



happy HOMEOWNERS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

Perhaps you grew up here, or spent your childhood skiing the best slopes in the province. Maybe you've just discovered the area. Now that you're here, you know something others don't; there is a Paradise in Ontario.

Surrounded by natural beauty, we're all lucky to live, vacation or weekend in this magical place called Southern Georgian Bay (SGB). Some spend it speeding down ski hills and exploring trails and rivers on the weekends, while others have moved here full-time, bought homes, opened businesses and started families. It's the people living full or part-time who make this area a vibrant, beautiful place. That's why we're introducing you to a group of SGB's proud residents this season. We've even included some of their recommendations for local businesses, just in case, you too, are looking to become a happy homeowner.

◀ Pawel & Viktoria Wrzesinski with children, Emily and Patrick

**Self Employed Trucking and
Logistics Specialists, Collingwood**

WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR NEW HOME? We love everything about our new **Delpark (Pretty River Estates)** home, from the exterior design to the spacious and open floor plan with 10-foot ceilings. During the building process Delpark worked with and helped us with all the details to create our dream home.

WHY DID YOU MOVE HERE? We moved to Collingwood because of what it offers our family. We can ski during the winter, go to the beach in the summer and bike on the beautiful trails. And all of that is within minutes of our new home!

FAVOURITE WAY TO SPEND A WINTER EVENING TOGETHER: On the long winter evenings we enjoy sitting by the fireplace, watching movies and playing board games.

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▲ Karen Jones with daughter, Alexandra

Interior Decorator and Weekender, Blue Mountain

WHAT ARE WINTER WEEKENDS IN SGB LIKE? They're like mini-vacations in a winter wonderland! They're filled with beautiful scenery, the friendliest people, skiing, great restaurants, hot-tubbing, Scrabble in front of the fire while listening to music, and a relaxing place for family and friends to visit.

WHAT'S SPECIAL ABOUT YOUR HOME HERE? Through **Harold Robison's (Bob Armstrong Construction Ltd.)** expert renovation management, we were able to transform a stark, simple house with an unfinished basement into a warm, cosy chalet with abundant room for visitors and spa-like amenities. Harold was so efficient - we were moved in and on the slopes in time to kick-off the ski season!

FAVOURITE WINTER ACTIVITY Hands-down downhill skiing! Every year at the end of fall we do the "snow-dance" because the snow can't fall soon enough, now that we have a home in this amazing area.

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people

▼ Bill McMahon and Karen Burke

**Territory Manager for Wilson Sports,
Cruise Consultant at Expedia CruiseShipCenters, Collingwood**

TELL US ABOUT YOUR HOME: Our home is a mix of warm and inviting colours thanks to **Chris Hobbs** of **Hobbs Home Solutions**. With his magical paint touch, Chris transformed the marvellous open, bright great room, where we enjoy entertaining friends and family.

DESCRIBE THE PERFECT DAY IN SGB: We love taking road trips in our '02 Thunderbird on beautiful sunny days to the car shows across Georgian Bay.

FAVOURITE WINTER MEAL: Our favourite meals come from Blue Ridge Meats, especially the fresh smoked pork chops that we barbecue all year long.

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▼ Paige Young

Real Estate Agent at Chestnut Park, Collingwood

I LOVE LIVING IN SGB BECAUSE... my family loves the bay and everything the area has to offer. The recreational opportunities are endless and we spend a lot of time outdoors. We have great memories from spending summers at my mother-in-law's chalet up here so it seemed like a good fit.

MY HOUSE IS... a great home for entertaining, where friends and family gather. I love the living room. The punch of colour that **Missy Sharp** of **Bramwell Sharp Design** gave it, just finished it off and made it a happy place.

FAVOURITE WINTER ACTIVITY: We all ski and my boys race. I don't think we could find a better program anywhere.

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▲ Kevin Wong and son, Jonathan
Dentist and Weekender, Blue Mountain

HOW DO YOU SPEND WEEKENDS IN SGB? Our weekends are mostly spent outdoors. In the winter months we are skiing, snowboarding or just relaxing in our chalet.
WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT YOUR HOME HERE? While looking for a second home in the town of The Blue Mountains, we didn't want a contemporary home as we have in the city. Our vision was that of a ski chalet with a rustic feel and appearance. We were able to obtain that with the beautiful timber accents from **Legendary Logcrafters Ltd.**
DESCRIBE THE PERFECT WINTER DAY: A day of winter sports followed by a relaxing evening by the fireplace with the family, watching the snow falling.

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people

▼ Blair Locke

Cinematographer and Weekender, Clarksburg

HOW DO YOU SPEND YOUR TIME IN SGB?

Kayaking, mountain biking, fishing and cooking

MY HOUSE IS... an 1865 Clarksburg beauty. It's been lovingly restored and is now being brought into the new millennium with the help of local designer/fabricator **Skot Lawrence** of **Desiron Custom Metal**.


MY PERFECT WINTER DAY IS... a quick snowshoe, some riding at the Peaks, then slurping a few martinis and firing up the grill.

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PHOTO BY SKOT LAWRENCE

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people

► Siobhan Dempsey

Restaurateur at C&A Steak Company, Blue Mountain

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT LIVING IN SGB? We are surrounded by incredible natural beauty in the mountains, valleys, lakes and forests, which are complemented by a sophisticated culture in our arts, restaurants and boutique shopping.

WHAT HELPS BALANCE LIFE AS A BUSINESS OWNER AND HOMEOWNER? A strong sense of community in that there is always a connection between the people you do business with and those you connect with socially. For example, our insurance broker for our properties, cars and businesses, **Rob Bickerstaff** of **Noble Insurance**, is also the father we stand beside on the soccer pitch every Saturday morning.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR HOME: We've been living atop Blue Mountain for two years now and everyday I am stopped in my tracks by the expansive views overlooking Georgian Bay. Working with **Patrick B. Coulter & Associates** was wonderful as Patrick had the insight to maximize our enjoyment of the surrounding landscape by situating our home as far back as possible on our property. **OH**



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