

# HIDDEN GEMS

HISTORIC TENNIS CLUB HOME TOUR

 modernism week®  
Official Modernism Week Event

SATURDAY | FEBRUARY 26, 2022



# THE HOMES

**590 W Linda Vista Drive**

HOME OF MICHAEL HORN

**586 Polaris Court**

HOME OF CYNTHIA RINGO & BEAT NAEF

**503 Capella Court**

HOME OF DANE NELSON

**556 Capella Court**

HOME OF KEN & TRISHA WEBSTER

**596 S La Mirada Road**

HOME OF JOANNE PETTY

**555 W Arenas Road Unit 3**

HOME OF GUY & NANCY EXCELL

**555 W Arenas Road Units 5 & 6**

HOME OF TOM PAUL & BOB LENZ

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful for the support we received from the following:

Our homeowners who graciously opened their homes and gladly gave up their Saturday to be with us and answer questions

Our volunteers and docents who took the time to be with us and answer your questions

HTCNO Modernism Week Planning Committee: Lynn Dittrick, Tempe Essell, Cristina Van Dyck, Stefanie & Peter Young

Kirk Ballard, HTCNO Board Member, managing our neighborhood social media and promoting the home tour

Mark Duebner Design for designing this tour book

Donato Di Natale for photographing our featured homes

Lynn Hammond for providing catering

Raymond Mancini & Kevin Tabor for hosting our volunteers, homeowners & staff

Evelyn Yardley and the entire Modernism Week team for making this week so special for our visitors, our city and our neighborhoods

February 26, 2022



**Dear Historic Tennis Club visitor,**

We are thrilled to welcome you as our guest today. This guide contains a map and descriptions of the open homes. We invite you to visit them in order you choose. Our knowledgeable docents are available to answer your questions. Our homeowners look forward to welcoming you. Please respect their homes by wearing masks (required) and shoe covers, which we will provide, when required. Since we are unable to service the restrooms, we regret they cannot be made available for public use.

This Historic Tennis Club Neighborhood (HTCN) is a great example of midcentury and modern design which creates seamless indoor/outdoor spaces and a casual-yet-elegant lifestyle. Our tour today represents the HTC Neighborhood with its mix of traditional midcentury/modern homes, the modern architecture of the Skye community and a unique condominium complex. Founded in 1999, the Historic Tennis Club Neighborhood community is located immediately adjacent to the downtown commercial area of Palm Springs and includes many architecturally significant properties.

The HTCN area is one of the oldest neighborhoods in Palm Springs; it has one of the first churches built in the area, located on Baristo Road adjacent to the Orchid Tree Hotel. Both of these facilities opened their doors in 1936. Pioneer Pearl McCallum McManus settled in the area and developed the Palm Springs Tennis Club in 1940. This facility brought world-class tennis to the Desert.

The tour today is sponsored by the Historic Tennis Club Neighborhood Organization (HTCNO) which serves as the association that addresses local neighborhood issues and provides advocacy for the residents to local government. Proceeds of the tour today will go towards building a new website and helping support local charities.

On behalf of our neighbors and the Historic Tennis Club Neighborhood Organization Board, thanks for coming!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tempe".

**Tempe Essell**  
Co-Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Raymond".

**Raymond Mancini**  
Co-Chair

HIDDEN GEMS

# CROCKETT RESIDENCE

## 590 W LINDA VISTA DRIVE

Built in 1952, this updated Midcentury Modern Late Moderne home was designed by noted Architect Herbert W. Burns. Michael Horn purchased the home in 2014 and began in extensive renovation to this very significant residence, also known as the "Crockett Residence." Note the intact original design elements: extensive use of bricks, glass blocks, horizontal linear design, center-opening front door, extensive glass windows and doors on north side of the house, large flat-roof overhangs, outdoor-indoor living space.

The renovation gave the home 21st century amenities while paying homage to its midcentury roots:

- a carport which was made into a garage was restored back to a carport again keeping with the original design
- a bedroom on the east side was converted from what was originally a den
- ensuite bathrooms were added for all bedrooms
- many of the interior closets were removed to construct a slightly larger kitchen

The entire house has been updated and renovated, including the kitchen, bathrooms, windows, electrical, plumbing, outdoor, etc. The house is the same footprint as the original construction, and maintains all of the significant original design features.

