

Photo: Courtesy of Plato Woodwork, Inc. (www.platowoodwork.com)



SUSTAINED NOTES

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Now is the Time!

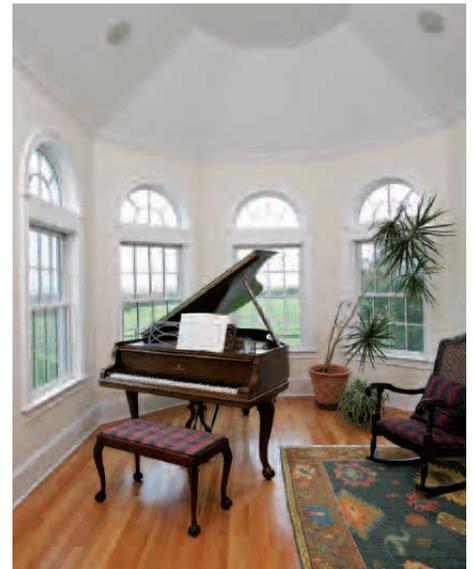
Time flies and if you want to have your beautiful newly remodeled or custom-built home ready for the 2009 beach season, now is not too early to call **QMA** and discuss your ideas. Allowing for a longer lead time allows you to make better decisions and select products based on what you want instead of what can be delivered within a limited time schedule. It also gives you time to get through the longer approvals process for building and environmental permits that is often a part of building in ecologically sensitive areas.



Starting the design process early in 2008 will give you the time you need in order for construction to start by the fall so that you can have your newly remodeled or custom-built home ready to enjoy as soon as the weather warms up in 2009. If you have a small project in mind, it is still possible to have it completed by the summer of 2008, so call us today and see what we can do for you.

Good Design. It's all about You. (And that's a good thing.)

A home that is properly designed around you and your needs will not only reflect your taste and lifestyle; it will also be more functional, easier and less costly to maintain, potentially less costly to build, a more pleasant experience, and a home from which you get greater value and enjoyment. But, you may be surprised to know that not all homes that look nice are well designed and designed around their owner's needs.



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QMA is the winner of numerous regional and national awards including:



SUSTAINED NOTES

When given the choice and the opportunity, homeowners increasingly opt to make environmentally friendly decisions for their homes. Selecting fluorescent instead of incandescent fixtures is just one example. Another is having energy-efficient doors and windows installed. True, many such purchasing decisions are based on the upwardly spiraling costs of energy. However, as people come to realize that the simple steps they take to save money may also help in the bigger picture of saving our natural resources, they begin to take pride in being “green.” This feeling often translates into the willingness to make future green purchases just for the pure enjoyment of doing the right thing.

The difficulty comes when it isn't exactly clear what the “right thing” is.

Sustainability, one of the basic tenets of green building, is difficult to quantify. It refers to



processes that can be carried out over and over without negative environmental effects or impossibly high costs to anyone involved. Energy efficiency and indoor air

quality, the other basic tenets, can be scientifically measured. Sustainability is more fluid.

For example, homeowners wanting to choose a kitchen countertop from a sustainable material need to consider: Is the material from a renewable resource? What amount of energy was used to produce the material? Is the material recycled or recyclable? How much energy was used in transporting the material to the job site? How long will the material last before it must be replaced?

Consider concrete countertops. A tremendous amount of energy



These European-style kitchen cabinets feature coordinating horizontal and vertical bamboo grains on wall and base cabinets. The dark espresso stain provides a pleasing contrast to the natural color of the bamboo.

goes into the manufacture of Portland Cement, concrete's primary ingredient. However, factoring in local production and durability makes concrete a good option. In addition, concrete can be crushed into aggregate and recycled to produce new concrete.

Plato's stylish Inovae kitchen, unveiled this year, is shown here as an example of great thought having been given to sustainability. The cabinets and floor are constructed from bamboo. Bamboo is a highly renewable resource. It can be harvested only four to six years after being planted and will rapidly replenish itself. The countertops are made from PaperStone, a paper composite surface composed of post-consumer recycled paper impregnated with a water-based resin. PaperStone is a very durable material that is also stain-resistant once a special all-natural preserver has been applied.

