The many facets of 22 Jogging Street; this home is on tour to benefit the Charleston Symphony Orchestra.

(Part left) A unique clock made from a saratope case.
(Upper right and upper left) A master bedroom that is a work of art.
(Immediate left) A Carolina chair's room has all the Palmetto State touches that are appropriate.
(Below) A formal sitting room near the pond.

BY PATRA TAYLOR

Early this month, the Charleston Symphony Orchestra Legato, Inc., moved across the Cooper River for the first time to host one of its prestigious Design Homes and Boutique, already viewed as the welcome addition to the organization's ASID Designer Showhouse held each spring in historic downtown Charleston, the new East Cooper event is drawing crowds eager to see the latest in Lowcountry design and interiors.

The F0's Designer House & Boutique, located at 22 Jogging Street in Mount Pleasant's award-winning F0's Village, was the brainchild of Lara Damiano, who co-owns ALKA Construction with her husband, Brandon. ALKA Construction is one of F0's 21 exclusive F0's Guild builders, each committed to preserving the neighborhood's high standards of construction excellence.

"In the spring, ALKA Construction donated the CSOL a small version of a decorator design house to be held in F0's, says Green Gillmore, president of the CSOL. "We've Looked forward to working with them on this unique fund raising project."

The grand three-story, 5,300-square-foot house was designed by New York City architect Joseph Creole, formerly of Boiser, S.C. Although the home's lot is odd shaped, Mr. Creole took full advantage of its assets, positioning the architecture to preserve many of its trees and other natural flora. F0's Village was specifically designed to be a non-traditional neighborhood where neighbors live just steps from each other, but the views from the designer house's porches overlook a thickets of woods evoking a sense of being enveloped in the peace and serenity of the country.

The house features a large kitchen open to the living and dining rooms, a carriage house with guest suite, two open-air porches, a screened porch and many fine finishes. Cedar shake shingles and brick, complemented by a metal roof and green Bahama shutters, add character to the exterior.

Three local designers, Regina Garcia of Design Interiors, Jennifer Patterson of Terra Designs and Cathy Spencer of Coastal Classics, worked on different portions of the home's interior design, and Sheila Wenner of Christa Curtis provided the landscape design.

The decor of the 22 Jogging Street designer house combines the amagboke with traditional European elements, making it appear like the house has been there for a long time. Since the house is fully furnished, including photographs on the walls, and clothes in the closets, visitors see they are glimpsing the lives of a real Lowcountry family.

"What's unique about this designer home is that just three designers worked closely together to create a cohesive interior design that flowed throughout the house," says Beth Warner, who is coordinating the event for ALKA Construction. "Their work highlights the excellent architectural detail already in place with this newly constructed home."

According to Ms. Warner, Regina Garcia, one of ALKA Construction's long-term versatile designers, was responsible for the design of the kitchen and family room. "She's very creative, particularly with tile work and tile design."

Jennifer Patterson specializes in design services," continues Ms. Warner. "As you can see by her interior designs in the living room, dining room and porch, she's an excellent interior designer."

Originally from the Lowcountry, Ms. Patterson worked extensively in the Washington, D.C. area before returning to the area.

"Lara wanted the house to

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What to See More?

ALKA Construction, the builder of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra League’s first I’On Designer House at 28 Jogging Street, is a member of the I’On Guild, an exclusive group of 21 of the region’s finest independent builders that have been approved to build homes in Avedon, Pleasant Valley, and I’On Village.

Each member is committed to preserving the neighborhood’s high standard of excellence. These builders construct homes of lasting character, character, character and quality. In fact, the builders are constantly “taking it up a notch” to improve new levels of creativity, craftsmanship, and elegance. Of special interest... I’On Guild member Simonelli Builders recently added “2005 Builder of the Year” to its growing list of awards. The award, presented by Professional Builder magazine, marked the first time a custom homebuilder was selected for the honor.

Structures Building Co., another I’On Guild member, is currently constructing one of the area’s first Earthcraft houses in I’On. Earthcraft is a designation denoting "green" building techniques.

On October 14 and 15, I’On Guild members will host open houses in I’On Village featuring some of the newly completed homes. The public is invited to tour the following:

13 Hopewell Rd.
Built by I’On and Sawyer
$1,985,000

22 Jogging St.
Built by I’On and Sawyer
$1,595,000

214 N. Shelmore Blvd.
Built by Tarts Development Co.
$1,575,000

19 Edenton Rd.
Built by Viking Construction
$1,500,000

36 Montrose Rd.
Built by Headlen Hulse
$1,575,000

134 Timsborough St.
Built by Built with Pride
$840,000

295 N. Shelmore Blvd.
Built by Wilson & Associates
$975,000

have a Lowcountry element and chose Cathy Spencer to make it happen,” adds Ms. Warner. “Cathy was responsible for decorating the ideal suite on the second floor. It has a beachy feel, yet blends nicely with the rest of the home’s decor.”

ALKA Construction, Inc. has built fine homes in the Charleston area for the past seven years. The owners, both natives of Bosnia, specialize in excellent design and the use of the highest-quality materials and workmanship in all their projects. “Their ongoing quest for design trends and the latest in products plays a creative signature on each of ALKA’s homes,” notes Ms. Warner.

“We chose to partner with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra League in support of our world-class orchestra,” states Ms. Dramisicic, who serves as ALKA Construction’s executive vice president. “The Charleston Symphony Orchestra League has unmatched expertise in coordinating wonderful designer homes for over 25 years in historic Charleston, and has been outstanding organizing many aspects of this project. It has been a great honor for us to work with them,”

Throughout the event, members of the Community of I’On Artists are showing art and selling their artwork on the third floor of the home. Inside the carriage house, the CSOL is hosting a boutique, selling items such as jewelry, linens, pillows, artwork and more.

The CSOL, the largest single financial contributor to the Charleston Symphony Orchestra League, hosts a number of fund-raising events throughout the year. In addition to the ASID Designer Showhouse, they host Opening Night Gala, Car Give-Away, Parties of Note, Reel & Wine and Symphony Island House Tour on Kiawah Island, which is slated to open on November 4.

Tickers for the I’On Designer House & Boutique are $10 per person, and feature a guided tour of the home. The event will run through October 22. Hours are Monday-Wednesday and Friday-Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. For more information, please call (843) 723-0202 or visit online at www.csoline.org.