



Floral & Gift Ideas as Fresh as our Flowers!

HYDRANGEABLEU.COM

JANUARY—FEBRUARY 2010

Welcome:

Happy New Year and welcome to our first newsletter of 2010!

A new year always connotes new goals, new attitudes, new directions. One of my goals this year is to walk my talk. I'm always telling people about the benefits of having flowers in the home. Heck, the Society of American Florists has even done studies documenting the positive effects of flowers in the workplace and as an aid in recovering from illnesses. And yet, despite all the positives of living with flowers, I rarely have them at home - maybe it's because I experience them everyday at work. I recently came home to a gift of purple tulips and in that moment of accepting them remembered why, for me, they are a joy to both give and receive: they made me smile and I love to smile! So, my resolution this year is to live with flowers, everyday - a single stem or a whole bunch - just enough to, as my father used to say, keeping smiling.

Anne



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## Flower of the Month: ORCHID!



Considered both elegant & exotic, the orchid dates back to the Greeks. However, it wasn't until the 1800's that orchid growing and hybridization took off. Much credit for the increased interest in orchids is attributed to the botanist William Cattley. Cattley, for whom the Cattleya orchid was named, received orchid plants used as packing material for plants that he received from Brazil.

He replanted these orchids and eventually one of them flowered creating a sensation.

In the cut flower industry, Cattleya orchids have been used in corsages and can be quite showy. Also popular for corsages and boutonnieres are Dendrobium and Cymbidium orchids as they hold up well out of water.



As cut flowers, both Dendrobiums and Cymbidiums are long lasting flowers. They are used effectively in tropical arrangements and their form is bold enough to make a statement with a single stem.

**Know someone who is getting married? Have them check out our Wedding Gallery; [www.hydrangeableu.com/wedding](http://www.hydrangeableu.com/wedding)**

### How To: Questions from our Readers!

#### Can you suggest a good orchid for a beginner?

A couple of good ones are the Cattleya and the Phalaenopsis. Some general rules for orchid plants: Pay attention to lighting. These plants should get indirect light, but no direct sunlight, so avoid a west facing window. Both varieties only need water about once a week. Orchids like a daytime temper-



ature of 60-70 degrees and 10 degrees cooler in the evening. Orchids also like humidity, so a bright bathroom may be a good spot to grow your orchid. If you are interested in growing orchids at home or want some in depth information, check out the American Orchid Society website ([www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)). They have a lot of good information. Next month's flower is Lilac, email me with your questions:

[anne@hydrangeableu.com](mailto:anne@hydrangeableu.com)



## Hydrangea Bleu

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### “Whispers from the Flower Fields”



"Forsythia is pure joy.

There is not an ounce,  
not a glimmer of sadness  
or even knowledge in for-  
sythia. Pure, undiluted,  
untouched joy."

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

**Thanks a bunch for picking Hydrangea Bleu!!**

### TIPS & TRICKS FOR DENDROBIUMCHID!



1. Vase life 7 to 10 days.
2. Can be soaked for 10 to 20 minutes to help hydrate the blooms.
3. Although Dendrobiums are generally sold in tubes of water, be sure to give them a fresh cut before you place them in a vase.

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please forward this e-mail to them. Thanks!

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## Eco: “Solar-Energy Harnessing Indoor Lamps!”

Hydrangea Bleu Fine Flowers (949) 454-9041



Of all the product that lurk in the minds of designers, the most common ones are those that in some way or the other are inspired from natural forms. This month we showcased an Orchid-inspired UV lamp that can sterilize your interiors using solar energy. nature-inspired lamp from designer Vivien Muller.



Vivien has designed a concept lamp that is inspired by orchids. The lamp carries photovoltaic cells on its leaves, which harness the energy of the sun and store it in on-board batteries. The lamp utilizes this stored energy to illuminate tiny lighting devices placed in the flowers. The petals of the flowers can be rotated to alter the intensity of light.