaker and we all come away knowing more than when we came. His humor is always so great along with his wonderful knowledge. I am sure you are like me and have tried some of his ideas already. If you were lucky enough to get his plant food, your orchids will thank you later. It really is good.

Our EAOS plant sale will be November 3, 2018 at Christ Lutheran Church outside like we always do. If you would like to participate, and I hope you do, please let me know at [tommaryanne@centurylink.net](mailto:tommaryanne@centurylink.net) or call 941-697-9237. We always have a lot of fun and you can sell orchids, supplies, or other plants. Start getting your plants ready now.

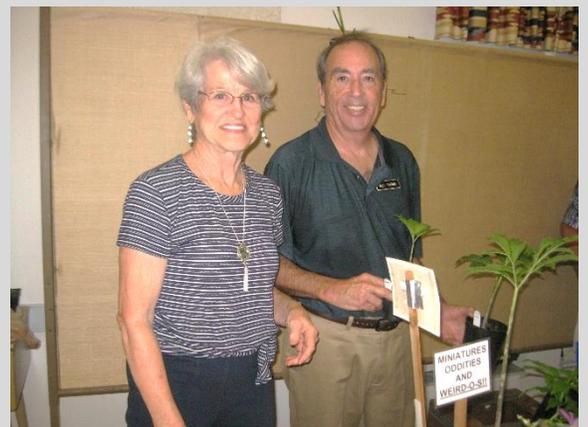
## Calendar

Meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N. Indiana Ave., 6:30 pm.

August 1 – Joint meeting with VAOS, 7:00 pm at Venice Community Center.

Speaker – Jim Roberts of Florida Suncoast Orchids

Sept. 10 – Regular Meeting, 6:30pm Speaker - Roy Krueger – Topic: Bifoliate Catts.



*Bill Thoms and Doris Dukes brought plants for sale before the July meeting.*

If you haven't had an opportunity to sign up to be a Mentor or a Mentee, be sure to see or contact Judy Russell. I think you'll find it to be a terrific help. Join us and help make it a success.

See you in Venice for our meeting Aug, 1st. There will not be an Aug. 13 meeting. If you need transportation, let me know and we'll see if we can't car pool from the church.

Mary Anne DiGrazia,  
EAOS President

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## August Meeting at Venice

The August meeting will be hosted by the VAOS. Please note the day and the time: Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 pm. The VAOS holds meetings at the Venice Community Center, 326 S. Nokomis Ave. in Venice. Starting in September, we will be back to the regular meeting schedule.

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## July Plant Table

1st place,  
Best Species, &  
Members Choice   Grammatophyllum scriptum   Judy Mulligan

2nd                      Pcv. Golden Peacock                      Joan Shamasian

3rd                      Mps. Rene Komoda 'Pacific Clouds'     Donn Smart

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## Jim Roberts speaks at the August meeting

Jim Roberts, owner of Florida Gulfcoast Orchids, will speak at the joint VAOS/EAOS meeting on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Jim has been growing orchids for over 25 years in climates ranging from cold Minnesota to hot SW Florida. In 2001, he and his wife Mary moved to Florida with a small collection of plants and the dream of operating an orchid nursery became a reality. They currently grow their beauties in three gutter connected greenhouses encompassing 10,000 square feet of growing space. Jim will have orchids for sale at the meeting.

## MENTOR PROGRAM

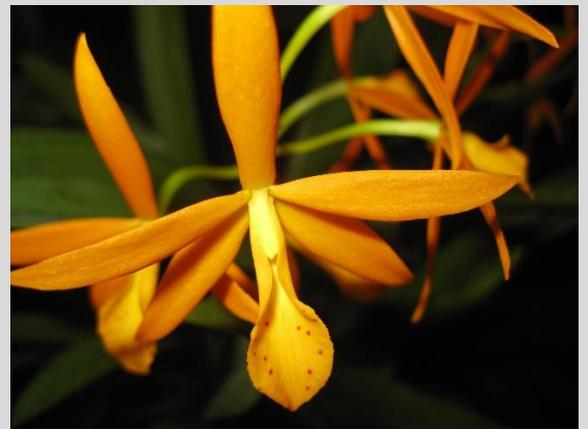
Please sign up to be a mentor to help some of our newer members or those who would like some extra help or encouragement. If you would like to be a mentor or mentee, please contact Judy Russell at [skipnjudy1@msn.com](mailto:skipnjudy1@msn.com). It is a great opportunity to learn more about orchids and give you a contact when you have a question or problem.

