

Columbus Candlelight Christmas Homes Tour Slated December 5

As visitors enter the Tate-Senftenberg-Brandon House, 616 Walnut St., in Columbus for the Candlelight Christmas Homes Tour on Saturday evening, Dec. 6 from 6-9, they will be greeted by a docent with a cordial welcome and introduction and then be shown to the front parlor where Brandon family guests (costumed make-believe characters), Sharon Kuhn and Pawne Blomquist, play a game of cribbage while enjoying the beautifully decorated tree with its candles and Victorian ornaments.

Under the tree is a winter scene of a Victorian village that Columbus Garden Club members constructed and painted last year and have added new touches to this year.

Other highlights at the Tate-Senftenberg-Brandon house include Victorian-dressed ladies busy with Christmas projects such as a quilting project, peeling apples for pies for Christmas dinner, singing Christmas carols, reading bedtime stories to the Brandon children, making lovely

Scherenschnitte creations, embroidering special Christmas gifts and making dolls out of muslin.

Guests will also enjoy a children's tree decorated by local Columbus third grade students.

Ann Warner, Chairman of the Open House at Brandon House, says, "Columbus Garden Club ladies continue a tradition of over thirty years of inviting and welcoming visitors to this historical home.

This year guests will experience the celebration of a "1900's Christmas."

After the tour, garden club members will invite their visitors to have a cup of hot wassail and homemade poppy seed cookies before moving on to visit the other homes on the Candlelight Christmas Homes Tour sponsored by Columbus Historical Preservation Trust:

1856 Tait Town House 526 Wallace

Rita Louisa Tait Jackson and other members of the family will welcome visitors on tour of this

lovely antebellum home that has been refurbished and redecorated many times over more than 151 years.

Jackson is the great granddaughter of Dr. Charles W. Tait and Louisa Williams Tait. Dr. Tait, moved to Texas from Alabama in the 1840's.

As guests enter the home they will be delighted to see a 1947 dollhouse and a lovely collection of dolls lining the stairway.

Of special interest to visitors this year will be the extensive restorative work in an upstairs bedroom where the original gray painted floor can be seen and on a mantel in that same room is an area that shows three stages of color treatments through the years.

Male visitors to the home will especially enjoy Dr. John H. Huffmeyer's trophy room in which 25 European mounted horns harvested in south and west Texas are displayed along with a Colorado County magnificent shoulder mount with horns in velvet.

In the large parlor, there is

also a Christmas tree decorated with shed deer horns and deer ornaments.

There will be cookie making in the kitchen along with Christmas cookie recipes of Matilda (Beadie) Tait and her sister, Hattie Sronce, Jackson's grandmother and great aunt.

The Maigne-Walther- Churchill Home 904 Live Oak

This Greek Revival cottage with parapeted balustrade was built in 1869 of cypress with pine floors and interior walls for Charles Maigne.

The foundation and fireplaces are made of handmade bricks, and square nails were used throughout the construction.

This beautifully restored home, furnished with many antiques, has a themed Christmas tree in every room, and this year includes a German tree with lighted candles. Jo and Don Churchill will be hosts.

The Goodman- Theriot Home 737 Houston

This home was built by A. W. Willrodt in 1933 with instructions to "make, erect, build and finish in a good substantial and workmanlike manner within fifty working days from the date hereof, the dwelling-house and improvements on the...property (using) all good and substantial material from the dwelling-house now on (the) premises...for the sum of

\$1,392.00."

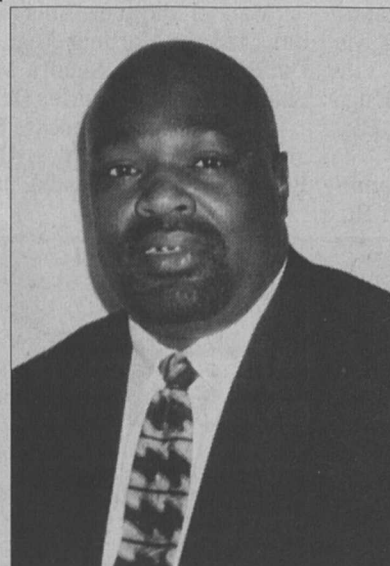
In the ensuing years several families have made this their home, and at one point it was used as "Cousin's Corner", an antique resale shop.

The present owners Shade Theriot and Donovan Goodman will be showing this home with Christmas decorations ranging from traditional reds and whites to a contemporary mixture of blues and whites.

Start the holiday season off with touring all of these Columbus homes during the Candlelight Christmas Homes Tour on Saturday evening Dec. 6 from 6-9. Tickets will be sold at each home for \$3/adult, \$1/per child over six years old.



Pawne Blomquist (left) learns the game of cribbage from Sharon Kuhn as they get ready for the Candlelight Christmas Homes Tour at the Tate-Senftenberg-Brandon House in Columbus.



To
Our
Beloved...

Malcom, it has been
two years since you
left us, but it still feels
as though your

smiling face is still present.

We miss you dearly, but we will
continue to carry out your wishes
and dreams, and that is to see that
your children and other children of
this town, Eagle Lake, get a good
education.

Your Family, Marsha, Macesly, MaChelsea
and Malcom, Jr.
The Community of Eagle Lake

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White Opal with Cashmere leather
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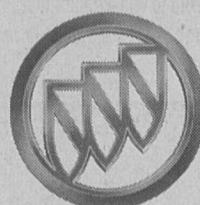
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