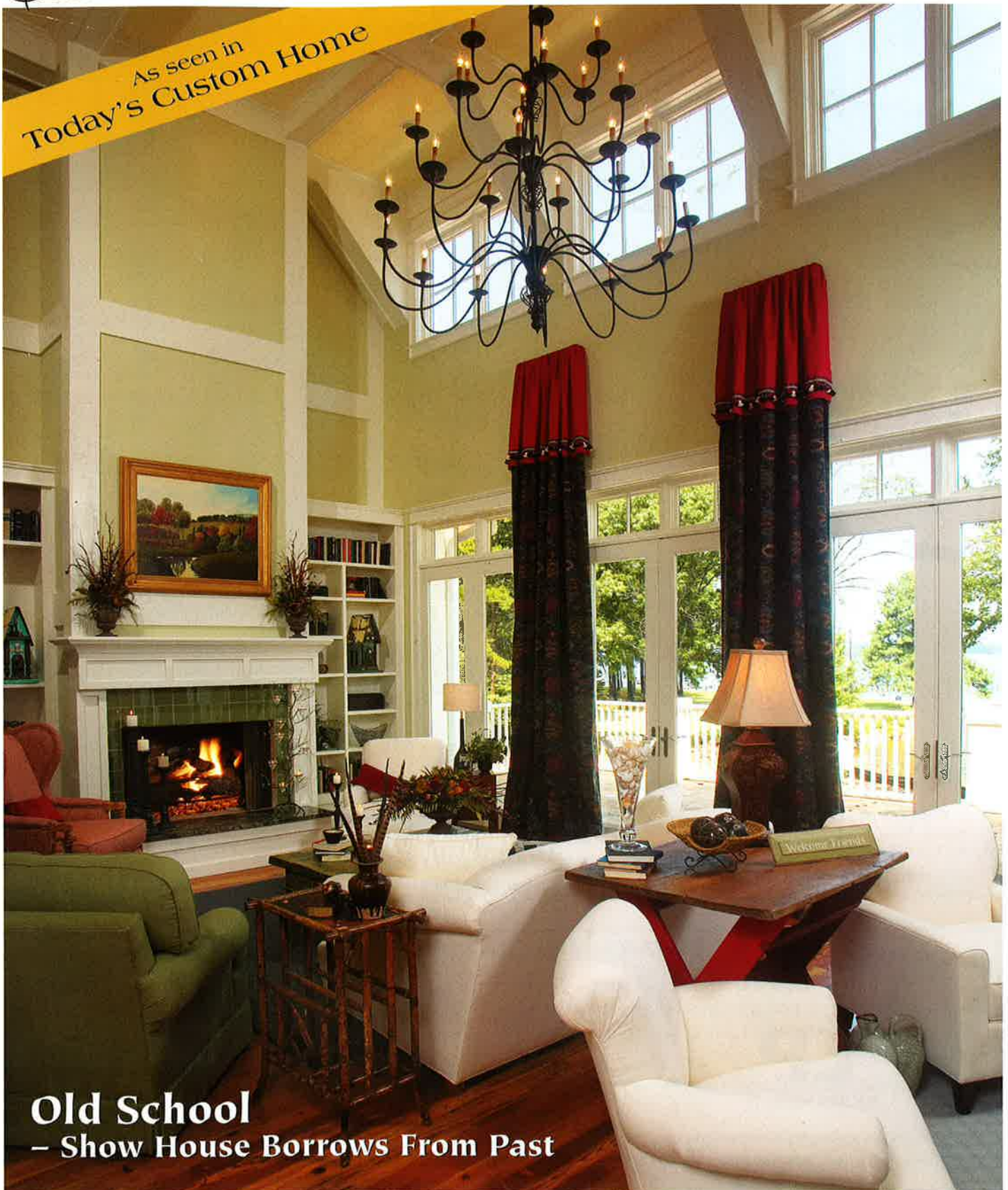


TODAY'S CUSTOM HOME

Charlotte's Complete Guide To Building or Remodeling Your Custom Home

AUTUMN 2005



As seen in
Today's Custom Home

Old School
– Show House Borrows From Past

2005 ABC Designer Show House

Benefiting Quality Public Education



August 26 - September 11

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Old School

The great room artfully captures the essence of this home, which masterfully blends elegant aspects like a ceiling that soars to nearly 20' and sophisticated furnishings with rustic elements such as 100-year-old heart pine floors and an iron chandelier.

Lakefront Cottage Borrows From The Past

There's a sense of stability and a feeling of nostalgia you get when you pass a historic home. Perhaps it's the ageless beauty of divided light windows, the weight and scale of the front porch columns, the graceful canopy of old-growth trees, or the culmination of myriad details which tell passersby that this home was designed to stand the test of time.