The home was featured in Sunset magazine in 1956 and a series of photographs were shot by noted midcentury photographer, Julius Shulman for that feature. Since then, it has been a feature of many different books about mid-century modern architecture in Palm Springs.

In the dining room, note a sketch of the house done in 1951 by OEL Graves and various photos taken in 1956 by Julius Shulman for the Sunset magazine pictorial. The owner also has the original plans for the home.

And congratulations to Michael, the house was designated as a Class 1 Historic Site by the City of Palm Springs in August 2021!





# 586 POLARIS COURT

Owners, Cynthia Ringo and Beat Naef enjoy winters in Palm Springs away from their home in the Bay area.

They purchased their home from the Woodbridge Pacific Group who won the Project of the Year Honors in the 2017 Gold Nugget Awards. Their home was the third phase of the Skye development and built and purchased in 2019.

They created a special environment by making specific design choices in flooring and lighting to highlight their beautiful art collection. You will find an original Suzie Buchholz and an inspiring glass art installation by Marcus Thessing in the living room. There is another beautiful art installation by Steve O'Neil in the dining room. There are many photographs by Steve Wolowitz. You will also find many glass figures in the living room by Ben Young, Broken Liquid (New Zealand).

Outside Cynthia and Beat designed a spectacular pool and entertaining area that captures the beauty of the San Jacinto mountains and creates a peaceful home with amazing views!



# 503 CAPELLA COURT

Owner, Dane Nelson divides his time between his native Portland home and his custom designed modern home in the Skye Community. A lifelong collector, his home is filled with many mid-century aspects from the vintage furniture to the fine art and accessories!

The layout makes you instantly feel you have stepped into an open airy art gallery. A focal piece of the living room is the 13' x 9' three-dimensional representation by Frank Stella. The piece was painstakingly transported from Portland and professionally curated. This stunning work, *Exotic Bird*, has toured several museums in the country most notably the Portland Art Museum. Note the impressive charcoal of Fred Astaire by Robert Longo, who now has an exhibition in the Palm Springs Art Museum. This example of Longo's work, *Men of the City*, was produced in 1980.

Dane uses the room off the great room as his home office which gives him a daily view of his beautifully designed great room with its museum quality art with a backdrop of the San Jacinto Mountains. You will find everything from eclectic metal Curtis Jere Sculptures to artistic hand-blown Blenko glass and an extensive collection of 1970s molded plastic Rougier lamps. Dane's world travels have amassed an Italian glass collection with over 100 pieces, as well as, significant Italian and German ceramic works.

The home's modern design and neutral palette is the perfect setting to house Dane's contemporary fine art by nationally recognized artists – and his prized collections!





# 556 CAPELLA COURT

Owners, Ken & Trisha Webster began their visits to Palm Springs by purchasing a second home in Shadow Lake Estates in Indio, where they could enjoy their love of water skiing on a regular basis. According to Trisha, "Our love of old Palm Springs and Tennis Club, stole our hearts and we committed to Skye (community) in 2018. We still water ski at Shadow Lake on a daily basis but Tennis Club is where we like to be."

While building their home, they stayed at Holiday House (Herbert Burns 1951) and fell in love with the blue aesthetic. With that in mind, they met Michelle Boudreau of Michelle Boudreau Design at The Mesa Modern (Modernism 2020) and loved what she had created. Michelle began the transformation of their home as "Covid" was becoming a familiar word in 2020. The process has spanned two years to completion. As residents of Canada (Kelowna British Columbia), the couple are just now seeing the amazing transformation Michelle has created.

The Websters challenged the designer to create a Modern Moroccan Desert aesthetic to thread throughout the entire interior and exterior environment. They were inspired by the beautiful colorful textures and textiles of Morocco. Their first purchase for the home was the Blue Marlin featured in the dining room. Their love of blue and all things pertaining to water and the ocean, are a design theme throughout the home.

The Websters love the proximity to downtown, the spectacular mountain views, their backyard bocce court on warm evenings, and the overall aesthetic of their home, which truly embraces the Palm Springs lifestyle!





## 596 S LA MIRADA ROAD

Owner, Joan Petty has been an important part of the Palm Springs community for many years. She and her husband Allan ran Desert Hills Hotel for 55 years. They decided to “retire” up the hill on La Mirada.

