

Joel's Orchids by the Lake

Joel's Orchids by the Lake reflects the owner's love of hospitality and orchids. It is a study in taking an already beautiful property and improving it to fit one's lifestyle. This traditional home and beautiful garden sits on three acres and has been a part of Willow Creek since 1976. The original owners sold the property in 2006 and the present owners have maintained the stately front entrance area and developed the rear spaces into areas for outdoor entertaining and growing orchids.

An extensive landscape renovation was begun in 2016 to open up the back garden space. After 50 trees were removed from the property, a rolling lawn and views of the lake appeared. A flagstone patio complete with a pergola and a firepit provide welcoming areas for guests. Lord Thirty, an orange marble tiger imported from Vietnam, guards the fire pit.

As you follow the stone pathway that leads under a canopy of trees you will see a customized orchid greenhouse. Its elegant exterior provides a focal point for the garden. The interior is meticulously organized with orchids labeled and arranged along shelving. Conditions in the greenhouse simulate a rainforest environment.

A vineyard planted 30 years ago by Dr. William Webb, is lovingly tended by the present owners. The vineyard's original wooden gate is displayed in this area as an homage to its first owners. Vegetables are also grown in the protected fenced area and are irrigated with water pumped from the lake. The owners are supplied with fresh eggs by their chickens and serenaded by their resident rooster, Foghorn Leghorn.