



Englewood Area Orchid Society

September, 2023

also at EAOS.ORG

From the President's Desk

We were sorry that we had to cancel both the VAOS meeting that was supposed to be Aug. 2nd and our meeting on the 21st. Seems that everyone is getting new flooring and caused both clubs to cancel their meetings.



We'll just have to look forward to our Sept. 18th meeting where Jerry Meola will be our speaker. It should be a great meeting.

Don't forget about our annual plant sale on Nov.4th. If you haven't told me that you'd like to participate, please send me an email at tommaryanne@centurylink.net to let me know. We always have a lot of fun and the locals enjoy coming out for our sale.

We have been in such a drought and now we are starting to finally get some of our rain. When it comes all at once, sometimes our plants get overwatered. Keep an eye on them so that the roots don't get rotted.

We just returned from a trip up north and got to see two former EAOS members. First we saw Grace and Ray Trp who live in Palm Coast and they said to say hello to those who remember them. When we were in Georgia we stopped to see Anna Sibille and she said hello to everyone. She has been trying to get an orchid house built and hopefully soon she'll get it done. She is growing her orchids in her kitchen on all the window sills and they looked really happy. Anna will be happy when they have their own home and she can play with them there.

Don't forget to stake up new growth and keep your plants free from bugs, etc. It won't be long and it will be show season and we'll need lots of beautifully grown orchids for the displays. Never too soon to plan ahead.

Mary Anne DiGrazia, EAOS President

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.

Sept. 18 - Regular Meeting – 6:45 plant table – 7:00 meeting. Jerry Meola, will talk about natural and organic fertilizers and pesticides.

Oct. 4 – Joint meeting with VAOS at Venice - 7:00 meeting. October 4th – Bill Nunez, speaker – Growing specimen size Catts.

(Oct. 16 – No regular meeting)

Nov. 4 – Annual Plant Sale at Christ Lutheran Church - 9 to Noon



Fall 2023 Virtual Members Meeting
Saturday, October 28th

The AOS Board of Trustees has approved the Fall Members Meeting to be held virtually this year. It will be free to attend, but you will need to register to do so. Registration link and information will be forthcoming as planning progresses.

Sept. to feature Jerry Meola

The September meeting will feature Jerry Meola as speaker. Jerry's Orchids Amore was a vendor at the EAOS orchid show. His nursery is located at Pelican Farms in Fort Myers at 4360 Orange River Loop Road. Jerry will bring a variety of orchids for sale at the meeting on 9/18.

Volunteers Needed

We need several members to volunteer to help with the raffle table. Duties would include selling tickets before meetings, at break and calling the numbers at the end of the meeting. With a couple of teams of volunteers there would not be so much on just one team to do all the work. I hope some of you will step up to help. Call Jami at 407-908-1914 or email her at jamishane06@hotmail.com. Thanks for your help.

ORCHID MAGAZINES

EAOS is a member of AOS and we receive monthly AOS magazines which are beautiful and very informative and a great way to learn more about orchids. You may take out a magazine at our meeting and just return it the next month so someone else can enjoy and learn from it. Don't miss out on this opportunity. If you want a magazine of your own, join AOS and you will receive your own copy of the magazine.

November 4th Plant Sale

It's that time of year again for our annual orchid and plant sale at Christ Lutheran Church, 701 N Indiana Ave. If you are interested in selling plants of any kind or plant related items, let Mary Anne know at tommaryanne@centurylink.net or 941-697-9237. You'll receive 80% and the society will receive 20%. Start getting your plants, etc ready for the sale.

If you have any plants that you want to donate to the society, that is great too. The proceeds of those items will go directly to the society.

We'll be needing a few people to help with the sale, so if you can help, please let Mary Anne know. Thanks.

EAOS Treasurer's Report July, 2023

BALANCE - 07/01/2023	\$20,597.57
INCOME	
DEPOSIT-RAFFLE	\$290.00
DEPOSIT-DUES	45.00
INTEREST	<u>0.35</u>
TOTAL	\$ 335.35

EXPENSES	
AOS	\$ 1500.00
EXPENSES	<u>33.27</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1533.27

BALANCE - 07/31/2023 **\$19,399.65**

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
KITTY L SADDLER, ASSISTANT TREASURER

2023 Show Sponsors

GOLD

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SUN NEWSPAPERS
WARREN LORANGER FAMILY YMCA

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QUICK SIGNS

From the Corresponding Secretary -

We are currently looking for volunteers for all of our committees; Outreach, Media, Raffle, Plant Table, Membership, and Show. It takes a village, wouldn't you like to lend a hand? If you would like to discuss it or want more information about any of these committees, please reach out to Jami by text, phone, or email to EAOS_Secretary@EAOS.ORG.