It's a wonderful program and I hope a lot of our members will take advantage of it.

## Plant Table



*1<sup>st</sup> Place*



*2<sup>nd</sup> Place*

# July Minutes

Minutes of EAOS Meeting July 9, 2018

Meeting was called to order by President Mary Anne DiGrazia. Welcome to all of the Venice Area Orchid Society members, guests and several new members.

## Old Business:

Our June picnic was a great success with over 50 attending. We had lots of delicious food and good fellowship. Thanks to all who attended and made such an enjoyable evening. Thanks to Joe, Wolf, Mary Ann and Gus for their extra help.

Also, thanks for those who have contributed to our raffle table with plants. We greatly appreciate it.

Many thanks to those who bring goodies for our breaks.

There is still time to pay 2018 dues. They are \$15 per household. With 2018 dues paid you will receive the newsletter and will be on our membership roll. If you have not paid, please give your check to Helen tonight or mail to our PO Box 249, Englewood, FL 34295.

## New Business:

Our August meeting will be held in Venice on August 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 at the Venice Community Center. Call a friend or two and car pool. Try to be there shortly after 6:30 to have a chance to check out the speaker's plants and see the beautiful plant table. You'll have an opportunity to get raffle tickets and maybe win something. Hope we will have a great turnout.

The Society is starting a new program called the Mentor Program. This is a great opportunity for individuals that are just getting started with orchids. We are looking for mentors and mentees. Judy Russell will be in charge of the Program.

EAOS Plant Sale is scheduled for Saturday, November 3, 2018. Start getting your plants ready to sell. You may sell orchids or other plants. Let me know if you would like to participate.

A break was taken for refreshments, to vote for favorite plant on the plant table, to buy raffle tickets and to pay dues. Also, to check out Bill Thoms' wonderful plants and his special plant food.

After the break Bill Thoms gave a very informative presentation. Here are a few tips for growing your orchids:

- Water all sides – or water twice  
Set in shallow trays for larger flowers
- Good Air Flow – Day and Night with Fresh Air
- How Do you Feed – Feed Weakly Weekly  
TIP: Water plant first, then water with food
- Bright Shade – but don't burn leaves. Test with your hands



*3<sup>rd</sup> Place*



*Jim Roberts, August speaker, in his greenhouse*

## AOS Cultural Spotlight

By Thomas Mirenda

(Originally published in Orchids August 2007)

Hot weather can increase the reproduction of some of the worst pathogens in orchids. Erwinia bacterial rot can "melt" a phalaenopsis collection in just a few days. It is more important now than ever to observe plants daily and take corrective actions. While it's tempting to drench your plants with water on hot days, constant watering and puddles of standing water on plants are vectors for these pathogens. On hot days, light misting combined with good airflow are the keys to keeping all your plants healthy.

Hot temperatures also translate into increased insect activity. Ant colonies will often invade the coarse, airy medium in orchid pots. Plants in such pots often decline quickly due to the change in pH that happens when ants exude their waste around orchid roots.

- Cleaning and Grooming  
Clean leaves with lemon juice and water. Use a knobby cloth like a wash cloth
- Stake and Groom Early
- Epsom Salts once a month (1 teaspoon per gallon)

Joanna Shaw and Mary Anne DiGrazia 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 with winning numbers choosing from the plants and items that were donated for the raffle.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Laurie Motter, Recording Secretary



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