In creating the 2005 A B C Designer Show House, builder Patrick Joseph & Associates Custom Homes and interior design firm Robbie

Warren Interiors passed the test of building a Southern lakefront cottage that looks as if it's always occupied its prime location along the banks of Lake Norman. From the street, the understated cedar shake front exterior belies the expansive 7,800-square-foot interior that boasts five bedrooms and six full baths.

"There's a delightful feeling of comfort and livability in this house," explains builder Jim Shalvoy. Partner Mike Shalvoy adds, "we wanted to create

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TODAY'S CUSTOM HOME



ROBBIE WARREN INTERIORS

Light green cabinets, an AGA stove in Berry Red, playful window treatments and bright ceramic tiles add color and contrast to this open kitchen with a practical built-in banquette.



Rustic accent pieces create a comfortable feel in this keeping room, which is ideal for enjoying the home's spectacular lake views.

Builders Mike and Jim Shalvoy carefully positioned the home's spacious formal dining room to maximize natural light and views. As a result, it has windows to one side, French doors opening to the front porch and a view of the lake through the great room's windows.

a new home that feels as welcoming as your grandmother's house."

"It's a breath of fresh air," agrees Robbie Warren, IDS, Allied Member ASID. "This is so different from what people have seen and expect to see in a show house. The rooms are grand and spacious, yet feel comfortable when you walk in - it really feels like your grandma's cozy lake cottage."

By using architectural details like heavy alder doors handcrafted in Fort Collins, Colorado, and antique heart pine floors that are more than a century old, a cedar shake roof and a dovecote, the Shalvoys and their team imparted instant age to the residence. Warren carefully selected design elements such as needlepoint rugs, rustic antiques and brightly colored glazed ceramic tiles to add to the timeworn look while preserving the home's upscale appearance. "All of the drapery fabrics are by Ralph Lauren and are so rich in color and texture - some of them feel like they're 100 years old. We've combined clean reds and yellows with crisp greens and blues. With the blending of colors and patterns, the feel of the home is very coastal, very lake cottage," she says.

Indeed, the home's location played an integral role in its design from the start. "This home has stunning views. It all starts with big water and having the right piece of property," Shalvoy explains. "The first thing you see when you walk into the home is a grand view of the lake through the living room, and there's only one room on the main level that doesn't have a lake view."



The home's extensive lower level has a more masculine feel, with a giant river rock two-sided fireplace - one of four featured in the home. Among the lake level's many diversions are a billiards room, a large wine cellar paneled in the aforementioned used dock boards, an artist's studio, a media room, a bar and an outdoor kitchen nestled within a decorative stone wall that runs behind the house.



This mural helps set a relaxed tone for the lower level.

With its spectacular lake view and relaxed style, the master suite offers a tranquil respite from the worries of the world.



While the cedar shakes and light flagstone accents give the home a coastal feel, "the overall look is of a southern waterfront cottage," Warren says. Designer Toni Weaver capitalized on that theme in the boy's bedroom, where muralist Kim Falls painted Huckleberry Finn and his dog fishing along the banks of the mighty Mississippi while a steamboat passes by. To bring the room's resident into the work, Weaver opted for a hanging bed that looks like it would be right at home on a dock.



Robbie Warren Interiors' Staff Designer Lisa Maddox juxtaposed bright red and black furnishings against a sharp white background to create the Teenage Drama Queen's bedroom that brings out the little diva in everyone.

