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Hidden Treasures

By Karen Long

SOMETIMES THE MOST FUN you can have while shopping is to find fun things in shops that you would have never expected. Although this may take a lot of patience and persistence, there are a lot of 'hidden treasures' out there if you just look for them. Here are a few hints for you to begin your hunt.

Panache, a store located right here in Frisco, is filled with old world charm. Panache, meaning "flair," is a perfect description of this store. Nancy, the owner, has a great eye for interior home accessories. She has filled her store with unique furniture pieces, lamps and awesome accessories...not to mention I love her selection of picture frames. Nancy is always happy to help you with ideas and gifts for your friends. Panache is a must see and great place for shopping ideas. You will not be disappointed.

Horchow Finale with two locations, one in Plano and one next to the SMU

Bookstore in Dallas, is a great place to go. They carry a lot of fun things such as clothing, bedding, furniture, dishes and silverware. The quality is very good. Every week a different category of items is sale-priced. An example, one week would be lamps and table-top accessories at an extra 30 percent off. This makes a trip even more worthwhile. They also have some of the best silver flatware in town. At the back of the store are the markdowns. It's more of a chip and dent area. I recommend time and patience when shopping here. You sometimes have to dig...but what else do you expect when looking for hidden treasures?

If you have never shopped at Elliotts Hardware, you should. They are not just a Plano hardware store; they also have one of the best selections of decorative hardware in town. If you can't find it here, I would be surprised. The range of

pricing varies from very reasonable to the more expensive. They have a ton of choices in stock, although some things must be special-ordered. Everyone who works there is always willing to help and answer any question. Keep this store in mind if you are on the hunt for decorative hardware...you won't be disappointed.

You sometimes have to dig... but what else do you expect when you are looking for hidden treasures?

The Sample House has been one of my favorites for many years. They have several locations around the metroplex.

*Tyler Candles at
Lakes Tennis Academy
photo by Beth Robinson*



This store has a definite country flare that is unique to itself. It's just a fun store to browse through. They have a great selection of cards, candles and picture frames.

They also carry unique teapots and glassware. If you are looking for a baby gift or nursery accent, you may want to give them a look.

One of my favorite stops in the metroplex is Weir's Furniture Village in Plano. They are known for their wonderful furniture selection and great prices. When you are there, make sure to visit the Country Store. It is stocked full of pot racks, candles, dishes, florals, inspirational books and rose bowls.... my personal favorite. At any given time you can walk in and be inspired by their wonderful displays. I especially like visiting during the holiday season. But be warned – I never seem to walk out empty-handed.

Rutherford's, located in Dallas on Lovers Lane, is a charming store adorned with one-of-a-kind furniture pieces and exquisite accessories. They are a family-owned store that has been around for many years and are best known in Dallas for their tassels, tiebacks, beading and millions of yards of the most wonderful trim you can imagine. Throughout the store you can pick up great trim ideas and applications to accent just about anything anywhere in your home. As I made my way through the store, I

discovered some beautiful fabrics unlike any I have seen in the metroplex. They also have a great selection of lampshades in all shapes and sizes. I would definitely describe them as "high-end and high-quality." You really have to see it to believe it.

Surprise! Surprise! Lakes Tennis Academy is more than tennis and tennis lessons. They also have a great pro shop full of home decorating accessories.

Often times when decorating for someone, we like to create a focal point or use larger accessories for impact. Z Galleries has some great things to choose from that do just that. The furniture pieces they carry are priced moderately and can fill an empty space quite nicely. It's definitely an eclectic mix throughout. They have some larger scale clocks and floral containers you will love. They also

carry a large selection of candlesticks and candles. Stop in when you are in Stonebriar Centre – it's a fun store to browse in.

Surprise! Surprise! Lakes Tennis Academy is more than tennis and tennis lessons. They also have a great pro shop full of home decorating accessories and clothing. I was informed by a reliable shopper, my sister-in-law, that the 'Tyler Candles' are one of the popular items. Mediterranean Fig is her favorite!

Finally, you can't resist a store called Anthropologie. My girls love this store for their clothing. It has a charming feel the moment you walk in the store. I was surprised to discover that they have a whole line of vintage and shabby chic home accents. The bedding (mostly quilts) are colorful and fun. The furniture pieces are unique. My favorites in the store are the different chandeliers and bins of antique glass and porcelain hardware for cabinets, etc. They have a few locations in Dallas but we frequent the Willow Bend location.

Good luck on your search for treasures and happy hunting!

Karen Long is a Frisco resident and partner in Before & After Interior Makeovers.