

YOUR MID-SOUTH HOME AND GARDEN MAGAZINE

# FOOX

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## Vesta

Home Show

- *New* LOCATION
- *New* BUILDERS
- *New* INSPIRATIONS



# Classic ELEGANCE

Story by Sara P. Shirley  
Photos by Andrea Zucker



The traditional furnishings in the dining room work well with the classic columns, striking a balance between the architectural elements and interior design.

When Preston and Donette Byrd began looking for a new home in the early 2000s, they searched for a space that the family could grow into. In 2001, they landed in a 5,100 sq.-ft. Southern Colonial home on a quiet cove in Collierville.

A young family with mature tastes, the Byrds enjoy the traditional architectural features that their home affords them. They were drawn to the classic infrastructure with features such

as columns, built-in shelves beside the fireplace mantel and trim moldings.

After closing on the house, the Byrds decided to style the interior to their tastes while also embracing the traditional design of the house itself.

To help make their vision a reality, the Byrds turned to interior designer Dorothy Reives, former co-owner of Grand Interiors & Designs and a former JCPenney custom decorator.

"I first met Dorothy probably about

15 years ago," said Preston Byrd, a real estate developer. "It seems like I've known her forever."

Reives said she had a good feel for the Byrds' tastes because she had already designed and decorated Preston Byrd's business office and first home. She has also done the interior design work in several past Vesta Show homes. Her Vesta home won the Best Interior Design award in 2003. She is now a free-lance designer and her clients can

reach her by e-mail at dotr2005@aol.com or online at makeitchic.com.

Reives began by creating an atmosphere of casual elegance in the living room. She designed around the fireplace, which is the focal point of the room, and she highlighted it with a Greek Key style mirror, a vibrant orchid and thoughtfully placed mementos on the mantel.

Reives tastefully incorporated both Donette Byrd's collection of frogs and Preston Byrd's collection of Eagles into the design of the home.

The furnishings in the living and dining room are very traditional and a tapestry in the living room showcases the old world style that the Byrds prefer.

Warm colors on the walls—golds and corals combined with sage and cranberry—welcome guests. Artisan Stephanie Barkowski designed the faux paint seen on the living room walls and dining room columns. To give the rooms a finishing touch, Reives recently added custom window treatments to the living and dining rooms. The living room drapery panels are stationary and hang on each side of the large window so as not to hide the view of the patio.

After more than a decade in the home, the Byrds recently updated the kitchen. Reives worked as the lead contractor for the kitchen renovation and said she wanted to make the process less challenging for the family. She narrowed down the final selections of all materials before presenting them to Donette and Preston Byrd. The countertops were replaced with granite, a mosaic backsplash was added and new lighting fixtures brighten the room. The cabinets are a deep cherry wood and the tile floor is a soft coral.



A tapestry in the living room adds to the classical ambience of the home.

## Classic ELEGANCE



"The dark finishes are fine in this area, because the room has lots of windows and natural light," said Reives, "and the bright sunny yellow walls are also a great contrast with the Black Pearl granite counter tops."

The large open kitchen, with its expansive snack bar, is perfect for entertaining. The kitchen looks into the family's main gathering area in the hearth room, which is a more casual area of relaxation for the family. The

hearth room is also home to what are perhaps the most significant decorative items in the home—an abundance of photos of the Byrds' three beautiful children: Anthony (7), Amelia (11), and Angelica (15).



The warm yellow walls with a faux finish designed by artisan Stephanie Barkowski create an inviting and elegant atmosphere for guests.

Interior designer Dorothy Reives incorporated the homeowners' collection of frogs into the design of the home.