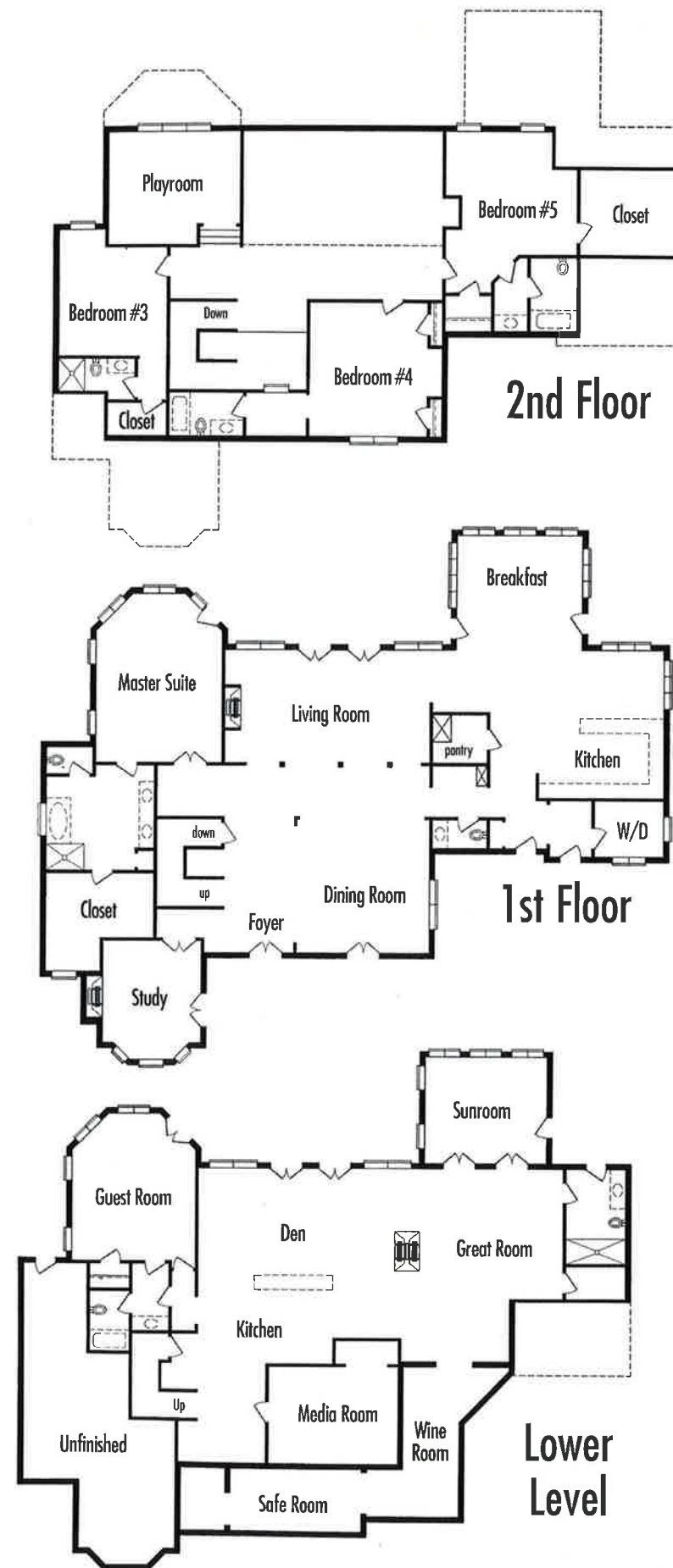
Material selection played a substantial role in giving the cottage its lakefront feel. When it came time to finish the lake level wine grotto, for example, Designer Ebony Mosley and Shalvoy were inspired to panel the walls in wood taken from a 30-year-old dock removed from another lakefront property. "It looks like old driftwood," he explains. "Throughout the home, the woodwork was designed to feel comfortable, not grand." Even the wood used in the heavily paneled masculine study - which boasts a coffered ceiling and intricate walls - is antique heart pine that imparts character and warmth to the space.

Inspired design details add a great deal to that warm feeling, as is the case in a guest bedroom. "It has handpainted stripes and roses that match the bedding. It's so feminine that it looks like a room your Great Aunt Martha would enjoy staying in," Warren says.

From whimsical touches like the Berry Red Aga stove and sage green kitchen cabinets to major issues such as the siting of the home on the lot - "we kept as many trees as we could, so that the home looks like it's been here for years," Shalvoy says - every detail works together to create a home that visitors to the A B C show house may not be eager to leave. "It looks like a vacation home that you could easily imagine living in every day," Warren says.



The Huckleberry Finn room was brought to life through the talents of muralist Kim Falls, whose Mississippi River scene created the ideal backdrop for a swing bed certain to please every fisherman-in-training.



The Designer

Architectural elements of interior design are the aspects of a project that most intrigue Robbie Warren. The owner of Robbie Warren Interiors enjoys nothing more than getting involved with a home in its initial planning stages and seeing every element through to completion.

"I downsized from a much larger company early in 2002 to better concentrate on new home construction," explains Warren, IDS, Allied Member ASID. "The response was so phenomenal that we've grown a little more, and we're now at a comfortable size." Her staff includes office manager and organizational whiz Kim Lybrand; intern Caitlin Kaestner; and three exceptionally talented Staff Designers - Ebony Mosley, Lisa Maddox and Toni Weaver - who tackle projects ranging from complete home interiors to simple furniture and color selections.