We have planned a trip to Marie Selby on October 20th at 11am (so we would need to leave around 9:45 am). We booked a private behind the scenes tour, and we will need a head count. If you are interested in going e-mail Jami at EAOS_Secretary@EAOS.ORG

We are now proud members of our local Chamber of Commerce! We are excited to start joining in on the gatherings that they have every week and spreading the word about our society. If anyone is interested in attending these events as a member and chatting about our group, please let me know. We definitely need more people to help us get out there and spread the word. We will be planning a few classes for 2024 to be held at the Chambers room, we toured it a couple weeks ago and it's perfect for some small classes, and they just bought the property next door so they have lots of parking now. Looking forward to being a big part of our community, and we hope you are excited about it as well.

Jacaranda Trace, a local retirement community has invited us to provide a display for their Health and Wellness Fair on Sept. 14. They expect to have around 300 people rolling through the halls that day. We are planning on attending and having culture sheets available to hand out and to chat with the residents about orchids in general, maybe we will gain a few new members. If anyone is free and would like to join us, we would love to have you.

Which media?

Your orchid has overgrown its container and needs to be repotted. What was it originally potted in and what should you use now? You will need to make some choices. How well did it grow in the original medium? If many of the roots are dead, then a different choice might be better or it might just be overdue for repotting.

Let's look at some of the choices you could make: no media, bark, sphagnum, rock, mixed media, hydro, semi-hydro, and the list goes on. It is not an easy choice. Nature provides all kinds of media for orchids to grow in, from tree limbs to swampy ground.

Maybe the choice should reflect the way that you grow your orchids. If you are a heavy waterer, then perhaps you should find a medium that will dry out quickly. Clay pellets called Hydroton can be used for potting orchids. They drain freely and dry fast. You might want to mix in a little sponge rock to retain some moisture if you don't want to water every day. There is no organic matter to rot, so the plants may be able to go for a long time without repotting, but because

EAOS Officers

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

Standing Committees

Membership Committee - Terri Carr, Kitty Saddler, Jami Hess, Candy Bott, Yolanda Goll, Dottie Johns, Sally Hathley

Raffle Table Committee - Joann Royal, Bonnie Swanson

Plant Table Committee - Candy Bott, Debbie Robbins, Lisa McNaughton

Hospitality Committee - Mary Commer, Mary Jo Holleran, Edna McClenney-Willis, Betsy Agro, Karen Jay

Show Committee - Mary Anne DiGrazia, Suzette Crawford, Terry Bowes

Media Committee - Ken Woodward, Jami Hess, Michelle Speyrer

Palmer Orchids Tent Sale

On **Friday, Aug. 25th** and **Saturday, Aug. 26th**, we're holding our second-ever tent sale at the nursery:

**22700 Taylor Dr | Bradenton, FL
34211**

[941.322.1644](tel:941.322.1644)

Sale hours are **9am to 4pm** each day.

there is no organic matter it is up to you to provide fertilizer almost every time you water.

If you often forget to water, you should probably include something that retains a little moisture. Bark will retain moisture. With added sphagnum and sponge rock, you can maintain even more moisture. Experiment with some of the mixtures available or try mixing your own and see what happens. These bark mixes will require regular repotting since the organic materials will eventually begin to rot.

Hydroponic growing will work for some orchids. Semi-hydroponic growing is suitable for many orchids. The plants are not actually grown in the water, but moisture is constantly wicked up to the plants from a reservoir at the bottom. This can be useful for growing Phragmipediums and other orchids that like swampy conditions.

Finally, we come to mounting an orchid. The orchid that grows on the branch of a tree, as many orchids do in nature, is naturally mounted. In your growing area a piece of bark, a cedar shingle, tree fern, or cork can be used. Some growers are using plastic or composite pegboard for mounting. Those materials absorb no water so they work best in very humid conditions with frequent watering.

Keep in mind that some orchids resent being repotted. You might see your orchid sulk for months after repotting. You must be patient and wait until the plant is ready to start growing again. There are other orchids which will immediately start putting out new growth and try to fill the pot.

If you have divided an orchid, you will be able to try different media for each division. Keep notes so that you will know what works. The next time, you will know which media to use.



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