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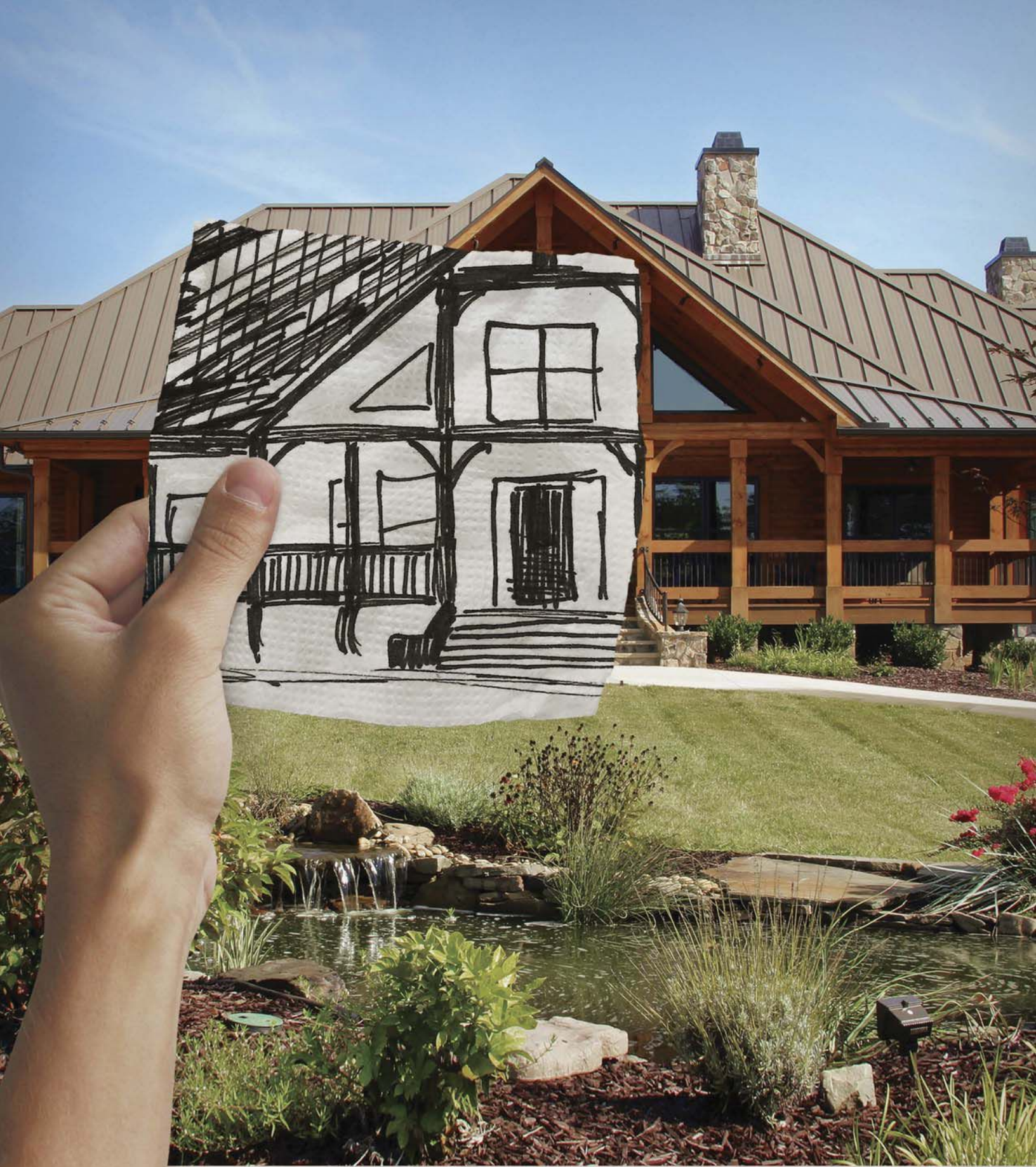
**BUILDER OR GC
WHO SHOULD
YOU HIRE?**



**Win the Trip
of a LIFETIME** p. 20

Tour this *cozy*
2,700-square-foot
handcrafted
home on **p. 64**





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BEGINS
AFTER
PAGE 32.**

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Be sure to visit the ALL-NEW loghome.com for more inspirational homes, ideas and tips!



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Come Along for the Ride



✉ dpeak@aimmedia.com

A few weeks before we went to press with this issue, my family and I embarked on a good old-fashioned road trip. We've typically been "get-where-we're-going-as-fast-as-we-can" people, but this time, we wanted to take it slow and enjoy the ride.

From our Virginia home, we meandered through the Blue Ridge to Asheville, North Carolina, to tour the Biltmore Estate, which, at 178,926 square feet, is the largest privately owned home in the United States. Next, we headed to Charleston, South Carolina, for a little lesson in Civil War history and antebellum architecture. Our journey then took us even farther south to Sea World in Orlando, Florida, where my 12-year-old daughter swam with a 2,000-pound dolphin, effectively checking yet another item off of her bucket list (yes, she really has one). From there we headed east to the Space Coast and a riveting tour of Kennedy Space Center, where rockets launch and imagination soars. After a much needed day of total relaxation on Cocoa Beach, we headed home. In all, our trusty Jeep took us nearly 2,100 miles in eight days.

