

SPECIAL EVENTS

September 8, 2013 Greenhouse Tour Mary&Barry King Cathy Loftfield Aaron Schave October 6, 2013 Cathy Loftfield "Orchids of Guatemala" November 3, 2013 Carol Siegel "Orchidmaniacs: The Historic Legends Of the Orchid World" December 1, 2013 Holiday Party January 5, 2014 Ron Parsons "Orchids of China" February 2, 2014 Fred Clarke "Aussie Dendrobium" March 2, 2014Diana Smith "Coelogyne April 6, 2013 Ron Kaufman "Orchids at the Beach" May 4, 2014 Dr. Harold Koopowitz "A Fantastic Voyage Through Paphs" June 1, 2013 Peter Lin "Orchids for Every Day of the Year" July 13, 2014 Alan Koch "Orchids 101"

GREENHOUSE TOUR OF THE HOMES OF MARY AND BARRY KING, CATHY AND JIM LOFTFIELD, AND AARON SCHAVE 1 PM SUNDAY, SEPT 8TH

The greenhouse tour won't get to my house so I included a picture of my greenhouse above (Don't I wish...Dream on, sweetie!) However we will go to some pretty special places, especially for the desert. We will start at the brand new greenhouse of Mary and Barry King, at 7330 Ullom Drive. All the homes are off Warm Springs Road. They will be serving appetizers (so sweet...) Then it is on to the home of Jim and Cathy Loftfield on 1532 Beech Grove Drive. They have an extraordinarily lovely sunroom that blooms specimen orchids. She will kindly serve sandwiches. Finally, we will finish off at the home of Aaron Schave at 2686 Eldorado Drive. You will be surprised by his stunning atrium filled with orchids and other beautiful plants. He will serve coffee and desserts. (Orchids and food... Heaven...) Aaron also has an extraordinary backyard that he has landscaped with marvelous plants. Mary King has made up a map for us. Thank you, Mary. It is included below. Please save the map. If you can offer a ride to others or need a ride to go, tell me, and we will see what we can do. It is more fun to go together. (Last year, I organized a carload of peope for the barbecue, and I got us all lost—but we laughed the whole time...) Please note that we will NOT be meeting at the library. We are meeting the SECOND Sunday of September because of Labor Day. Also, note that we will meet at the King house at 1 pm.

CHECKLIST FOR OUR GREENHOUSE TOUR

As you go to each grower's growing area, make sure you find out about all their tips for growing orchids. All growers have to solve the problem of how to provide light for their plants, how to water them, how to fertilize them and provide air movement, how to control temperature, how to provide humidity, how to provide shelving, and how to provide the correct medium for them. Fancy or modest, a growing area works because it provides these basic orchid needs.

The following are questions that you might keep in mind to ask when visiting our members' growing areas:

- 1. Why did you choose this kind of growing area? (greenhouse, sunroom, atrium, lights, windowsill, bathroom...)
- 2. How did you build it? What kind of material did you use? Why? Would you do it again? Did you do it yourself? Did you hire somebody? Who?
- 3. How do you provide and control light? Do you use shade cloth? Where do you put different plants to provide for high and low light? What lessons have you learned?
- 4. How do you control temperature? Do you have an evaporative cooler
- 5. What kind of shelving or tables do you use?
- 6. How do you provide humidity for your plants? What percentage are you able to provide?
- 7. How do you provide air movement? How important is this?
- 8. What kind of water do you use? (tap, deionized, r/o, bottled...) How often do you water? How? (hose, sink, misting, automatic...)
- 9. What kind of medium do you grow in? How often do you change it? Do you vary your potting medium for different plants?
- 10. What kind of fertilizer do you use? How often? Do you add any other kind of supplement (oyster shells, calcium, etc.)
- 11. How do you control pests?
- 12. What kind of orchids are you most successful with? Why is that? Are there any you have trouble growing. Why?
- 13. Where do you like to buy your orchids?
- 14. What tips do you have for new growers to be successful in growing?

I asked Cathy to write something about her growing area. Here it is!

CATHY AND JIM LOFTFIELD'S STOP IN THE TOUR

Here is some information about my growing area. My sunroom is 144 square feet with large windows that face north and west. Therefore I have plenty of light, in fact my challenge is to manage the light that I have to be able to grow orchids in a good environment. The following is an explanation of what I mean about managing the light: In the spring and summer months I move the three tiered shelves away from the windows approximately 12 to 20 inches because the sun will burn the orchids. In about late June early July I have to put up sheer curtains on the windows because my room gets too hot. I have an evaporative cooler, five tower oscillating fans, (they take up less space) and a ceiling fan. I don't wash the windows in the spring and summer the dirt acts like a sheer curtain. Most of the orchids sit on humidity trays which adds humidity to the sunroom as does the evaporative cooler. I can keep the humidity in the sunroom about 40% - 60% year round.

In the fall/winter months I move the three tiered shelves closer to the windows and run the evaporative cooler a couple hours a day for humidity. All of the other fans also run all day and night year round. I wash the windows to improve the light in the sunroom. I do not provide any heat in the fall/winter so that the temperature in the sunroom can dip to approximately 55 - 59 degrees at night to try to get the orchids to spike. The picture of the sunroom was taken spring/summer 2010.



