



# Englewood Area Orchid Society

July, 2023

also at [EAOS.ORG](http://EAOS.ORG)

## From the President's Desk

If you missed our picnic, you missed a really fun evening of fellowship and wonderful food. Our members are such great cooks and there was such a varied selection of choices, so I don't think that anyone went hungry.



The membership committee did a fun job of Bingo with beautiful orchids as prizes. We all enjoyed the games. There were some beautiful plants on the plant table. Thanks to everyone who came and thank you for sharing your delicious treats.

We were supposed to go to Venice for our joint meeting in August, but Sarasota County just notified them that they will be doing the floors in the Community Center, so VAOS will not be having a meeting in August. We will be going to Venice for their October 4th and their ice cream social.

We will then be having our regular meeting on August 21st. You'll be hearing more about that later. It will be one that you don't want to miss.

I am excited as I finally got my roof fixed on the orchid house. It only took over 8 months to get it done. I got a new ceiling fan too as I lost mine in the storm. That fan lasted 23 years in a humid environment, so that is saying a lot for the fan. Glad to get better air movement for the plants, which they really need and love.

Mary Anne DiGrazia, EAOS President

## Summer Meetings

As we have done in the past, we will be hosting Venice Area Orchid Society at our July meeting. Katie Caldwell will be our speaker. We will have our regular meetings in August and September, but in October, we will have a joint meeting with VAOS at Venice. Please plan on being at our July meeting to welcome our guests.

## Calendar

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

**July 17** – Joint meeting with VAOS at Englewood- 6:45 Plant Table, 7:00 meeting.

**Aug. 21** – Regular Meeting – 6:45 plant table – 7:00 meeting

**Sept. 19** - Regular Meeting – 6:45 plant table – 7:00 meeting

## June Plant Table



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Cym. aloifolium Terri Carr

# EAOS TREASURER'S REPORT

May 2023

<b>BANK BALANCE as of 05/01/2023</b>	<b>\$21,828.28</b>
INCOME	
DEPOSIT-RAFFLE	\$125.00
DEPOSIT-DUES	\$ 60.00
INTEREST	<u>\$ 0.36</u>
TOTAL	\$ 185.36

## EXPENSES

SPEAKER FEE	\$ 250.00
SARASOTA COUNTY	\$ 27.60
SCHOLARSHIP	\$ 500.00
BROCHURES	<u>\$ 255.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1032.60

**BANK BALANCE AS OF 05/31/2023** **\$20,981.04**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
KITTY L SADDLER, ASSISTANT TREASURER

## Orchids and microclimates

Forget about everything that the books and the speakers have told you about growing orchids! How could they possibly know about you and your microclimates? A microclimate is a local set of atmospheric conditions that differ from those in surrounding areas, often slightly but sometimes substantially.

If you grow orchids next to a wall of the house, you are growing in a microclimate which may be warmer at night than the area several feet away. This can affect your plants by changing the day/night temperature swing. Many orchids need this change in temperature from day to night. We think of the high temperature as the one that is important, but a 10 or 15 degree differential between high and low can be just as important for your orchid's health.

Other microclimates around your house may be found under large trees, which can temper the highs and lows found elsewhere near your home. Also bodies of water can alter the nearby climate. You may find that places downwind from a lake or river will be warmer in winter and cooler in summer. Of course, as the wind direction shifts, so does the area affected.

You can create a microclimate by using a misting system to cool a place where your orchids grow. The summer heat can be too much for some orchids. Spraying a fine mist reduces the heat during the afternoon for those orchids that may be stressed by temperatures in the 90's.



2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Catt. unknown Ginny Torr



3<sup>rd</sup> – Ctna. Why Not Jami Hess



3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Bromiliad Terri Carr

## From the Picnic....



How do you know the best climate for your orchids? The best way is through carefully observing your plants. Be advised that not all orchids like the same conditions, not even those of the same genus. It is up to you to check on the health of your orchids in the same way that you'd check on a child. The color of leaves can tell you something about how your plant feels. Look for leaves that are changing color. This is not always the sign of a sick plant. It may be a reaction to the amount of light that the orchid is getting. In the most extreme cases, the leaves could be sunburned. Leaves on some orchids may turn slightly red or purple. This shows that the light conditions are reaching a maximum for that plant. There are some orchids that love high light conditions, while others prefer shade. Search on the internet to see what light conditions your orchid likes. Don't be afraid to experiment. Gradually move your orchid to higher light conditions. Orchids can adjust if the changes are gradual, just as they are with the change of seasons in nature.

So, rather than follow what other people tell you your plants should like, ask your orchids. Listen to what they tell you.

## Orchid Fun Facts

The smallest orchid flower in the world is a hotly contested title. In the cool cloudy rainforests on mountain peaks in Guatemala, the orchid flowers of *Lepanthes oscarrodrigo* are just 0.5mm across. The plant grows on the twigs of bushes and is so minute it is extremely difficult to see, even when it's flowering. But in 2015, an equally minuscule orchid flower, *Campylocentrum insulare*, was found in Brazil and also measured 0.5mm. This tiny bloom was mistaken for a fungus until it was examined under a microscope.

Before that, the orchid *Platystele jungermannioides* was thought to be the smallest orchid flower, with a bloom 2mm across and so delicate that its petals are just one cell thick and nearly transparent. (from *The Guardian* 10/19/2022)



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