

If You Think You Can or Can't, You're Right

Written by Michael Dee

Back in January we met with some of the top interior designers in the Valley and gave them a challenge: to furnish an amazing mansion above Paradise Valley Country Club in less than six weeks and create the AFM Designer Showhouse 2009. I did say mansion—more than 23,000 square feet of empty space could be a challenge for some, but not this team. Some of the designers we have worked with for more than eight years and some are new to the task.

Imagine how hard it is sometimes to decide on the right color for a bedroom or bathroom in your own home. We had to get storyboards approved for more than 20 design spaces so that they would all flow together. Yes, there was some disagreement and changes that needed to be made, but I was amazed at this group of people who have so much passion and can make things happen.

I believe anyone who has the opportunity to visit this mansion will be more than happy with the results. You can learn how to take any area of a home, large or small, and make it beautiful, and you will realize how interior designers can make your living space more livable.

From a vault that you thought you could only see at a bank, to the grotto in the pool area, we are certain there are things here that you have never seen in a mansion before. If stairs are too much for you there is an elevator. The estate has views of Chase Field and the entire downtown and three, or are there four kitchens? I cannot remember.

The best thing is that the gracious home owners and builders, F.O. Buck and Brent Buck, are in agreement with *Arizona Foothills Magazine* that 100 percent of all proceeds from Showhouse tours will be directed to nonprofits. Yes, 100 percent. So we invite you to visit one of the most amazing homes ever built in the heart of our city. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to spend an afternoon getting amazing design ideas and meeting the top interior designers in the Valley, while also putting your money toward a good cause.

If you think you can or can't, you are right. We knew we could make Showhouse happen this year and we did it. We want to thank everyone who made this happen in this issue of *Arizona Foothills Magazine*.

See you at the Showhouse!

-Michael S. Dee President and Publisher

