



BY ALEXANDRIA BARKER
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAY ROBINSON

C'MON *in*

It's well known among Crystal Lake residents that when Barry and Marian Abelson fly the martini flag on their Tiki Hut, it's an open invitation to tie your boat to the dock and come for cocktails. To paraphrase Stevie Ray Vaughan's hit song, "When the tiki hut's a rockin, don't bother knockin, c'mon in."

"We've had so much fun entertaining on it," Barry Abelson says of the large floating dock made by **R & J Machine** in Lakefield, complete with a refrigerator from **Bert's Appliance** of Fenelon Falls. "We are on the best lake in the Kawarthas."

Crystal Lake is a fisherman's dream; spring-fed, with no other lakes flowing into it, it has low levels of phosphorus, no zebra mussels or algae, and lots of small and large mouth bass, lake trout, pickerel, whitefish and perch. Because it's so deep there are no noisy ducks or geese, just the hauntingly beautiful call of the loons. Deep, clean and quiet, the lake is equally ideal for swimming and boating – an exquisite setting for an exquisite home, situated perfectly to take advantage of the fabulous views and sunsets.

Built by **Stuart Charity Construction Ltd.** of Bobcaygeon, this two-storey 4,300 sq. ft. open-concept four-season home is truly unique. As Barry says, "We had an unlimited budget and exceeded it!"



It was built to last for generations with minimal maintenance inside and out. Its name, "Dunrunin," reflects the owners' playful nature. Towering mature trees provide plenty of privacy on this property, excavated by **Larry Kimble Construction** of Bobcaygeon.

Double doors open into the foyer where dazzling panoramic lake views capture attention through the great room's three-storey, self-cleaning windows and eight-foot patio doors. This is Barry's favourite area, which overlooks the dining room, kitchen and sunroom and features wood ceiling beams, dark maple hardwood floors and distinctive eight-inch baseboards. Aside from the breathtaking view, its most striking feature is the wood burning, floor-to-ceiling cultured stone fireplace created with stone from Kinmount's **Timber Mart** and installed by **Earl Given Masonry** in Bobcaygeon, who also completed the exterior stonework. *Continued on page 38*

LEFT: This towering 28 ft. cultured stone wood burning fireplace has a raised hearth and stone sill, bringing the flames to eye level. **BELOW:** Designed with the view in mind, this home offers spectacular panoramic lakefront views through the three-storey great room windows. **OPPOSITE:** When this Tiki Hut's martini flag is waving it's an invitation to come play. Situated on a floating dock, it has a bar with a thatched roof. **BOTTOM:** This cedar deck runs the full length of the lakeside of the home. Its railing-free design provides an unobstructed view of the lake, and comfy chairs entice you to sit at the lakeside patio, drink in the beauty, and listen to the loons.



BELOW: A gourmet cook's dream, the kitchen's stainless steel appliances complement the gleaming Italian black granite countertops. The four-inch thick butcher block is on a dark maple stand, which matches the cupboards. **RIGHT:** Facing the lake, the formal open-concept dining room is partially separated for privacy, and has easy access to the kitchen. **BOTTOM LEFT:** This three-season sunroom, with a view of nature from every side, can be accessed through the dining room or the lakeside patio. The telescopic sliding door opens eight feet, effectively making it part of the house.



The formal dining room faces the lake and affords amazing views through 16-foot patio doors. Designed for entertaining ease, the room features a colourful hand-blown Italian Murano glass chandelier. The dining room overlooks a three-season sunroom, which offers a stunning vista of the lake. The sunroom is equipped with track lighting, speakers and a 12-foot telescopic door that makes it an extension of the house.

Marian says her favourite rooms include “the dream kitchen and butler’s pantry, which any woman would kill for.”

The custom kitchen features a curved maple wet bar with five Murano glass lights that match the dining room’s chandelier. The cabinets, crown mouldings and computer desk are dark maple hardwood by **Chervin Kitchen & Bath Inc.** of Parry Sound and Waterloo, with Italian black granite countertops. A four-inch thick butcher block stands in the centre on a multi-coloured slate floor, which matches the foyer.

This gourmet kitchen is fully decked out with a stainless steel gas stove, stacked microwave oven and electric wall oven, double oversize refrigerator and freezer, dishwasher, compactor, two wine coolers and an icemaker. And if that weren't enough, there's a pantry/laundry room just around the corner with a beverage refrigerator, tons of storage, sink and a stacked washer and dryer. The pantry is adjacent to an oversize two-car garage with 10-foot-wide doors by **Deer Bay Overhead Doors Ltd.** in Selwyn. *Continued on page 40*



This stunning maple entertainment bar with black granite countertops completes the dream kitchen. It has views of the lake on one side, and features two wine fridges, an ice-maker, and hand-blown Murano glass fixtures from Italy. **ABOVE:** This three-storey floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace is as functional as it is beautiful. Wood-burning, its fans circulate warm air throughout the home.





