The Carthage Book Club
Christmas Tour of Homes
"A Carthage Christmas Tradition"
December 6, 2026
1:30 - 4:00 p.m.



We thank you for attending the
Christmas Tour of Homes
and thereby supporting the civic projects
of the Carthage Book Club.
We wish you and your family a very
Merry Christmas
and a joyous holiday season!



From the first view of the exterior through the last look at just one more piece of unusual artwork inside, the large contemporary home of Matt and Tandi Moore, located in the magnificent deep woods at Lake Windermere, is very impressive. As guests walk through the grand entrance of the white textural brick home with its black metal roof and black trim and enter the front foyer with its very tall ceiling, modern console table, and enormous window overlooking the beautiful wooded area and lake, it is breathtaking. Nearly every wall in the house is painted white, with black doors and trim, but the vibrant colors in all the art, furnishings, and accessories throughout make it a very colorful environment.

The master bedroom to the left of the foyer features a modern electric fireplace, a modern tubular canopy bed, and one of several Christmas trees in the home—a green tree decorated with ornaments in browns, golds, and champagnes. The adjoining master bathroom is filled with interesting and meaningful artwork. A massive glass slider door in the bedroom offers another stunning view of the lake, and just outside is a walkway which leads to a large covered patio with an outdoor kitchen. The beautifully landscaped area just off the patio features native grasses, shrubs, roses, and river rock.

To the right of the foyer is a large open living room which is connected to the dining room and gorgeous kitchen and also features very tall windows framing the lake, and a slider door to the patio. The living room's green Christmas tree is full of ornaments in hot pink, red, and black, and the dining table is beautifully set for Christmas. Adjoining the kitchen is an enormous pantry/scullery or "back kitchen" with an extra sink and dishwasher.

Just down the hall is Matt's den, but it is also where family and friends gather to watch television. It features black walls and super comfortable furniture, a beautifully finished wet bar, and a Christmas tree decorated mainly with multicolored glass ball ornaments. Two remaining bedrooms are nearby; the first is a guest room accented with corals, pinks, and purples, and a Christmas tree and dramatic art. The other belongs to the couple's son. His Christmas tree is decorated in blues and greens, and both his room and attached bath are home to some interesting, very textural art done by a Marshall artist. A nearby door leads to the driveway and an attached area with a large putting green. To the side of the house is a separate building that houses a large man cave/storeroom with a Texas A&M-themed Christmas tree and also "Santa's Saloon." As is true of the entire Moore home, there is much to see and enjoy here!

********The Moore home is located at 106 Lazy Lane, Beckville, on Lake Windermere. From Hwy. 59N, take FM 1794 past Merket's Tree Farm. Turn right at the Windermere sign on CR 684 and follow the road through the gate. It becomes a circle drive; follow it to the fork in the road and turn right. Lazy Lane is the second road on the left, and the house is at the end of the circle drive on the right. ********



The history of the charming white Austin stone home of Barry and Hollie Kay Faulkner is as special as the wonderful home. It originally belonged to Dr. Daniels and was located on West Panola Street but years ago was split into three pieces and moved to the country by a later owner. Barry's parents, Mike and Clo Faulkner, purchased it and lived there for many years, and several years ago, the parents and the children decided to trade homes. Clo had made beautiful custom drapes for the home and also had coordinating upholstered pieces and other beautiful furniture that fit perfectly, and to Hollie Kay's delight offered to let them remain there. The front porch of the home is inviting with its rocking chairs and large planters with lighted ttrees. Entering the main entrance into the foyer, guests will see one of those pieces topped by a beautiful large antique gold nativity, one of many exquisite nativities in the home. To the left of the foyer is the living room which features beautiful furnishings, family Christmas photos everywhere, and a large tree with decorations in royal blue and burgundy and gold and a large tree skirt made by Hollie's grandmother. A nearby hall powder room features blue and white chinoiserie décor and a framed Christmas tree made of a lace-like fabric and sequined in the same blues made by her grandmother. To the right of the entry is the dining room with white wainscoting below red walls. The table, under a magnificent crystal chandelier, is beautifully set for Christmas, and there is a tree with fabulous glass ornaments and a small tree in a bowl with tiny vintage ornaments. A small tv room off the living room leads to the master bedroom, decorated in blues and greens, which houses a tree in those same colors. The nearby hall bathroom features the original 1940s blue tile, shower, and Cinderella tub. Down the hall, which is filled with vintage framed photos of generations of family members, is daughter Lillie's playroom with a Disney tree, and her pink bedroom is next to it with a vintage tinsel tree, a pink Santa and snowman, and an enormous dollhouse that belonged to her mother, featuring mouse dolls and exquisite décor. Her brother Barrett's room is next, with a tree full of his favorite ornaments and a patriotic theme with a red, white, and blue flag and coordinating quilt. The kids' bathroom has the 1940s green and pink tile and fixtures and a white tree with pink decorations.