Not only did each stop entertain and delight my family, it taught me a little something about construction. At Biltmore, I observed how even a mega-mansion in-

corporates intimate, cozy spaces to make it livable. In Charleston, I learned how you site a house can make all the difference in how it performs (piazzas and sleeping porches made the area's intense heat and humidity tolerable pre-air conditioning). Sea World emphasized how a natural environment helps us thrive, and even the rockets at Kennedy held a building lesson: They displayed humankind's infinite capacity not only to dream, but to design and build the vehicles that make achieving the seemingly impossible, possible.

For all the things I learned along our trek, the most important lesson was this: Life really is a journey, not a destination. Call it cliché if you like, but some of the most memorable parts of our trip were playing the license plate game (and desperately trying to be the first to spot the illusive Hawaii plate), laughing over silly things we spied along our route and, in short, reconnecting with my family. In our technology-driven society that moves faster than we can keep up with it, it's a gift to take your time, look around and enjoy the ride. And that's a lesson I won't soon forget.

Donna

DONNA PEAK
Editor-in-Chief

THIS ISSUE FEATURES ANOTHER LIFE-ALTERING JOURNEY: Sean Murphy, our Log Home Journey columnist for the past 18 months, proudly shows off his finished and furnished hybrid log home. **Check it out on page 24.** And if you want to head out on an exciting road trip of your own, **page 56** has just the place to start.

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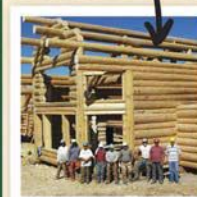


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Detail Oriented

If a log shell is like a finely tailored suit or a custom-designed dress, then a home's architectural details are the jewelry that really polishes it off. Try these structural gems on for size.

A Step Up: *A raised dining room elevates meals from ho-hum dinners to spectacular family events. Flared character logs add drama.*

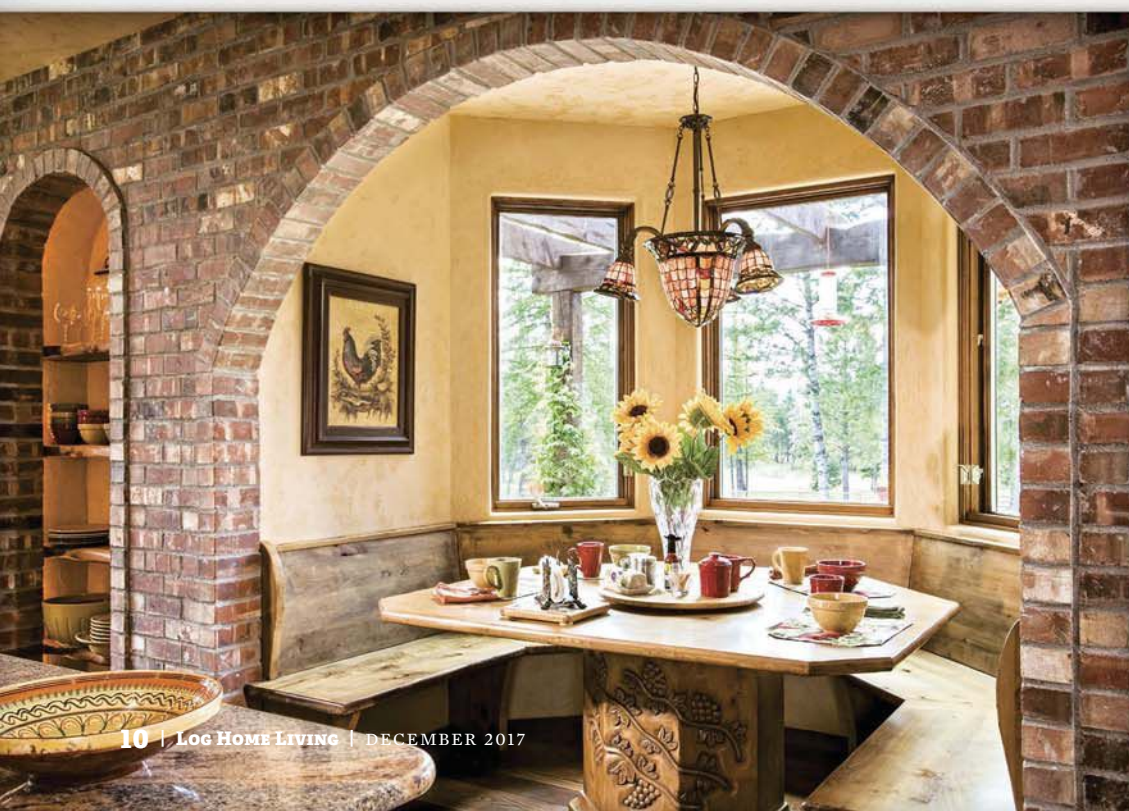


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Rock Me Gently (above): What can be more soothing than a soak in a jetted tub surrounded by a natural stone enclosure that boasts a wood-burning fireplace? Not much! The rugged rocks contrast with the refined board-and-batten wall treatment.



Brick House (left): Rather than simply having a table out in the open, a bricked archway defines the home's breakfast nook. To tie it all together, a smaller built-in shelving unit mirrors the look.