This home was built in 1974. It was previously owned by Jack Facinato who was a composer for Tennessee Ernie Ford. Joan and Allan purchased the home in 2002 and with the help of James Sattley construction they created a brand-new home. They raised the ceilings to the current height of 12 feet. They changed out all the windows to floor to ceiling. This house originally had heavy metal gates at the front door. The front doors and passage way doors are now all glass for a beautiful view through the house to the magnificent San Jacinto Mountain range and valley floor. The kitchen renovation includes burled wood cabinets and are a beautiful contrast to the black marble countertops. The color scheme is neutrals throughout the living areas to draw your focus to the beautiful back yard. The owners added a pool to expand the indoor/outdoor living areas. The natural grasses and landscape provide a sense of peace as you look out over the mountains. The artwork in the house is unique. The large abstract painting in the living room is a favorite of the owner, but no artist name can be found. As you walk down the hall towards the master bedroom you will find a Craig French sculpture.





# 555 W ARENAS ROAD

The condominiums were built in 1978 and finished in 1979 by Joanne and Alan Petty. Prior to the construction it was a single-family home owned by Joan McManus and her son. Joanne and Alan wanted to create a new home for themselves and their friends in the same style as the Desert Hills Hotel that they built in 1956 which was designed by Herbert Burns. This would give them the ability to manage the hotel across the street and have a bit of privacy. The architect they used was Chris Able. The condominiums were built by Bob Receburg of Receburg Construction. The backwards L-shaped construction focuses on the almost tangible San Jacinto Mountains with a shared courtyard, pool and hot tub. All the units have exposed brick interior walls reminiscent of slump stone. Each unit features a different stained glass window feature designed by Swedish designer Mogens Able. Lovingly referred to as “the compound” by current residents, the home owners consider themselves a family as they gather nightly to catch up on each other’s day. The three units reflect the three different types of condominiums that are a part of 555.



## UNIT 3

Home of Guy & Nancy Excell

These new owners visit the Desert from their home in Hemet. The long open galley shape is the same in units 1-4. There is a bedroom on each floor with an attached bath. These units were created to be separate one-floor apartments if necessary. The interior was originally designed by Mark Russell. Splashes of color and white walls create a perfect setting to enjoy the inside and outside flow of the unit. The cork floors were added later and add a fun twist to the sleek looks. The expansive upper deck provides a magical center stage view of the majestic mountains and a bonus view to the right of the iconic Frey House II perched above.



# UNIT 5

Casita of Bob Lenz & Tom Paul

This is the only one bedroom in the association. It was given to architect Chris Able in lieu of a commission. The home features a stovepipe fireplace and a sunken living room with French doors which lead out to the common area. The mirrors in the main living area create a sense of additional light. During the renovation of this unit, the owners added accent details to enhance the look of the mirrors in the bedroom. The renovation included a new kitchen and cabinets. The stained glass in the kitchen adds a whimsical look and lightens the room. Much of the art in the unit was created by Tom Paul or found in vintage stores. The whimsical twists will bring a smile to your face!





# UNIT 6

Home of Bob Lenz & Tom Paul

Bob and Tom commute from their homes in Minneapolis and Balsam Lake, WI to get away from winter.

Their three-bedroom condo is the largest of all the units in the association. This was originally Joanne and Alan's home. It is designed for living comfort and appreciation of the magnificent surroundings. The brick and ceilings of wood were painted white to bring brightness and focus views of the natural colors experienced outside. The living spaces open up to shared and private courtyards situated to take advantage of the mountain views. Stained glass windows augment the exterior views of earth and sky while bringing in those colors as the sun sets. The 9-foot entrance door is original to the home with exterior carvings and stained glass to reflect the aesthetics of the original owners and architect. The bar area is a sleek midcentury combination of stained glass on one side and sliding glass doors on the other. The hall on the first floor has the cabinets and drawers and the dressing room has the multiple drawer unit that is so frequently found in midcentury homes. The expansive upper deck provides a magical center stage view of the majestic mountains and a bonus view to the right of the iconic Frey House II perched above. The art in this home is very personal as their grandson created the bright and bold piece in the front hall.



# HISTORIC TENNIS CLUB HOME TOUR MAP

## HIDDEN GEMS



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