On the other end of the house is another entrance from the front porch which enters a cozy breezeway with a wicker settee, antique chairs, and an antique secretary with vintage Santa mugs. To the right is a den with an enormous sectional sofa, a mantle with vintage handmade stockings, two pencil trees filled with ornaments the kids made at school and old framed family Christmas photos, and an absolute explosion of vintage Christmas decorations in every possible space. To the other side of the breezeway is the breakfast room which features a beautiful round antique table and chairs, a flocked pencil tree with red and white fringed and vintage ornaments, and built in shelving with more vintage décor. The beautifully remodeled kitchen features handsome cabinetry, a chef's dream gas range, and gorgeous marble countertops, but the real star is a beautiful oak "dairy table" with a leathered black granite top custom made by Barry which serves as a food prep station. Adjacent to the kitchen is a scullery/"back kitchen" with the same décor, farmhouse sink, and pretty fixtures as the larger kitchen and glass-fronted cabinets for display of the family's collection of dishes, as well as a wall hung with special plates and Santa pictures. Guests will enjoy seeing all of the wonderful things that fill every nook and cranny of this home!

********The Faulkner home is located at 221 County Road 209. From Highway 149 about turn left on CR 209. (It't's about 3.5 miles from the Loop. The house is the third on the left (in about .3 of a mile). ********



The white Austin stone and brick home of Aubrey Hull with its black trim, windows, and door creates a stunning tableau atop a grassy hill and set back from the road. Guests will be met in the front yard by a large Santa more than eight feet tall and also two tall nutcrackers on the front porch, which also features two Christmas trees, a huge red bow, and garland. Entering into the home's open concept living room, guests will immediately see a repeat of the black and white theme that continues throughout the home. The living room features contemporary black furnishings with touches of white and silver. The Christmas tree has a "winter wonderland" theme that also incudes woodland creatures, elves, and decorations of silver and white; similar decorations are on a console table next to the tree. Elves are seen throughout the home, a tribute to Aubrey's grandmother who loved elves and always included them on her tree. The adjoining dining area is full of fun and whimsy. It features a white pencil tree filled with bright, colorful, modern ornaments and topped by a bedazzled reindeer made by Aubrey. The dining table centerpiece is a set of Mackenzie Childs reindeer pulling Santa's sleigh, and her grandmother's china hutch houses a Mackenzie Childs nativity. While the home shows Aubrey's passion for black and white, it also has many accents in her other favorite color, purple, and the guest bedroom is a total purple experience, with bed covering, Santa, and a nutcracker in purple and a tree of purple ornaments, including oversized jewels, butterflies, and elves. Her aunt's handmade Christmas stockings hang next to the tree.

The home office is furnished with a desk and also antique furniture upholstered in red velvet. The Christmas tree is filled with red plaid ribbons and red décor. The room also has a large picture of Santa and a bear nutcracker. In the hall is a guest bath with a Christmas tree, poinsettias, and a nutcracker all in pink. An additional purple guest half bath features a large white decorative mirror and Aubrey's very own "Picasso" inherited from her great uncle. The master bedroom has white walls and black doors and trimwork and a black Christmas tree with black, silver, crystal, rhinestone, and feather ornaments and decorations. A large console with an electric fireplace features similar decorations. A black fur stocking belonging to Etta, Aubrey's standard back and white parti Poodle, hangs on the console with her favorite Lamby inside. The adjacent master bathroom features a large soaker tub sitting under a window with Aubrey's collection of Barbie holiday dolls standing on the window sill. The room's black Christmas tree is adorned with colorfully jeweled black butterflies.