ABOVE: MossCreek photo; LEFT: Roger Wade photo



"If you think they are just like any other log home company, think again!"

— Mike Roseman, High Rock Rentals
Black Mountain, NC

"We have just completed the build of our dream home, and our third Blue Ridge Log Cabin. I wish everyone knew what I know now. When we started this journey, we were inexperienced buyers, like so many other log home enthusiasts. Why would you do it any other way? "

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Wisconsin Log Homes photo by James Ray Spahn

Fall into Place: *The owners of this hybrid log home wanted a show-stopping water feature as a focal point. A 17-foot, stone-encased waterfall fit the bill. A glass-paneled catwalk spanning the entry allows for close inspection of the falls from above.*



Are you a dreamer? That's good, because nothing much happens unless you first have a dream. But there are two kinds of dreamers: one who just dreams it, and the other who dreams to achieve it. If you have dreamt of a Natural Element Home that's not like anyone else's, a great next step is to bring your dream to us. We will help you make it real.

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Every Nook & Cranny: *Perfect for a visiting grandchild, the loft sleeping nook takes advantage of a deep dormer window, making room for a sailor-themed bed. On the opposite side, a comfy sitting area (inset) provides a place to escape, while offering a view of the action in the great room below. Dark-stained accent timbers play off the whitewashed logs, giving the entire space an airy feel.*

Katahdin Cedar Log Homes photos by James Ray Spahn

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Each element of Wanda Mally's handcrafted journals is fully functional. For example, the clasps on the protective vest of "Gone Fishin'" release so you can remove it with ease.



All photos courtesy of Wanda Mally

The Write Stuff

Looking for the perfect gift for the log home lover in your life? These charming journals and guestbooks are just the ticket.

Wanda Mally doesn't describe herself as an "artist." With a career spent in computer-based education and instructional design, including a stint at Marine Corps Base Quantico in Virginia, she's actually quite the techie.

But when her father was diagnosed with cancer, she asked him to write her a letter as a keepsake.

"It dawned on me that I hadn't received

a handwritten letter from anybody in a very long time," Wanda says. This realization got her motivated to start writing more, which led to a desire to keep a journal. "We type so much now. When you hear statistics like the next generation doesn't even learn how to write longhand, that's kind of scary; so I try to create books that make people — especially young people — want to write in them. I want to keep the art of handwriting alive."

After fashioning a journal for her own

use, Wanda's creative juices started flowing. Relocating from the hectic Washington, D.C., suburbs to the tranquility of a log home in the wilds of Maine provided ample time and inspiration to pursue her new passion.

"My husband is a hunter and is a really great influence on me, especially when I create journals that have a more masculine spin, like the 'Camp & Cabin' collection, which features a camouflage/blaze-orange vest and a lot of flannel," she says.

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A backpacking adventure in the GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS is an exciting way to experience the park's outstanding natural beauty and unique cultural history! The 'Smokies' are an icon of Appalachian Mountain culture stretching back to the late 18th century when early settlers built log cabins. The Great Smoky Mountains' magnificent forests, endless ridges, high peaks, cascades and waterfalls, wildlife, and clear mountain streams make it a hiker's paradise. On this tour you will stay at Dancing Bear Cabins - cozy, rustic-but-modern accommodations in the heart of the Smoky Mountains.

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Contest Terms and Conditions Apply. Winners must be 21 or older and U.S. Residents. Winner must comply with Wildlandtrekking's rules, terms and conditions prior to attending the trekking adventure, in writing. The trip must be scheduled between May 2018 and December 2019. Exact lodging details are subject to change. Tour dates are subject to availability. No cash value will be awarded. You will be responsible for travel expenses back and forth to and from the tour. Read terms at conditions is <https://www.wildlandtrekking.com/reservations/terms-and-conditions.html>