A plaque over the entrance to the main-floor master bedroom proclaims, "And they lived happily ever after." The master wing has cathedral ceilings and wonderful views of the lake and trees through 16-foot patio doors, which access a private deck area. "You can see the stars from the bed through the high windows above the doors," says Barry. And if you ever tire of that, a 53-inch flat screen TV is suspended on the wall over a gas fireplace.

The six-piece en suite bathroom has heated multi-coloured slate floors and nine-foot ceilings, a large soaking tub with white bead-board and tile surround, a walk-in shower, urinal, and custom designed vanity with marble countertops and his-and-her sinks. The spacious walk-in closet also has nine-foot ceilings.

The main floor guest bathroom is stunning in white and black. **Highland Glass** of Haliburton completed all mirror and shower glass.

Continuing up the maple staircase you'll find a smart-wired entertainment loft with a cathedral ceiling and wood beams. There are two bedrooms upstairs and a five-piece bath.

Sharp Electric in Haliburton completed all the electrical work and the smoke alarms and alarm system are from **McKee Security & Telephone Systems**, also of Haliburton. The stamped cement patio was done by **Fenelon Stampcrete**. *Continued on page 42*



TOP LEFT: Just off the entertainment loft on the upper level, this bedroom has lakeside views through custom designed windows. It's conveniently located close to the five piece bathroom, which converts into a private en suite. **TOP RIGHT:** A dramatic study of black and white, the main floor guest bathroom offsets black ceramic floor tiles and black wallpaper with an elegant white vanity and marble countertops. **ABOVE:** The master bedroom en suite features a large soaking tub, a roomy walk-in shower and a urinal to conserve water. The attached walk-in closet has nine foot ceilings and plenty of storage. **LEFT:** The master bedroom is set apart in a private wing. Windows above the doors are tailor-made for stargazing from the comfort of the king-size bed. It features a sitting area to view the lake, and private access to the deck.



Finest Lake - Finest Bay - Finest Lot
Finest Shoreline - Finest View
Finest Home On The Lake



MAGNIFICANT WATERFRONT HOME

For Sale on Crystal Lake - Kawartha Lakes - Ontario

\$2,360,000 - 15 rooms



519-581-7537

www.wendyhirschmann.com
wendy.hirschmann@sympatico.ca





Take A Look At A Greener View

We care about the environment. Saving energy can do a world of good. And at North Star Windows and Doors, our outlook is getting greener every day. Our manufacturing process is environmentally friendly, so you can take comfort in knowing that when you invest in our windows and doors you are investing in a greener future.

Enjoy the view through North Star windows and doors.



13 Loyalist Drive, Brighton **613.475.3684**
www.vanderlaanbuilding.com

QUALITY WINDOWS AND DOORS. GREAT SERVICE. EXCEPTIONAL VALUE.



Built in Canada  

©2010 North Star Manufacturing (Canada) Ltd. All rights reserved.

Stuart Charity Construction Ltd.

BOBCAYGEON



Custom Homes ■ Cottages ■ Renovations
Additions ■ Garages ■ Boathouses
Insulated Concrete Forms (ICF)

705-738-5546

stuartcharityconstruction@bell.net
www.stuartcharityconstruction.ca



ABOVE: When weather permits, the lakeside patio is the ideal spot to bask in the breathtaking natural beauty surrounding this home. **RIGHT:** During inclement weather this sunroom is the next best thing to being outside. Expansive 'no-see-um' screen windows keep bugs out. **BELOW:** Situated on beautiful Crystal Lake, this oversize dock and Tiki Hut, outfitted with speakers, lights and a refrigerator, is perfect for entertaining.

The Abelsons adore the dream getaway they've created, and memories of entertaining family and friends, romantic picnic lunches on the boat, al fresco dinners on the patio, and spectacular sunsets are held dear. However, they're eager to travel the world and create new ones. Their home is currently listed for sale and includes all furnishings, most from **Cornerstone Home Furniture** in Fenelon Falls and Hauser, and a 21 foot Campion Bowrider boat.

For more information please contact **Wendy Hirschmann** at wendyhirschmann.com. **OH**



- Carpet • Vinyl • Hardwood • Ceramic Floor & Wall Tile •
- Blinds • Free Estimates •



SHADE-O-MATIC
Imagination-Innovation-Inspiration



SERVING BRIGHTON & AREA SINCE 1968
41 Elizabeth Street, Brighton
613-475-0542

Bring in this ad and receive
10% OFF
all Shade-O-Matic custom made blinds



WINNER!
PRESIDENT'S AWARD OF MERIT
2012'S #1 HYUNDAI DEALER IN CANADA



HYUNDAI ELANTRA
NORTH AMERICAN & CANADIAN CAR OF THE YEAR FOR 2012

50 Benson Crt., Port Hope ON
Local & Toll Free Call (888)-859-1612

Find us on: **facebook** www.facebook.com/lauriahundai



BEFORE



MAKE IT YOUR DREAM HOME AGAIN

AFTER



821 Chamberlain Street, Peterborough
warrenwtuck@gmail.com
705-745-9027