

The 2015 Parade of Homes Showcases Latest Looks & Lifestyle Trends in Central Florida

By Karen LeBlanc

The Greater Orlando Builders Association (GOBA) has a new name (formerly known as Home Builders Association of Metro Orlando) and a new building on Clayton Heritage Way in Maitland reinvigorating the buzz about residential construction in Central Florida.





GOBA's marquee event, the 2015 Parade of Homes™ is a must-see for design-minded consumers looking for inspiration and ideas. The event showcases the best in new construction and remodeled homes across Central Florida. "There are nearly 100 homes in this year's parade with all different price ranges and styles from some of Orlando's finest builders and developers," says Steven Robertson, Vice President of GOBA Board of Directors. Robertson is a Contractor & Owner of Steven Robertson Construction.

The Parade of Homes™ takes place over two weekends: April 18 & 19 and April 25 & 26 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. The homes on tour offer an insider's look at the latest products, technology, interior design trends and floor plans.

In the custom home category, the Parade of Homes™ offers entry into some of Central Florida's most desirable neighborhoods such as Bay Hill, College Park and downtown Orlando.

Silliman Homes CitySide is presenting Casa Elegante, a 2-story, 4,407 sq. ft., residence, located at 560 W. Par St. in College Park, overlooking the 14th fairway of historic Dubsdread golf course. "This is the first model home to appear in downtown Orlando in the last 30 years," says Bill Silliman, Owner of Silliman Homes CitySide. Silliman builds custom homes in urban areas on lots that he redevelops. "The demand is growing for people wanting to live in the city instead of the suburbs. We find older homes on desirable lots to redevelop. We are not going to tear down any classic homes, only homes that have served their useful life to make way for new jewel-box homes with the latest amenities," says Silliman.

Casa Gracioso by Silliman CitySide Homes





Casa Elegante, Silliman CitySide Homes



Casa Elegante, Silliman CitySide Homes

Casa Elegante is a model home where clients can see the custom possibilities from CitySide's pre-designed floor plans. "Very few people use our floor plan in its totality. Our floor plans are starting points for clients to modify into their own custom residence. We tailor the elevation to fit the neighborhood and homesite," says Silliman, who builds a combination of spec homes and presold homes.

Casa Elegante's Spanish Colonial facade features an arched front entrance leading to the foyer, the adjacent formal living and dining rooms. The open floor plan connects the kitchen with a large island and breakfast bar to the adjoining family room focused on a fireplace. "The kitchen

is my favorite room with modern slab cabinets and Bosch appliances that create a sleek, seamless look. You can't find this type of modern kitchen in older homes, which tend to have galley-style kitchens," says Silliman.

The master suite, laundry room and mudroom also reside on the first floor. Upstairs, the media/game room connects 3 bedrooms, each with private baths. Indoor outdoor living easily transitions from entrances on all sides of the home including a side courtyard and outdoor living space with a resort-style pool and a 2-car garage. The home is priced at \$1,199,900 with the lot and furnishings.

Some of the lifestyle trends you can expect to see in these new homes include open floor plans, an absence of formal living spaces, larger master suites and master baths. "The formal dining and living rooms are replaced by the great room overlooking the kitchen and the breakfast nook," says Robertson.

In the master bath, his and her vanities, free standing tubs and rain head showers built for two are on the consumer must-have list. "Bathrooms are embracing hydrotherapy tubs and spa inspired showers with multiple spray jets and shower heads," observes Robertson.

In the kitchen, large bi-level islands with cook prep areas and a breakfast bar are popular features. The focus on outdoor living continues with generous use of sliding glass doors that open to the patio and infuse natural light. "Outdoor amenities such as barbecue pavilions, pools and trellises remain popular," says Robertson.

Casa Elegante, Silliman CitySide Homes



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Casa Elegante, Silliman CitySide Homes



Casa Gracioso, Silliman CitySide Homes

Although Florida’s iteration of Spanish-Mediterranean architecture is a perennial favorite, curb appeal is modernizing with contemporary styled exteriors of stone and stucco.

A warm, modern architectural example is by Architect and Custom Home Builder Phil Kean who re-imagines Frank Lloyd Wright’s iconic prairie home style in his Parade of Homes™ entry. The two-story, 4,053 sq. ft. home located in a downtown Orlando neighborhood exudes organic warmth with a stone and stucco-clad exterior of horizontal planes and overhangs, walls of glass and a seamless indoor-outdoor floor plan.

“It’s a regional iteration of mid-century modern architecture that echoes some of the ideals of great modernist architects such as Paul Rudolph and Frank Lloyd Wright,” says Phil Kean, President of Phil Kean Design Group located in Winter Park, Florida.

The custom residence, located at 1060 Terrace Blvd in Orlando, has 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms and 2 half bathrooms overlooking Lake Highland with a special room for fishing gear and surfboards and a home office with an expansive view.

“We designed the home to take advantage of the lakeside and downtown views with an open floor plan and a strong indoor-outdoor connection,” says Kean.

Large porcelain tiles seamlessly extend from the interior to the outdoor living area where an infinity edge pool appears to melt into the horizon. A bar, outdoor kitchen and conversation area with a fireplace overlook a koi pond with enviable amenities such as a kegerator. Large sliding glass doors open to the lake and infuse the home with natural light. The kitchen opens to the great room with dark wood cabinets in sleek, clean lines, streamlined hardware and quartz countertops. A rooftop sky deck with seating area offers a birds eye view of downtown.

Phil Kean has an in-house interior design firm that gave the home its sense of style with warm colors, generous stone accents and wood features. “I think the color palette is timeless and classic. We aren’t trying to do the latest hot color. If you look back at what was trending in the 50s, 60s and 70s, much of the materials and colors are still relevant today,” says Rob Turner, President of Interior Design.

“I hope the home inspires people to want something better. Even if you are a traditionalist, I hope you can appreciate the fine craftsmanship and the harmony of the home’s architecture, interior design and site and perhaps see yourself living here,” says Kean. Valued at \$1,554,000, the home is not for sale. Kean designed and built the home for a client.

Custom Home by Phil Kean Design Group





Casa Gracioso, Silliman CitySide Homes



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Casa Gracioso, Silliman CitySide Homes

For architecture aficionados of the Old-World, Silliman Homes CitySide is presenting Casa Gracioso, a Mediterranean style home located directly on the 10th fairway of Arnold Palmer's internationally famous Bay Hill Golf Course. The 4901 sq. ft. custom residence features a spacious gathering area, home office, multiple patios and courtyards, and a master suite with a designated sitting area overlooking the rear courtyard. Upstairs includes an expansive space for a game and media room, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, and 2 covered balconies.

The open floor plan features large windows to soak up the surrounding view. The kitchen features white cabinets, a double island kitchen with breakfast bar and Sub-Zero appliances and opens to the living, dining, and Florida rooms. "There are many homes in Bay Hill that have served their useful purpose and the floor plans don't work or they have low ceilings that are great candidates for redevelopment. This will be our model home in Bay Hill," says Silliman. Priced at \$1,799,900, the model home includes all appointments and the lot.

During the 2015 Parade of Homes™ Silliman Homes CitySide is debuting a new architectural style in its Cottage Collection with more traditional elements. "We want to offer a lot of different types of architecture and make sure that the proportions are right and are carefully orchestrated," says Silliman.

There are 19 homes listed the custom category on tour as part of the 2015 Spring Parade of Homes™

To find out more about the homes featured in The Spring Parade of Homes™ go to www.paradeofhomesorlando.com