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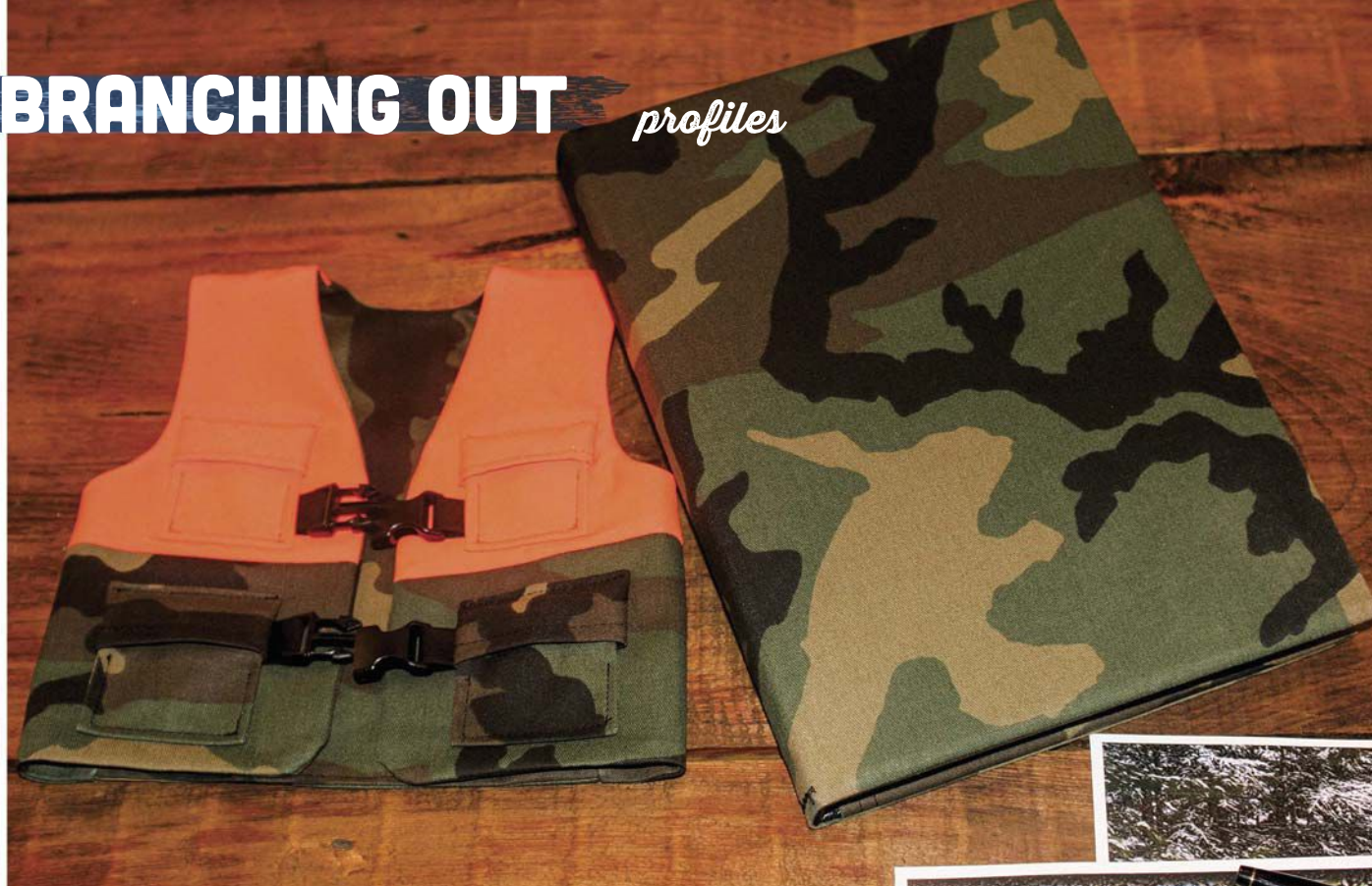
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BRANCHING OUT

profiles



TOP: Wanda's hunter-husband was the inspiration behind the design of her "Hunting Season" journal's style.

ABOVE: The "Leopard Diva" is a great gift idea for the sophisticate in your life.

RIGHT: Wanda's "Weekend at the Camp."

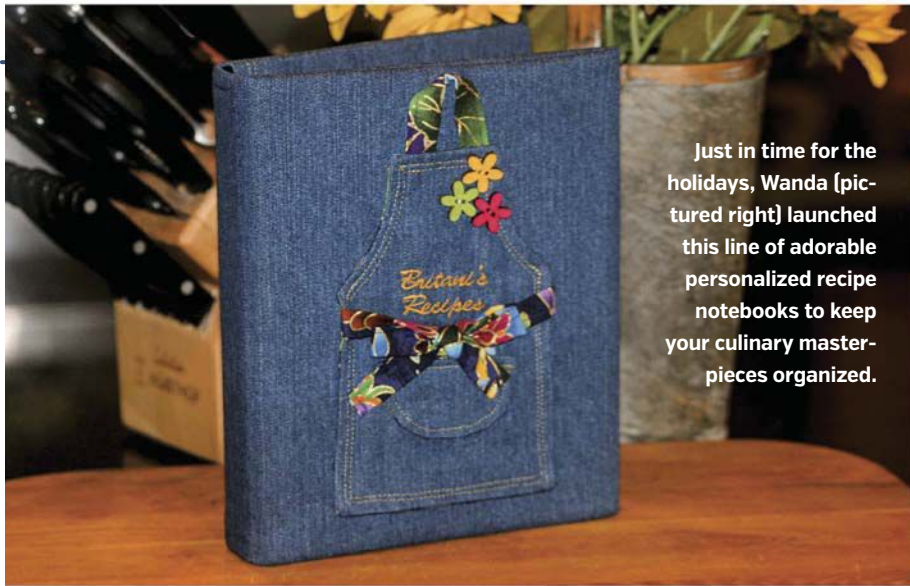


But of course Wanda has quite the assortment of "girly" books, too, ranging from fun faux fur to sophisticated leopard print. "There's not much call for dressing up in Maine, so I like to dress my books up with creative designs instead," she explains with a laugh.

The books, themselves, are encased in a simple, flat fabric, but it's the protective jackets that really set her journals apart. Adorned with

bow ties, buttons or clasps (depending upon the style), every element is fully functional. "When I create the designs, I try to think in the same terms as coordinating your clothes," Wanda says. "In some cases, the cover and the coat fabric match. For others, colors or patterns coordinate with each other. I use both new and repurposed material, like vintage denim."

Wanda's versatile books can be anything



Just in time for the holidays, Wanda (pictured right) launched this line of adorable personalized recipe notebooks to keep your culinary masterpieces organized.

