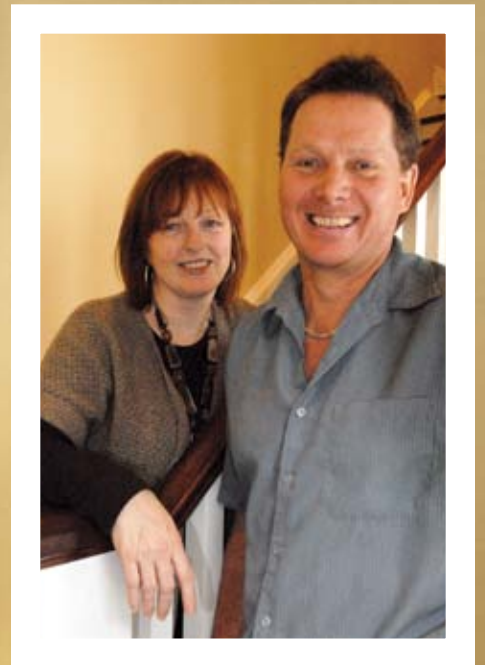


# BROTHERLY *Love*

The dining room is located just off the foyer, behind the kitchen. The table is set with fine china and crystal. Company is coming.

BELOW: Kim Smith and her brother, builder Duane Janes.



BY GEORGETTE MCCULLOCH //  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

Kim and David Smith love a project. When they finally decided to build their immaculate, elegant estate on two-and-a-half acres of hardwood bush in Cedar Point, they embraced the challenge. *Continued on page 49*





Kim and David designed their home, knowing they wanted a double-sided fireplace separating the kitchen and living room. The elegant, traditional open space is timeless and comfortable.

The first part, finding a builder, was easy. Kim turned to her brother **Duane Jones**, who she knew they could trust completely.

“We had absolutely no doubt in our minds that we would be more than happy with Duane as our builder,” Kim says. “His work ethic, project coordination, people skills and attention to detail are exemplary.”

The second part – planning and designing the home – was pure fun for the Smiths.

Kim started a scrapbook, filling it with rooms and products she found while flipping through piles of her favourite magazines. The couple compiled a list of design must-haves, based on the site, the view and their lifestyle. They wanted a traditional home with a fairly open-concept design with a double-sided fireplace between the kitchen and great room. There was to be no carpet – hardwood, slate, porcelain and area rugs only. They needed at least three guest rooms for visitors – they have two children, four grandchildren and a large extended family.

The property is situated 150 feet above Georgian Bay with a spectacular view of the water, so lots of windows were a must.

“As beautiful as the view of Georgian Bay is, we also enjoy the view through the trees as well,” Kim says. “The blanket of trilliums in the spring is beautiful.”

With lots of pencils and erasers, the Smiths set out to design the layout, inside and out, of their 2,800 sq. ft. bungalow with a loft. They took their plans to **Custom CADD** in Barrie, where architectural drawings were perfected.

The build began in 2007, five years after the Smiths discovered the property while sailing their White Pine Hunter 41 from Midland to Thornbury on a beautiful summer day. *Continued on page 50*





**TOP:** The water side of the home includes a maintenance-free composite deck with glass railings up top and a covered verandah below.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** In the kitchen, Kim selected solid cherry cabinets that match beautifully with granite-topped counters. A built-in china cabinet in the eating area complements a long harvest table used for everyday meals.

**BOTTOM MIDDLE:** Duane Janes, Kim's brother, not only built the home, but also completed the masonry, inside and out, including two dry-stacked double-sided fireplaces.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** The outdoor fireplace is used in every season. Builder and mason Duane Janes designed the fireplace and used Talia Stone, Talia Stone curbing and a Europa paver bullnose to complete the look.

Builder Janes says the biggest challenge was prepping the land for construction. "The land was all rock and we were removing rocks the size of cars," he remembers. "And Kim wanted to keep as many trees as possible – she fought for every tree." Janes purchased most of the materials for the build from **Home Hardware** in Wasaga Beach, where he lives.

The Smiths have been living in their beautiful home for two years now and couldn't be happier. Their home sits nestled amongst tall trees overlooking the clear waters of the bay, across from Christian Island.

Janes, a mason by trade, covered the exterior in Century Stone in the colour Muskoka Blend, which he sourced from **Atlas Block**. Rough mortar joints give the home an aged look.

