



## From the President's Desk

Welcome to the second decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. A New Year – A New Board – and hopefully lots of New Spikes for everyone in EAOS.



I was sworn in at our annual holiday dinner on December 11<sup>th</sup> and will be your faithful president this year. For those of you who may not know me, I'm a newbie to orchid growing – constantly experimenting and learning to determine what will work for my gardens AND still absolutely delighted every time I get an orchid to bloom. The thrill is still with me.

I lived in NJ until 2005 and had beautiful northern perennial and annual gardens but never had an orchid plant nor paid much attention to orchids in general. Well that changed the very first week I moved to Rotonda when I got a housewarming gift orchid (delivered by Blue Pagoda). I was charmed but scared. I can grow these here??? Really??? It's easy?? Hey, I'm from Jersey, don't try to pull a fast one on me – nothing that beautiful can be easy to grow.

So my journey in orchid cultivation began. The Englewood area has great resources – greenhouses and breeders, vendors, meetings, shows, friends, neighbors – orchid expertise is everywhere around here. 2010 will once again supply us with lots of fun and edification.

For EAOS, 2010 is a **MAKE IT OR BREAK IT** year. We, like so many other associations, companies, families and individuals, just squeaked by in 2009. WE NEED YOU to make our society work this year. The first few months are full of local orchid shows, great speakers at our meetings and our show in March. Come to our meetings, learn from the speakers and other members, and most importantly get involved.

Get your calendar out and plan to work at an orchid show. Including set up days, the Sarasota show is Jan 8-10; Venice is February 5 – 7, and OUR SHOW is March 18-20. We need your orchids in bloom and lots of help at every show. There are many jobs to choose from and there are lots of opportunities to learn, shop and have fun. Did I mention shopping?

The 2010 EAOS Board met last week and came up with some novel ways to make the 2010 budget work. In addition to the orchid raffle, we're going to have a 50/50 raffle, we're going to have pay-to-enjoy refreshments at the meetings, and we're going to cut our speaker expenses by having orchid cultivation roundtable discussions one month and a plant clinic another month. We'll experiment a bit here and there and make it work!

We need your input  
We need your ideas  
We need your commitment  
We need your enthusiasm

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the January meeting – Bill Fender will be our speaker so you don't want to miss it.

**Gail Hopper,**  
EAOS President

## Minutes

December 14, 2009

### Our Annual Christmas Dinner Meeting

This year we met at The Rotunda Country Club. It was a bit difficult to find, but once we did--WOW- what a nice place-loads of room-very festive-great staff, and the food was superb!!!

*(Continued next page.)*

## Minutes (Cont'd)

The members started arriving for the "Happy Hour" and we shared memories and "Happy Talk." We addressed outstanding members - their accomplishments and thoughtful "Good Deeds"

throughout the year. Pam gave out big gifts- and little gifts of love!! A gift certificate was presented to the outgoing President-John Masters.

The new incoming Board Members were introduced and "Sworn In"!!! Welcome!!!

The Sarasota Show was discussed. A table top show. "Days of Wine and Orchids". Names of plants to be entered need to be sent to Pam before or by January 7, 2010. Date of show: January 9-10. Set up on Jan 8--10:00 AM. We can use extra help

The raffle table was, as usual, a great success thanks to Bill Fender and his great plants and John Masters for getting them to us. We can use more member plant donations- members bring your orchids, or supplies

January speaker will be Bill Fender. He always has loads of info packed into his talk.

Edna McClenney-Willis  
Recording Secretary



*The Hills Restaurant provided a spacious and festive setting for the annual dinner meeting.*



*John Masters presides over his final meeting before handing over the presidency.*



*Pam Bombardieri presents tokens of gratitude to Joe Crook as he ends his term as Vice President of EAOS.*

The EAOS Newsletter is published by the Englewood Area Orchid Society, P.O. Box 257, Englewood, FL 34295:

President:	Gail Hopper
Vice President:	Mary Anne DiGrazia
Treasurer:	Rose Hutchinson
Corresponding Secretary:	Kay Heisner
Recording Secretary:	Edna McClenney-Willis



*Pam pulls out all the stops in presenting John Masters with presents to recognize his service to EAOS during his terms as President.*



*John Masters hands over the keys to the meeting room to new President Gail Hopper.*

## Treasurer's Report

### Checking Account

Balance 12/04/09		\$1,865.00
December Dinner Meeting	\$180.00	
Photo contest for Directory	20.00	
Raffle December/Nov.	157.00	
<b>Total deposits to 12/04/09</b>	<b>357.00</b>	<b>\$2,222.00</b>
check for dinner meeting	-78.00	
show supplies	-92.11	
Plants for Raffle December	-210.00	
<b>Total expenses to 12/20/09</b>	<b>-380.11</b>	<b>-\$380.11</b>
<b>Balance Dec. 20, 2009</b>		<b><u>\$1,841.65</u></b>

### **Show expenses**

owe \$500 for plant rental  
owe \$800 for hall rental  
for show

**needed before show**  
**\$1300**

Respectfully  
submitted:

Rosemary Hutchinson,  
Treasurer



**Englewood Area Orchid Society**  
**Membership/Renewal Application**

*Dues \$15.00 per household yearly*

Make checks payable to:

Englewood Area Orchid Society

Mail to:

EAOS

P.O. Box 257,

Englewood, FL 34297-0257

*Please print clearly ---*

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Are you willing to receive our

newsletter via e-mail? Yes / No

circle one