

Remodeling Tips

2009

PRSR STD
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 HICKORY NC
 PERMIT NO 212

A Community Service of
NORMANDY CONSTRUCTION



ARCHITECTS
 & BUILDERS



Photo: Courtesy of Midwest Living magazine.

FORWARD THINKING

Families are in a constant state of flux. Small children eventually grow up and leave the nest. Elderly parents often sell their home and move in with their children. Adult children might return for a while, bringing the grandchildren with them. Blended families can engender a wide variety of ages living together under one roof. A change in health may bring additional requirements to the living arrangement. The needs and lifestyle of a family can change drastically overnight.

(continued on page 2)

- Forward Thinking
- Best of the Best
- Rise and Shine
- Breakthrough in Light
- New Year's Letter

IN THIS ISSUE

Best of the Best

We congratulate Sarah Connolly for winning the 2008 "Best of the Best Design Award—Gold Award" for a kitchen remodel. It is a nationwide contest run by *Professional Remodeler* magazine where applicants compete for recognition.



After



Sarah's great design and the dramatic change are what the judges cited as the reasons for choosing her kitchen. Congratulations and thanks also to the King family for having us do their kitchen remodel.

FORWARD THINKING

(continued from page 1)

You can prepare your home to be a highly functional, comfortable, attractive place for everyone in your ever-changing family landscape. However, it takes forward thinking and planning as you remodel. Universal design principles have been developed as a guideline to make this process easier.

Have you noticed the increased use of lever handles on doors and faucets as opposed to knobs in newly remodeled homes? Rocker light switches are becoming more common as well, replacing flip switches. These are examples of applying universal design principles to find solutions that function well for everyone. Additional examples include cabinets with pull-out/pull-down shelves and kitchen counters at several heights to accommodate different tasks and postures.

The sophisticated kitchen and master bath featured here fulfill the vision of a baby boomer couple planning to stay in their home into retirement. These spaces were designed to serve their needs over time, whether the make up of their family changes or their personal health. The 46-inch traffic patterns throughout can accommodate an increase in the number of people using the space or the need for a wheelchair.

Bar handles on the stylish kitchen cabinets and a foot-controlled pot filler simplify cooking maneuvers. Necessities are kept within easy reach via lower cabinets, dishwasher drawers flanking the sink, the convenient-height oven and microwave, as well as a Sub-Zero refrigerator with double freezer drawers at the bottom. The sleek surface of the induction touch-control cooktop remains cool to the touch, providing safety for all ages.

In the spa-like bath, elegant floating sinks for him and her leave room for ottoman seating underneath. A decked tub and a comfort-height toilet make it easy to get up and down. A low threshold and bench increase shower accessibility. ■



Photos: Courtesy of Midwest Living magazine.

Featured on pages 1 and 2: The "Future Thinker" kitchen and master bath space designed for the NKBA Design Idea Center by Midwest Living magazine.



RISE and SHINE



The motorized shades in this master bedroom are integrated with the home automation system.



Photos: Courtesy of Cree LED Lighting Solutions (www.cree.com)

No decorative wall treatment is quite as dramatic as a wide span of floor-to-ceiling windows that reveal stunning views of the natural surroundings outside. Not only can windows provide visual delight, they also can bring natural light into a room, making electrical illumination less important and thereby saving energy.

During certain times of the day, however, windows may need to be covered in order to diffuse the glare on television or computer screens, protect furnishings from harmful UV rays, help regulate temperature for energy efficiency, or provide privacy and security.

A convenient way to do this is with automated window treatments. Rather than necessitating a climb over furniture to get to a dangling wand, window treatments may be raised or lowered with the simple press of a button. Natural light may be directed to where it's needed by tilting the louvers on blinds and shades in order to draw the light deeper into the far corners of the room.

Each window covering may be controlled individually, or several can be operated as a group. Various control mechanisms are available, from a wireless wall switch, to a hand-held remote, to a timer—or a combination of all three. Automated window treatments may be integrated with a total home control system so they rise and lower at pre-programmed times of day, even while a homeowner is away.

What better way to wake to a new day than with window shades slowly adjusting to reveal the sun rising over your beautiful back yard? ■



BREAKTHROUGH in Light

We knew it was going to happen soon, but the future is already here! LED is available in a downlight for 6" and 4" recessed cans. The new LR6 and LR4 modules by Cree LED Lighting Solutions use only 12 watts to produce light comparable to a 75-watt incandescent. These lights consume 85% less energy than incandescents and last up to 50 times longer. They use 50% less energy than compact fluorescents, last up to 5 times longer and in addition use no mercury.

The modules are available with an Edison-type screw base or a GU-24 pin base, are dimmable to 25%, and have a rated life of 50,000 hours. Imagine not having to replace your kitchen downlights for 20 years or more!

The LR6 won the grand prize in a recent competition sponsored by the American Lighting Association with performance verified by tests in independent labs under the direction of the U.S. Department of Energy. The LR6 was given "high marks for light output and color quality with luminaire efficacy exceeding even the most efficient fluorescent downlights currently available." ■



Photos: By James F. Wilson/Tradewinds Show House

January, 2009

To: All of our customers

From: Jack Steindl, Vice President

RE: Happy New Year 2009



Dear Friends,

Now that the holidays are over and the New Year has begun, 2008 has become history. It was an interesting year, to say the least. Despite all the ups and downs, we have a lot to be thankful for.

First and foremost, Reg and I are thankful that the construction company we dreamed up and started 30 years ago is thriving today. It is hard to imagine that 30 years have gone by. We have been through a couple of recessions, wars, different presidencies, etc. and through it all we have stuck to our original business plan of offering exceptional quality and service.

A big part of our success has been the team we are blessed to have working here. There are some long-term people like Greg Glatz, Jean Siebert, Brent Rushing, Tony Tondelli, Eileen Thurnauer and others that have been with us through thick and thin. You probably have met some of them along the way. There are many others who are working their way to becoming "long-termers" whom we feel very fortunate to have.

We are also very thankful to all of our customers (over 4,000) for entrusting us with such a big part of their lives. Many of you have become personal friends over the years. I want to assure you that we have always operated the business conservatively over the years and remain strong even in these tough times and will be here to stand behind the work we have done for you.

As you may know, most of our new work comes from referrals from happy customers. I want to personally thank you if you have recommended us to your friends and family in the past. In these trying times your kind words are more important than ever and I thank you in advance if you would share our name with friends or family considering remodeling. You can rest assured we will be here to service them well.

With the New Year upon us I want to express our thanks for a great first 30 years. From our entire **Normandy** family we wish you and yours a wonderful, successful 2009!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack Steindl".

Jack Steindl