The back porch of the home features a large Santa, two tall red, white, and black nutcrackers, and two large black and white planters with white Christmas trees decorated in red, green, and black and white checked patterns. Another feature is an outdoor bar with a sign that reads "Etta's Merry Mocktails." Unfortunately, Etta will be away during the event, but she wishes all of her guests a very Merry Christmas and a fun and festive time visiting her home.

*****The Hull home is located at 1454 West Sabine, near the Loop, and suggested parking is behind the home on Old Clayton Road.* ****



The incredible wooded lakeside property on which the beautiful home of Dr. Carl and Lynn Grant is situated is absolutely perfect for the self-described "more rustic than fancy" couple. The home and its surroundings exude warmth, homey-ness, comfort, and love of all things outdoor and all things family. The stone, brick, and wood exterior and gabled front porch invite guests to come in and make themselves at home. From the foyer entry, the dining room is to the right and open both to the foyer and the kitchen, and the family room is straight ahead. It features a stone fireplace with built-in bookshelves, and also a large console table with a nativity of stone-looking figurines about 18 inches tall. It is one of several nativities in the home, all of which have special meaning to Lynn. Arguably her favorite one is a heavy fold-up cardboard stable with ceramic figurines that are stored in small colorful boxes and revealed while her grandchildren take turns reading from the accompanying book that tells the story of the birth of the Savior.

The master bedroom is filled with family pictures and books, but perhaps the greatest feature is a framed matted group of elementary class photos from the four consecutive years (first through fourth grade) that Carl and Lynn were in the same homeroom class together. Just outside is a deck, perfect for coffee and devotionals to start the day, surrounded by the woods that go all the way down to the lake. The deck also has an outdoor dining table and chairs and comfortable patio furniture. It overlooks a large swimming pool with an enormous slide and a hot tub that the family enjoys year-round. The house and pool are located on a tall hill with a stone retaining wall, and the pathway down to the peaceful water and covered pier and boathouse (Carl is a fisherman!) includes a firepit that the family enjoys frequently.

The home's kitchen is open to the family room, and the main Christmas tree—a lightly flocked green tree filled with family ornaments and ones the children made in school—is in an area between the two spaces. The kitchen is large and beautifully appointed with very tall cabinets with glass and lights in the uppermost ones which are filled with Lynn's Christmas villages. The Grants enjoy having plenty of kitchen-area seating for their large family. There is an enormous island with a raised eating bar and barstools, as well as a large kitchen table, with yet another glass-topped dining table in the adjacent screened-in porch just off the kitchen. This room houses another smaller Christmas tree and features patio-style seating as well as the dining table, and it also offers an additional great view of both the pool and the lake.

Just outside the kitchen is the stairway to a large upstairs bunkroom/playroom that features two large built-in beds which have additional pull-out "drawer beds" underneath, a day bed with a trundle, and a chair that folds out into a bed. It has overflowing bookshelves, a tea party table, a game table, and a "Murphy Door" (a bookshelf that's also a hidden secret door) leading to additional toy storage and play area. There are two additional bedrooms downstairs where the Grants' adult children sleep when they visit, while all the grandchildren sleep in the bunkroom.

***** *The Grant home is located at 101 Penny's Path, Beckville, on Lake Windermere. From Hwy 59N, take FM 1794 past Merket's Tree Farm and turn right at the Windermere sign on CR 684 and follow the road to the gate. Enter and at the fork, veer to the left and turn right on the very next road, Penny's Path, and on the first blacktop to the left you will see "Grant" on the mailbox; keep going, and you'll see the house.* *****



The late Phoebe Sue Perlman, a longtime local civic leader, philanthropist, and beloved Carthage Book Club member, was widowed when her husband, a Carthage physician, was killed in a car accident when their son Jonathan was only three years old. The Book Club is honored that Jonathan, now a prominent Dallas businessman, is opening his late mother's newly renovated home for the Christmas Tour of Homes.