Warren's main personal focus, however, remains on new home construction, where she helps clients through virtually every step of the process - from choosing an architect and working through the nuances of blueprints to finishing touches like selecting draperies. "I'm sometimes brought in before the client chooses an architect or builder; that's my dream job. Most often, I come in at the blueprint stage before plans are finalized. That allows us to address any spatial or planning issues. It's much easier for an architect to pay attention to a client's needs if they know what's coming down the road," she says. It also results in a home with a cohesive look and feel. "No matter what style you're working with, if you don't pay attention to the details, the look can get lost in translation," she says. That means every element down to the switchplates is meticulously researched and selected for its contribution to the overall feel.

"Custom home is a term that's thrown around a lot - what I'm doing is much more personalized. We're creating a home for a particular family that's focused on their lifestyle and how they need that house to function," she says. That level of attention is why Charlotteans have trusted Robbie to create homes that are elegant interpretations of their individual style for over 17 years.

For more information, visit www.RobbieWarren.com or call (704) 378-4211.

The Builder

Brake lights are something partners James and Michael Shalvoy have seen a lot of since they formed Cornelius-based builder Patrick Joseph & Associates Custom Homes in 2001. That's because the brothers have become known for creating striking residences that actually stop traffic.

"We build six to eight homes a year, about half spec and half custom," explains Jim. "Unlike most builders, our spec homes tend to be more expensive than our custom homes. We're trying to create a jewel every time, so we add in all the things that will make it the best in terms of luxury and livability. If we're building a European Country home, we'll use details like real weathered stone, oversized beams, and authentic old-world plaster finishes. If it's a lakeside cottage, we'll incorporate finishes like a cedar shake siding and roof, river rock for the foundation and chimneys, a dovecote, heart pine flooring and other vernacular elements. We try to become a student of each style and utilize outside resources, architectural books and travel to get it right."

The brothers' near fanatical attention to accurate detail stems from their backgrounds. "Mike started building right out of college. He became a general contractor in his 20's and began building high-end homes in markets like Boca Raton and Palm Beach and eventually, homes up to \$10 million in Vail." After college, Jim worked in the building products manufacturing side of the industry for 25 years in a number of roles including Vice President, General Manager, and head of International Sales for such companies as ABT Building Products, Gory Roof Tile and Louisiana-Pacific.

The brothers partnered in 2001, pairing Jim's broad knowledge of regional and international products and procedures with Mike's extensive experience in custom home building - a marriage that has taken their innate love of quality to new heights. "We tend to use very high-end materials that mimic the quality of the finishes you'd find on older homes. There are a variety of new building products that are efficient and less expensive, but they don't feel as good. We build houses that feel good," Jim says.

Making clients feel good about the building process through exceptional customer service is another strength of this family builder. As Mike puts it, "We bond with our clients. When you're building a home, you spend a lot of time together. We've become close friends with many of our customers and remained friends long after the sale. Building a home is so important for any individual - whether they're spending \$100,000 or \$5 million - they want to have confidence in the people they're working with."

For more information, visit www.patrickjosephhomes.com or call (704) 896-3040.



Show House events

The 2005 ABC Show House

Location: 15515 Jetton Road. Take I-77 North to Exit 28 (Lake Norman/Cornelius), turn left off the ramp onto Catawba Ave., turn right onto Jetton Road and follow approximately 4 miles to the showhouse.

Hours: Weekends from August 26th to September 11th. Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

Tickets: Are available at the door for \$12.50. Teachers and educators with school ID admitted free.

Information: Call (704) 641-6900

Designer Tours: September 10th, Robbie Warren will be conducting several design seminars.

Designer Sale: September 11th, from 4 to 6 p.m.

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The Charity

Charlotte Advocates for Education (formerly the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Education Foundation) is an independent, research-based 501(c)(3) organization that was established in 1991 by a group of key business and community leaders who had a vision of cultivating private support for local public education.

The mission of Charlotte Advocates for Education is to define the issues and advocate for changes required to permanently improve the quality of public education in Mecklenburg County. The group's endeavors include conducting the Make Your Mark on the Board Campaign - a community awareness campaign held during school board elections; the Harris Teacher of the Year Awards and the Howard H. Haworth Award for Education Advocacy; and publishing the *Community Guide to Understanding the School Budget* as well as numerous research-based projects and reports.

Since parents are a community's best source for grass-roots advocacy, the organization has formed a Parent Leadership Network (PLN) that provides training to help parents develop strong advocacy skills to take back to their children's schools. As one local parent described when the PLN was formed in 2005: "Parents need help in interpreting all the data and knowing what to do with it. The school system, because it is managed or mandated at the local, state, and federal level, is so complex. The Parent Leadership Network is a constructive, systematic way to educate parents and teach them how to become partners with teachers, principals and other school leaders."

For more information on Charlotte Advocates for Education, visit their website at www.advocatesford.org or call (704) 335-0100.