BUILDING A GREENHOUSE

Interested in more information on building an actual greenhouse? Charley's Greenhouse on the web is a treasure trove of information. Type in www.charleysgreenhouse.com and click on "Charley's Tips." They have a checklist for building, information on picking a site, glazing with multiwall polycarbonate, framing, solar power vents, air circulation, lighting, shading, and much, much more. It is truly a wonderful site.





NEW PLACE FOR 2014 BARBECUE!!!!!

We had the best time at Mt. Charleston in August. The fire was a thing of the past, and the home of our dear friend Eldine Stevens was spared. She generously hosted the barbecue at her COOL Mt. Charleston home. We are so grateful to her. Dan Mumau with the help of Mike Lawless outdid themselves with a fabulous barbecue with sausages, hamburgers, hot dogs, lamb, steak, spare ribs, salmon—you name it, they had it! How they spoil us!! We thank them so much. They are the owners of a Catered Affair acateredaffair@aol.com or www.acateredaffair.info. Give them a try. We thank Tony and Ole for providing wonderful raffle plants for us to take. You are the best. We are grateful to Cathy Loftfield and Diana Smith who led a cultural session where members could ask questions and learn from one another. I made up two orchid baskets to thank our gracious barbecue hosts.

BIG NEWS!!!!!

Eldine has been hosting the event for twenty years, and it has been getting difficult for her since she uses a walker all the time. It is also hard for Dan and Mike to carry all the food up and down the stairs. We have decided to do something different...

Shelly North, who has a magnificent home with a BIG green backyard has volunteered to host the 2014 barbecue. Dan Mumau and Mike Lawless GENEROUSLY have agreed to do the catering and barbecue. The club will provide meats as usual. Because it is in the city, the barbecue tentatively will be on Sunday, May 4, 2014 at 12:30 at Shelly's house at 6175 West Oquendo at a time when it is still cool and lovely here. We are just starting to plan this, but I wanted you all to know.

A 7330 Ullom Drive is located one street East of the intersection of Warm Springs Rd and Decatur Blvd. Freeway access is easiest off the 215. Exit Decatur and go South. Turn Left (East) on Warm Springs Rd. The first right is Ullom Drive. We are the first house on the left.

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When using any driving directions or map, it is a good idea to double check and make sure the road still exists, watch out for construction, and follow

all traffic safety precautions. This is only to be used as an aid in planning

B. From 7330 Ullom Dr to 1532 Beech Grove Dr.

- Head toward W Warm Springs
 Rd on Ullom Dr.
- Turn right onto W Warm Springs Rd.
- 3 Turn left onto Tamarus St.
- 4. Turn right onto Mission Heights Ln
- 5. Turn right onto Jasmine Creek Way
- 6. Turn left onto Beech Grove Dr
- C. From 1532 Beech Grove Dr. to

2686 E. Eldorado Lane

- 1. Head toward Saxony Dr.
- 2. Continue on Saxony Dr.
- 3. Turn right onto Bright View Dr
- 4. Turn right onto Cypress Gardens Ln
- Turn Left onto E Warm Springs Rd.
- 6. Turn right onto Topaz St.
- 7 Turn left onto FI Dorado I n.

DIRECTIONS TO GREENHOUSE TOUR A-KINGS B-LOFTFIELDS C-SCHAVE SAVE THE MAP

ORCHID DAY AT THE LIBRARY... March 29, 2014 10-4pm West Charleston Library

We have participated for 15 years in the Easter Show at the Cal. We don't get new members from the show, and we have decided to do something different. We wanted to have an educational day for the public at our library, but they would not allow it. However, the West Charleston Library was very excited to partner with us (which means it is free to us...) in presenting an orchid day at the library. They have a huge theater with stadium seating. Cathy Loftfield, Diana Smith and I are willing to present talks. We welcome anyone else who would like to do this, too. There is a big adjoining room where we will have educational exhibits and an orchid display. It is just one day, and we think it will be quite the event!! The library will feature orchid books, advertise the event, and we will do orchid potting demonstrations, information on native orchids and orchid care.

At the meeting, we will take signups to be on the display committee. Shelly North has graciously agreed to help us with our display. She is, of course, the design and artistic genius of the club, and we are thrilled. MORE LATE-WE ARE VERY HAPPY (SEE BELOW)



The library has proven to be a wonderful venue for us. We have been getting lots of new members and guests. I have gotten some questions about dues. Dues for 2014 are \$30 for an individual and \$45 for a couple. If you pay now, it will be \$40 for the rest of 2013 and all of 2014, and \$60 for a couple for the same period. We encourage members to pay dues so that we can continue to get excellent speakers and pay our rent, too!

We welcome Mary Shapiro, Dallis Church, Esther Graciolott, Tricia Edwards Schade, Sayk Ochoa, Val Herring, Raquel Kurtz, Sharon Proehl, Skipp Memmer, Ed Herring, and Karen Peterson.

REALLY!!!!!

In October, Cathy Loftfield will present a power point presentation on "The Orchids of Guatemala." She is a wonderful photographer, and I know it will be a gorgeous presentation. We will have pizza party sponsored by the club from Pizza Hut and a Chocolate Bar, where everyone in the club brings in something chocolate...

YUMMERS.

Love you lots,

See you September, the 8th, 1pm, for our greenhouse tour.

Love Carol 254-4168