Where to Buy

With prices ranging between \$20 to \$40 dollars, Wanda's journals are perfect for holidays, birthdays, graduations or, of course, log home housewarming gifts. Books vary in size and average 192 pages. Find the perfect journal for you at:

- **Wanda-M.com**
- **The Urban Moose, Calais ME**
- **The 45th Parallel, Perry ME**



you want them to be, from simple daily diaries, to scrapbooks for photos and memorabilia, to guestbooks where visitors to your log cabin can record their experiences during their stay. Recently, Wanda launched a collection of personalized recipe notebooks to keep her customers' culinary masterpieces organized.

Regardless of the purpose, there's something to be said for doing things the old-fashioned way. "Not everything can or should be put online," Wanda says. "I hope my journals inspire people to pick up a pen and record their experiences and memories for themselves as well as for future generations." 



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**NEW!****Rustic Modern***By Chase Reynolds Ewald;**Photographs by Audrey Hall*

To open his exquisite book, author Chase Reynolds declares that, "... the rustic modern movement collaborates with the landscape; they are partners. It boldly employs materials that combine the organic with the cutting edge ... and it revels in transitions between indoors and out that seamlessly blend the two."

This is a truism that log home lovers have long held close to their hearts; one that the pages of this book brilliantly illustrate through its vibrant photography and detailed narrative.

In addition to several log and timber residences, you'll get in-depth tours of incredible houses built of stone, glass and adobe in every size and shape. Designs range from the quintessential chalet to the streamlined Prairie style, each prominently featuring rustic wood elements throughout.

As much as these houses have been influenced by the world of log and timber architecture, true log home devotees will find an equal amount of inspiration in the modern twist and mixed materials applied to these majestic mountain dwellings.

2017, Gibbs-Smith;**Hardcover, 212 pages, \$50***Available online and at major book sellers***DID YOU KNOW?**

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Each option includes all gear, meals, local transportation and accommodations for two people (Yellowstone National Park lodges, including the world's largest log structure – the Old Faithful Inn; or the rustic and cozy Dancing Bear Cabins in the heart of the Smokies.)



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Where will your adventure take you?

Contest terms and conditions apply. Winners must be U.S. residents and be 21 or older.

Find out
more details
on page

17

LET THE SUNSHINE IN

Katahdin Cedar Log Homes recently announced that they have teamed up with fellow Maine-based company, ReVision Energy (revisionenergy.com) to offer solar-ready design and planning for their custom log homes.

"We hope to encourage our customers to embrace solar energy in their new homes as an easy way to harvest the energy of the sun for many years to come," says David Gordon, Katahdin's owner and president. "Whether the solar array is planned for during initial construction or as a future upgrade, ensuring the home is solar ready increases its overall value."

Katahdin customers whose new log homes will be in Maine, New Hampshire and northeast Massachusetts can take advantage of ReVision Energy's complimentary solar-ready evaluation, which includes analyses of the land and planned orientation of the home,

preliminary design plans with solar integration, estimated power usage and installation cost estimate. ReVision Energy also can provide estimated energy rebates and information about available tax incentives.

For those of you outside of the upper northeastern United States, you won't be left in the dark. ReVision Energy is affiliated with Amicus Solar (amicussolar.com), a network of 45 solar-power providers across the nation.

"The key benefit of solar in today's market is the opportunity to fix a home's lifetime energy costs at a very low rate," explains ReVision Energy's co-founder Phil Coupe. For David Gordon, offering an easy way for his customers to explore renewable energy alternatives, like solar power, is a continuation of Katahdin's commitment to environmental responsibility.

For more information, visit katahdincedarloghomes.com or give them a call at 800-845-4533. 



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Builder or General Contractor?

Relationships, accountability and service lie at the heart of whom you should hire to oversee the construction of your log home.

Katahdin Cedar Log Homes photo

In the world of custom log home construction, there's a question that comes up time and again: "Should I hire a builder or a general contractor to construct my home?"

It's a valid question, but not one with a clear-cut answer.

There is an extremely fine line between a "general contractor" (GC) and a "builder." Both should be licensed by the state(s) in which they operate and work. That should be a given. In fact, in most states, a general contractor's license is required for builders as well as those who are solely GCs. The distinction can be confusing for the consumer, but there are a few subtleties that should be understood.

Often, the definition between the two depends a lot on where you live in the country. In some areas, a GC and a builder are one and

the same. That's how it is in my home state of Tennessee. I actually hold a general contractor's license myself; however, I qualify myself as a "builder" and here's why:

For the most part, when people are weighing whether they should hire a GC or a builder, the biggest difference lies in the relationships between that person and the trade contractors.

A GC typically is an individual who manages an assortment of independent trades, including builders and framers. He doesn't necessarily have his own crew working under his umbrella full time. Instead, a GC will take on the project; submit the plans to multiple construction and trade contractors for bid; and select his team based on quality, value and service. Once the team is assembled, he is responsible for scheduling and managing those individuals throughout the entire pro-

cess, though he typically will deploy a site supervisor to oversee daily activities on site.

