

'Ready for the Season'

Soroptimist's annual Holiday Home Tour 'guaranteed to get rid of any Scrooge'

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By JOHN DARLING
for the Mail Tribune

A 6,300-square-foot colonial home in east Medford, designed by the legendary Frank Clark, will be the centerpiece of the 18th annual Soroptimist Holiday Home Tour on Sunday.

The popular tour draws more than 500 people into six extravagantly decorated homes and raises more than \$12,000 for local Soroptimist causes, including the Cancer Awareness Project, CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates), SMART (Start Making a Reader Today), Children's Relief Nursery, Dunn House and others that support children and women, said Soroptimist organizer Claudette Moore.

The east Medford home, owned by Derek and Jennifer Davis, was completely remodeled earlier in this decade — and tripled in size. It has regained the spanking-new feel it must have had when it was built in 1928.

Professionally decked out by Lori Magel of Essentials Home Decor in Eagle Point, the house features Christmas trees in six rooms, with a live one planned for the big family room.

Moving through the mansion, one gets a feel for the ease and tastes of the Roaring '20s, when large families would all come home for the holidays and gather for feasts and gift-giving — and perhaps a round of caroling.

"Lori and our family have taken a house that's very beautiful and gotten it ready for the season," said Jennifer Davis. "We were here all day decorating, and it really got us in the momentum of the holiday season. We put on



A Christmas decoration rests on a couch inside the home of Derek and Jennifer Davis, a Frank Clark-designed house that will be on the Soroptimist Holiday Home Tour Sunday. Mail Tribune Photo / Jamie Lusch

Jamie Lusch

our Santa hats. Before we knew it, we were making wreaths!"

The four mantels are strewn with greenery. Tin soldiers and Santas line the walls. Two tables are gaily set for 12 and eight. A pair of smaller trees adorn the bath off the master bedroom. A ceramic village from the 1890s fills a bookcase. Cider and cookies will be served on the granite-topped kitchen island. And the winner of the recent GingerBread Jubilee will be on display in the living room.

"It's guaranteed to get rid of any Scrooge," said Moore.

The tour's five other featured homes include:

- * A two-story Mediterranean-style home with travertine tile entry, walnut floors, granite island kitchen and a big fireplace. It has a Bavarian tree and a "Duck" tree.

- * A gaily-decorated, 3,700-square-foot hilltop home with incredible views and a huge fireplace with Montana moss rock.

- * A 1950s retro house full of surprises.

- * The house of Molly Reed,

If you go

What: 18th annual Holiday Home Tour; organized by Soroptimist International of Medford; self-guided

When: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 6

Cost: \$15

Benefits: Cancer Awareness Project, CASA (Court-Appointed Special Advocates), SMART (Start Making a Reader Today), Children's Relief Nursery, Dunn House and others that support children and women

More information: www.soroptimistrv.org or call Claudette Moore, 541-941-4881

with woodsy decor and a casual, warm feeling. Lots of garlands, apples and pine cones adorn this 2,600-square-foot home.

* A warm and welcoming Island Pointe home with soaring 20-foot ceilings, travertine floors, five fireplaces, a gourmet kitchen and a theater room. This European-flavored home was designed by the owners.



Porcelain Christmas figurines are among many festive decorations inside the home of Jennifer and Derek Davis.

Jamie Lusch

The tour costs \$15. Tickets are available in Medford at Comfort Zone Boutique, 1310 Center Dr., European Touch Day Spa, 4411 Brownridge Terrace, and Molly Reed Gifts & Home Interiors, 237 E. Main St.; at Towne & Country Cleaners in Ashland and White City; in Central Point at Judy's Central Point Florist, 337 E. Pine St.; in Jacksonville at Country Quilts & Crafts, 214 E. California St.; and in Eagle Point at Essentials Home Decor, 10522 Highway 62.

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