This kitchen is just one example of how manufacturers are starting to produce and market new sustainable alternatives. The more demand there is from consumers, the more this trend can be expected to continue in the future.

...they begin to take pride in being “green.”



From in-home game rooms to dedicated home theaters, the number of specialized rooms currently being built is evidence that entertaining at home is a popular activity. And one of the amenities in high demand for home entertainment spaces is a wet bar. This is an item that can be included on any level of the home and even outside on the patio. Wherever friends gather for a pleasant time together, they will appreciate having their favorite drinks close at hand.

A wet bar is so called because the counter is equipped with a small sink and running water. This is used for mixing drinks, as well as for washing glasses and other items. Liquors and spirits may be displayed on the back wall of the wet bar, while an under-counter refrigerator is desirable for keeping bottled beer and water chilled. For beer on tap, a kegerator may be installed. A wine cabinet is important for storing wine at the proper temperature. Other important bartending items—such as a heavy-duty blender, a shaker, a stirrer, a jigger and a bar knife—can be stored on shelves or in drawers under the cabinet. Shelf space is also needed for glassware, although stemware is often hung upside-down on a specially designed rack. Drawers come in handy for storing drink mixes, napkins, straws, swizzle sticks, a cork remover and a bottle opener.



Grand sophistication describes this in-home bar. The wall spice drawer is installed horizontally between wall and base cabinets to store all of those little items a bar requires. A mirror-lined wall cabinet with glass shelving provides exceptional liquor storage.

A traditional wet bar is straight or L-shaped with an elegant wooden countertop sealed for protection against stains. Other countertop materials—granite, quartz or stainless steel—are excellent alternatives providing a different look. The traditional barstool has a round, padded seat set approximately 30 inches high and a foot rail. For optimum comfort, barstools should also provide a full or partial back.



Photos: Courtesy of Kohler Co. (www.kohler.com)

Indulge^{the} Senses

Now the custom shower in your master bathroom can include all the latest technological enhancements that transform showering into a multi-sensory experience. Kohler's DTV II system, introduced at the 2007 Kitchen and Bath Industry Show, makes that possible.

From a single digital control panel you and your spouse can set all your individual showering preferences. Not only can you control the water temperature and intensity of the spray, but also the music, ambient lighting, chromatherapy and steam. Installed behind the wall, the media module can either stream music or internet radio from a PC or be directly wired to an MP3 docking station. The waterproof speakers and 21-by-21 inch illuminated ceiling panel are both designed to match the shape, profile and finish of Kohler's WaterTile. Lighting choices range from solid colors to one of the preprogrammed chromatherapy sequences.



*(top) 21-by-21 inch illuminated ceiling panel
(left) Waterproof speaker
(right) Control panel*

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Sustained Notes

The Bar Scene



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Architecture, Design+Build Custom Homes and Remodeling

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Good Design. It's all about You. (And that's a good thing.)

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At QMA, we know how important YOU are to the design of your home. If you are remodeling or building your primary residence, your home's design needs will be very different from the design needs of a vacation home. The design should always be focused on you and the way you want to use your home. Perhaps at your primary residence you value private space that you can use to get away from it all, but if you plan on entertaining the entire extended family at your vacation home, space for being together may be more important there.

The kitchen is another area where your home should be personalized. If you like to cook without people around, your kitchen should be designed much differently than if you like to put on a show and have friends and family join you in preparing meals. Also, some homeowners like very formal dining rooms while others prefer more casual eating arrangements. It's all up to you.



If your home is on or near the water, you will benefit greatly from selecting products, building materials, and construction details that can stand up to the harsh weathering effects of the shore. Other materials might be a better choice for a home that is more inland and less exposed to salt spray and strong winds.

Of course, you cannot discount the wonderful feeling you get when you enter your home and it is beautifully designed around your tastes and the things you love. Perhaps you take pride in a home that is an articulate and expressive statement about who you are, or perhaps you simply want to enjoy a home that fits you like a glove. Every person, every couple, and every family is unique in what they want, need and value. That's why at **QMA Design+Build** we believe that Good Design is all about You.