A builder works in a similar way, except a builder typically has his own crew. He'll personally employ most of the people who will work on the job site. Depending on the size of his business, the trade contractors he may not have in-house are specialists like electricians or HVAC pros, but he often has trusted partners in these areas with whom he frequently works. And more often than not, you'll see a builder participating in construction activities on the site (i.e., swinging the hammer) and personally overseeing the work being done by the team.

There's a perception that a builder has a closer personal relationship with a client than does a GC, and this can play out in myriad ways.

For example, due to the nature of his man-



LEFT: Typically a general contractor serves as a project manager, hiring subs for most, if not all, of the construction work, as well as hiring a site supervisor.

agerial role, a GC will build precisely what is laid out on the plan without question. A builder, however, may look at a plan and see ways to improve it or save money on design or materials, and then convey those suggestions to you. For most builders, a project is as much a reflection of him and his talents as it is the owner's vision. This is not to suggest that GCs don't take pride in their work — they absolutely do! However, the relationship with a builder typically is a more intimate experience. It boils down to a difference in philosophy.

But because a builder is more hands-on (in most cases), he can't take on as many projects simultaneously as a GC can. A GC typically works on volume versus a builder who may sign on for one or two houses at a time. This could create a price disparity between the two, but one option may not be significantly less

ABOVE: The builder/client relationship usually is a more intimate one, and you'll often find your builder personally engaged in daily construction activities.

expensive than the other. Construction costs are more reliant upon the local labor market, as well as the size, materials and complexity of the home.

As you're factoring cost into the equation, keep in mind that when you're making an investment as large as a custom log home, you're not buying on price alone. You need to consider service and what type of relationship you want to have with the person who is responsible for the construction of your home. This, combined with checking references and examining their work firsthand, will help you make the personnel decision that's right for you. **L**

Dan Mitchell owns Eagle CDI in Tennessee and has built close to 100 log homes in his 30-year career. He is the 2017 President of the Greater Knoxville HBA.



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Sean and Amanda Murphy's house is the essence of hybrid log home construction, combining handcrafted logs with stacked stone, colorful board-and-batten siding, timber framing and contrasting trim.

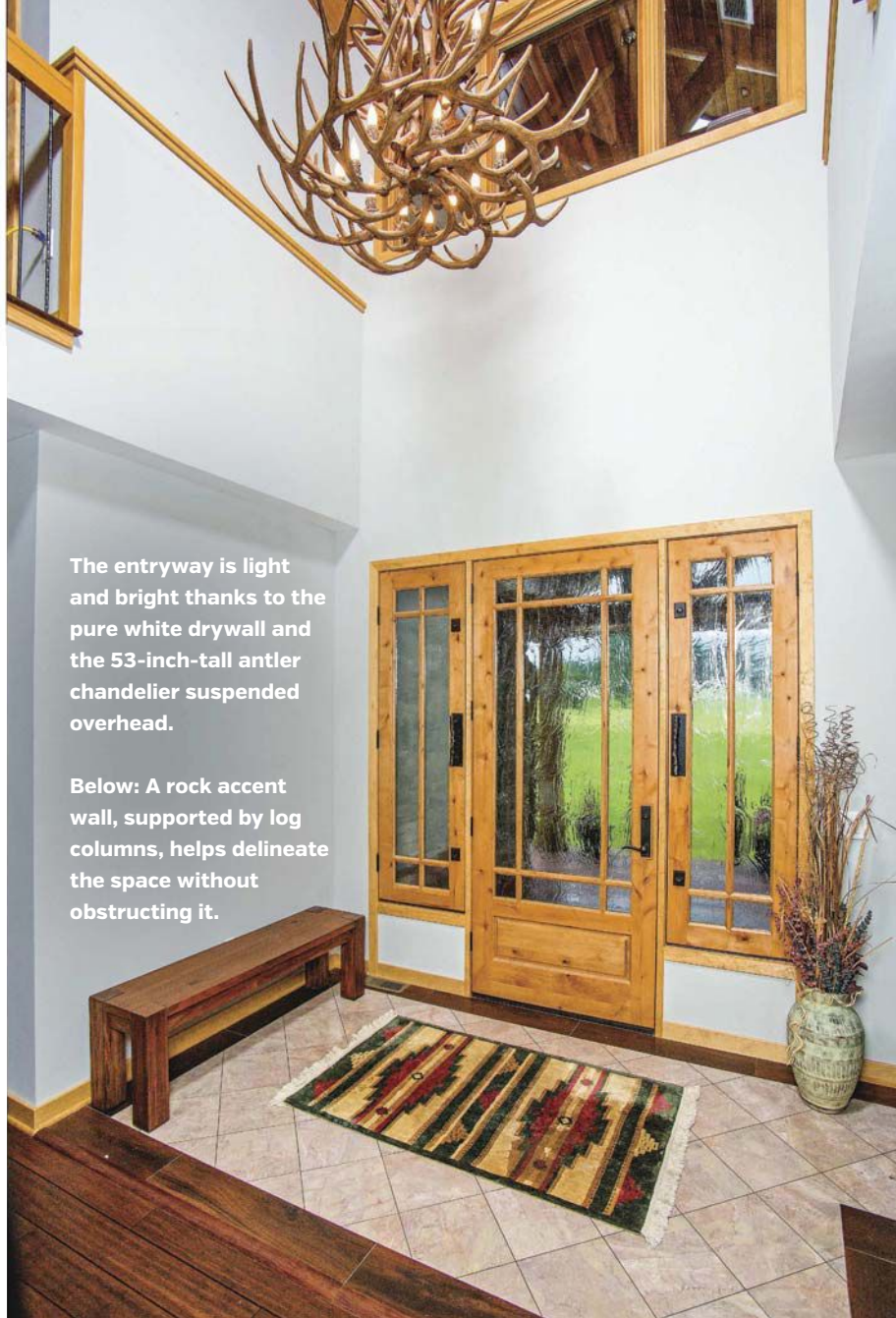


Sentimental Journey



For 18 months, we followed the design and construction of the Murphys' New Jersey hybrid log home in our "Log Home Journey" column. Now we finally get to see their gorgeous destination.