Jonathan recalls that she bought the lot and built his childhood home in 1966 when he was in elementary school, and that his grandparents from Henderson moved in with them. His grandmother died shortly after the move, but his grandfather continued to live there for several years until he required skilled nursing care. Jonathan was an outstanding athlete throughout his school years in Carthage, playing football, basketball, and baseball for the Bullldogs. He then played baseball for Baylor University and then professional baseball for 10 years before returning to Dallas for law school at SMU. He has remained there throughout his business career. He is founder and CEO of Tradition Senior Living – Dallas – Fort Worth. He and his wife Dana have two sons, both of whom work with him, and five grandchildren (two boys and three girls) ranging in age from three months to six years. The youngest is named Phoebe after her great grandmother.

After his mother passed away in 2010, Jonathan says he never considered selling the house because he really needed to continue making trips back home to "detox" from the city. He still considers Carthage home, he's still a Bullldog and somewhat of a "country boy" at heart, and sometimes he simply has to get away from busy life in the big city and return to his roots. His sons have always loved coming to Carthage, and he foresees a good bit of "grandchildren time" here as well. However, with the house now 60 years old, it was time for some renovation and modernization for it to fit his family in ways a 1966 house could not. And what a beautiful renovation it is!

Just inside the front door is a foyer with dining room to the right and living room to the left. The dining room has been spruced up with paint, reupholstered chairs, and new drapes but has kept its original footprint and furnishings. What used to be an enormous living room is now a small but charming parlor in order to make room for the extensive master suite additions behind its back wall. Straight ahead from the foyer is a small den with comfortable seating all facing the original fireplace. The staircase remained adjacent, but Jonathan had skylights added near the top and also above the landing to add light to the formerly dark stairway. The wall has been removed between the den and the galley kitchen, and a wall of windows and glass doors added to provide natural light and entry to the new covered patio and large back yard. The kitchen has beautiful new cabinetry, new modern appliances, and a large island-style bar with barstool seating. A wall of built-in bookshelves and cabinets adorns the area between the kitchen and den. The space between the kitchen and garage has been reconfigured and beautifully wallpapered to create a mudroom and laundry room.

The large new master suite area features a beautifully appointed large bedroom, master bath, and closet. Upstairs are two more bedrooms and two baths. The hall bath was enlarged and a skylight added, and a new bath was added adjacent to Jonathan's former bedroom by using some adjacent attic space. His room still has his two antique Jenny Lind-style spindle beds and the built-in desk under a window where he did his homework. Phoebe Sue's room still holds her gorgeous antique wooden bed, dresser, and antique needlepoint chair. Visitors will enjoy getting to see how lovingly and beautifully this home has been modernized for today's living yet still offers fond recollections of wonderful yesteryears.

****The Perlman *home* is located at 1019 Forrest Lane in the Kelley Park subdivision off of Bird Drive.** ****



After visiting all the homes on the Carthage Book Club Christmas Tour of Homes, our guests are invited (beginning at 3:30 p.m.) to the newly renovated Carthage Fire Department at 321 West Panola for refreshments, entertainment provided by Volunteer Fireman Brian Cumbie, and the Tour of Homes Raffle drawing which will take place at 4:30 p.m.



The Carthage Book Club is profoundly grateful to Hollie Kay Faulkner, owner of the Hobby Horse gift shop, for her extraordinarily generous donation of this exquisite original, one of a kind handcrafted Santa, created by artist Karen Didion, as the prize for this year's very lucky winner of the Christmas Tour of Homes raffle drawing. This beautiful treasure depicts the wonderful, jolly old traditional symbol of the giving spirit of Christmas in his North Pole toy shop, with his list of children and a number of the terrific gifts he has made to fill his bag and sleigh before his long Christmas Eve journey all around the world.