Every product Atlas makes contains post-consumer recycled material. "Glass that comes directly from our municipal blue box collection is crushed into fine powder and then turned into fine granules that are then added to every single product that we manufacture," says Roberta Courtemanche of Atlas Block.

Inside, black slate floors grace the grand entrance. **Arnie Sararas** of Wasaga Beach completed the tile work here, in the bathrooms and in the laundry room. Handscrapped Burma teak floors anchor the rooms on the upper level.

The graceful dining room off the entrance shines. A traditional chandelier glows over a sophisticated table set for guests to enjoy.

The foyer opens to the elegant great room where texture and rich neutral hues bring the room to life. A dry-stacked stone, double-sided fireplace is the focal point. *Continued on page 52*



EXTERIOR PHOTOS BY ED O'NEIL AND COURTESY OF ATLAS BLOCK.





# home & builder

Kim's talent for interior design and decorating are evident in this room and others. She found accessories and furniture at **Saturday Afternoons**. She worked with her mom to make all the draperies in luxurious fabrics. She also purchased feather throw pillows and covered them in delicious textiles to suit her décor. Art from around the world, collected during the couple's travels, is artfully displayed. The furniture is refined, comfortable and durable because it has to stand up to their four grandchildren, who visit often.

The warm, traditional kitchen on the other side of the fireplace is David's space. He's the family chef. Solid cherry cabinets, granite counters and Jenn Air stainless steel appliances help make preparing meals a pleasure. Two lanterns from **Rafters/Living Lighting** in Barrie hang above the island. A built-in cabinet stores and displays some of Kim's treasures and is close to a long harvest table where meals are served and enjoyed.

Beyond the kitchen are a full bath, a guest room and the incredible laundry room. A stairway leads upstairs to a loft and another guest room, where the Smiths' oldest granddaughter likes to camp out with friends when she visits.

The master bedroom is situated adjacent to the great room. Beautifully decorated in a gentle blue hue (all paint from **Tripp's Paint and Decorating** in Midland) with heritage furniture, this room is wrapped in comfort. The master en suite is Kim's favourite room – its allure is obvious. With an oval Neptune jet tub, a view outside, heated floors, marble tiles and a separate corner shower, this room is a welcome oasis. A large walk-in closet and dressing room (**Closets By Design**) completes the space. *Continued on page 54*



**LEFT:** The laundry room is gorgeous. Kim's love of decorating is so evident in this room. A collection of red tin containers lines the shelves along with vases in all shapes and sizes. There's lots of storage and plenty of room to sort, wash, dry and fold the laundry.

**ABOVE:** A guest bedroom downstairs has a fabulous view of the backyard and Georgian Bay.

**TOP RIGHT:** A four-poster bed graces the master bedroom. The room is large and bright and furnished with beautiful essentials, which include an armoire and an exquisite settee at the foot of the bed.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** The master en suite is Kim's favourite room. A tapestry from a trip to Italy hangs on one wall. Kim made the drapery that frames the vessel tub. A chandelier completes the look of luxury.







David's favourite room is the basement and it's easy to see why. His office is located here along with a fantastic bar bought at auction in Atlanta, where the couple once lived. There's a custom pool table, a pinball machine and a slot machine. A second dry-stacked stone double-sided fireplace separates the games room from the cosy family room, where they watch TV.

The brilliant design features continue outside, where, at basement level, a waterproof, covered verandah, finished with pine beams, ceiling fans (Tripp's) and fieldstone flooring beckon. Janes built the majestic outdoor fireplace and finished it with stone from Atlas Block.

Above, spanning the entire length of the home, is a huge 1,200 sq. ft. composite deck with glass railings.

For Kim and David, the entire process has been a joy.

This spring, they'll concentrate on their landscaping (**Jason Kindree**) and plant flowers and shrubs.

"We'd like our gardens to blend effortlessly into the surrounding natural landscape," Kim says.

Their sense of style, attention to detail and faith in Janes have brought their desire for a beautiful traditional home, inspired by nature, to fruition. Effortless indeed. **OH**

**ABOVE:** David's office is in the basement. But the family room is outfitted for fun. There's a bar, pool table, pinball machine and a slot machine. The TV and sofas are located on the other side of the fireplace.

**INSET:** David and Kim play some pool.

**RIGHT:** David and Kim purchased this hand-crafted bar at an auction in Georgia. It is a special piece they've moved from house to house.



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