story by **Sean Murphy** photography by **Joseph Hilliard**



The entryway is light and bright thanks to the pure white drywall and the 53-inch-tall antler chandelier suspended overhead.

Below: A rock accent wall, supported by log columns, helps delineate the space without obstructing it.



Life, it is said, is a series of choices, with only the benefit of hindsight to gauge your success. When my wife, Amanda, and I set off on our journey to design and build our dream log home, we knew we were making one of the biggest choices of our lives — one with the most long-lasting impact to our family. Now that our house is done (and has been chronicled in Log Home Living for the past year-and-a-half), we are finally living in our dream. It's nice to be able to take a breath and look back at the myriad choices we made along the way and see what everyone thinks of the home we've built together.

One of the things I hear most from visitors as they see our home from the outside is, "This place is huge!" I won't disagree that it's larger than average house and that the facade it presents to those coming up the driveway or viewing from across the valley may even make it feel imposing. But a major part of our design principle was to create an exterior that makes a statement, with large exposed timbers and truss work, striking rooflines with generous overhangs and an angled garage that visually extends the home's size.

The irony is that for us as a family, and for most of those same visitors once they step

The log work is on full display in the Murphys' great room. Dramatic 25-foot-tall ceilings are accentuated by the golden queen post and parallel chord truss systems. The fireplace is the heart of the room and draws the eye to the glass panels that frame the view.





*"I love my kitchen,"
Amanda says. "In our
last kitchen, we were
always stepping all
over ourselves. Now I
feel like I can breathe."*

inside our home, is that it's very cozy and has a lot of the small-home feel that belies its larger-than-life exterior. It's here that the logs make all the difference, with their warm honey-toned finish and gracefully flared butt ends. There's warmth to wood that doesn't exist with drywall or other typical home finishes.

Our home's layout also fosters togetherness. The kitchen, great room, dining room and bar area all flow together better than even Amanda and I had hoped.

"I love my kitchen," Amanda says time and again. "It's big enough to cook in while the kids run around, color at the island, watch iPads at the table or 'help' me cook. In our last kitchen, we were always stepping all over ourselves. Now I feel like I can breathe."

The kitchen island is the most striking part of the room's design, and Amanda fought hard to keep it the size that it is. There was a lot of concern from many folks, myself included, that it would be too big and have unusable space,

but Amanda was adamant it stay as drawn. It was definitely the right decision for us, and it has worked out fantastic as a spot for the kids to eat and do school activities, as well as for us to set up buffets for dinner parties.

While the kitchen is where most of life happens, it is the great room that's the true centerpiece of our home, because it's the part with the awesome log truss work that draws the most astonishment from our guests. A lot of planning went into the design of the core of



For this growing family, too much space at the oversized kitchen island is never enough. The base, designed to look like a piece of furniture, is topped with a mid-level, mottled-gray granite slab from a local stone yard – a choice that saved the couple a fair amount of money.



