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SUMMER
**BUILDING &
 Remodeling Tips**

2008

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Celebrating our 25th Year!

Courtesy of Lane Homes & Remodeling, Inc.
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No Boundaries

Blending the indoors with the outdoors in the home has received a lot of buzz in recent years. What is more invigorating in the morning than to breathe deeply the fresh air of a new day? What is more soothing in the evening than the gentle murmur of an outdoor fountain? Increasingly, homeowners who spend their workday surrounded by four walls want the opportunity to relax in a more natural setting. This may be accomplished in several ways,

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Photo by James F. Wilson/The New American Home 2008

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Lane Wins Two First Place Awards in HBAR Excellence in Remodeling 2008 Competition



The Home Building Association of Richmond named the winners of the Excellence in Remodeling 2008 competition at an awards breakfast on May 15th. **Lane Homes & Remodeling, Inc.** was honored to receive two first place awards: one for "Whole House Remodel over \$500,000" and the other for "General Renovation over \$300,000." (see page 4 for photos)

No Boundaries

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such as creating sunrooms, three-season porches, and outdoor living rooms.

If you want an interesting experience, try walking from the indoor kitchen/leisure room to the outdoor covered loggia in the 2008 New American Home. You expect eventually to arrive at a barrier that separates the two areas—some sort of exterior wall with a door to pass through—but there is none. The inside and outside blend so seamlessly that it is almost impossible to determine where one ends and the other begins.

This experience is made possible by an ingenious floor plan that includes telescoping floor-to-ceiling glass patio doors that form one corner of the leisure room. When these glass walls are fully open, the corner of the room seems to magically vanish as you pass through to the loggia. A few steps down and the loggia merges with the open pool area, which is presided over by a massive whirlpool spa overflowing lazily into an infinity edge pool. This area, in turn, is integrated with the lush landscaped property sloping gently towards Lake Nona and the adjacent nature preserve. Truly, this is a plan that blurs the distinction between inside and out.



With the wall of glass retracted, the kitchen/leisure room becomes one with the outside.



Photos by James F. Wilson/The New American Home 2008

The covered loggia is a delightful place to entertain friends or just hang out with the kids. It includes a complete outdoor kitchen, a generous dining area and the “solana”—an outdoor sunroom with a fireplace surrounded by comfortable seating. If necessary, the entire loggia can be protected from insects by motorized screens that descend to cover the full expanse between the arched openings. In case of inclement weather, the telescoping glass patio doors may be closed and the party can move indoors to the leisure room. Although they may appear fragile, these types of glass walls are designed to be weather-tight. Still visible through the glass is the pristine scenery that continues to beckon for another glorious day tomorrow. ■



Closing the patio doors provides protection for the kitchen/leisure room from wind and rain.

GREEN MACHINE

Rising energy costs, along with concern for the environment, have caused homeowners to search for ways to save energy in their homes. People are switching from incandescent bulbs to fluorescent, and removing tank-style water heaters to install on-demand water heaters instead. But did you know that, according to the latest U.S. Household Electricity Report released in 2005 by the Energy Information Administration (EIA), refrigerators were the biggest electricity consumer among household appliances? They used more electricity than heating the home, heating water or lighting! Replacing your old refrigerator with a new, eco-friendly refrigerator may be one of the best energy-saving decisions you can make.



LG's new four-door refrigerator offers the easy accessibility of a French-door refrigerator with the organized storage space of two bottom-mount freezer drawers. Recessed LED lighting adds a refined look, as well as energy savings. All LG French-Door refrigerators are Energy Star rated.



The Bosch built-in Integra refrigerator features eco-friendly options including: Sabbath Mode, during which the unit uses no energy for religious observances; Economy Mode, which adjusts the temperature for extra efficiency; and Vacation Mode, which adjusts the temperature and disables water and lighting for more energy efficiency while homeowners are away for a prolonged period of time. The Integra line is Energy Star qualified.

The EPA and US Department of Energy reports that Energy Star qualified refrigerator models use at least 20% less energy than required by current federal standards and 40% less energy than the conventional models sold in 2001. High efficiency compressors, improved insulation, and more precise temperature and defrost mechanisms have all helped increase energy efficiency. Also, keep in mind that certain style features require more energy than others. For example, refrigerators with side-by-side doors use about 10% more energy than models with the freezer on the top or bottom.

Additional energy savings can result from positioning your refrigerator away from a source of heat, such as your oven or dishwasher.

A Repertoire of Refreshment

Last year, Americans drank 8.25 billion gallons of bottled water and about 2 billion pounds of empty plastic water bottles ended up in our landfills, incinerators or as litter. Commercial grade residential filtration systems provide an eco-friendly alternative to bottled water for obtaining clean drinking water.

As accessory products, Everpure offers a family of water dispensers that make personalized drinks—from hot to cold, from still to carbonated—as effortless as lifting a tap, while also guaranteeing the same clean drinking water. Their new Instant Hot & Chilled Water Dispenser was introduced at KBIS this year. With this dispenser you can easily offer one guest a cold glass of lemonade and then the following guest a hot cup of cocoa! The Sparkling & Chilled Water Dispenser—the ultimate companion to the well-stocked bar—has received numerous industry awards recently for innovation and eco-consciousness.



The compact Sparkling & Chilled Water Dispenser is easily concealed beneath the sink, supplying bubbly water with adjustable carbonation levels.



Whole House Remodel Winner Ed Lane – Project Designer

"We want to thank everyone at Lane Homes & Remodeling for the excellent design and construction of the addition and renovation to our home. The work was well supervised with consideration for our family while construction was being performed."

Betty and Mickey Curtis



General Renovation Winner Ed Lane – Project Designer Carol Pipes – Interior Designer

"I could not be happier with my newly remodeled kitchen. Lane Homes & Remodeling has provided superior workmanship and I would not hesitate to recommend them to anyone."

Fay Pruitt