

Updating a Santa Fe classic

By Leslie Giorgetti December 1, 2014



The Casa Solana kitchen after remodel



The Casa Solana kitchen before

“This is our favorite home that we have lived in,” says architect Michael Krupnick of the newly remodeled 1950s Allen Stamm home in Casa Solana, “and we have lived in some pretty showy houses that have been on the cover of magazines. People are surprised we chose Casa Solana over other areas to purchase and when they walk in our home they are in awe of what we have created with a house that was old, worn-out and in need of care.”

Michael and Kim Krupnick say they chose Casa Solana over other neighborhoods as they felt it had a nice sense of community, great neighbors, a good deal of diversity, and there are plenty of kids for their daughter, Destiny, to play with. “We have fun sharing eggs, tomatoes, and playing basketball in the drive with the neighbors. Also, we prize being very close to the dog park, the Tierra Trails system, the Santa Fe River trail, the La Montanita Co-op, and downtown; it’s a great location.

“It feels good to renovate. As architects we design custom homes, but the greenest thing to do is renovate existing homes and make them more energy-efficient and up-to-date.” The Krupnicks have very much improved the efficiency and the beauty of their Stamm home. They replaced all the windows and doors,

except the classic original Stamm door, and applied two inches of rigid foam insulation. All of the new lighting fixtures are energy-saving LEDs. Thankfully there was an existing new foam roof. Since the home is on a crawl space, they were able to catch around 80 percent of water that comes to the site through greywater recycling and permaculture-designed landscaping.

“Stamm homes have good bones and the house was fun to bring up to date,” says Krupnick. “We created a kitchen that rivals that of high-end homes and we added a Ten Thousand Waves-inspired master bath with a sauna, soaking tub and walk-in closet.” In addition the Krupnicks engaged the outdoor landscape, created a large porch to entertain, a fire pit and outdoor cooking, and with the landscaping and views it is spectacular. They have embraced the era in which the home was built and furnished it with classic mid-century and mid-century-inspired furnishings and now the beauty of the Stamm home is revamped and brought back to brilliance. It took effort and bravery but in the end the Krupnicks have a home in a wonderful location that is just the way they want it to be.