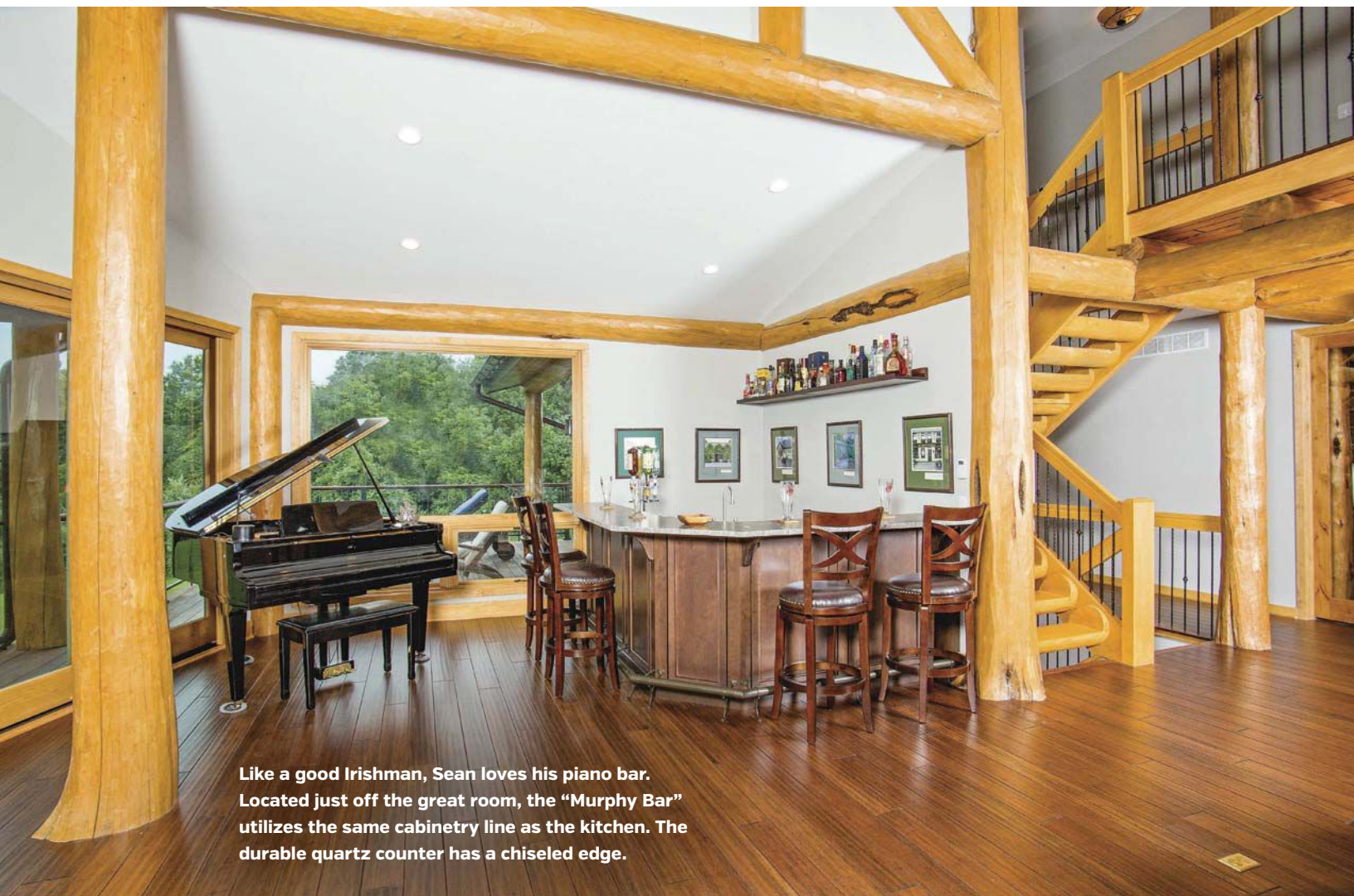
To keep costs low, the wall cabinets are a semi-stock design finished in a grayish-mocha glaze. The Murphys wisely upgraded the hinges and the gliders for functionality. A stone veneer on the vent hood ties in with the great room's fireplace.

our house. I had a very clear vision of what I wanted to see when I walked in the front door and faced the great room: logs, a grand stone fireplace and a view of outside through a wall of windows. And that's exactly what I have.

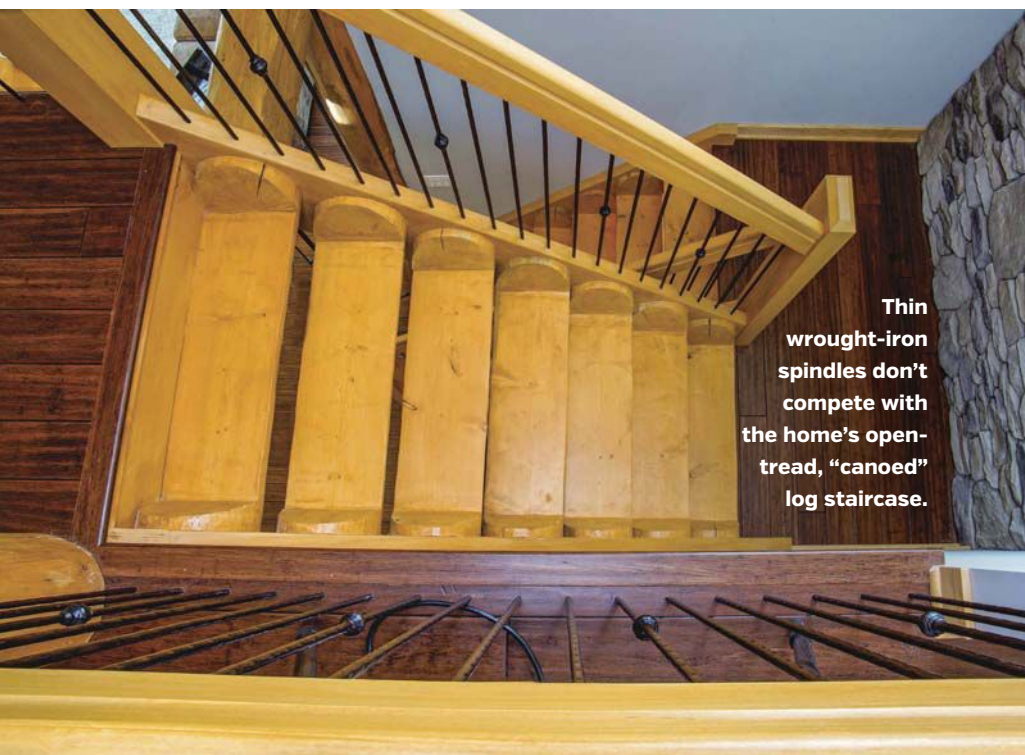
The wood-burning fireplace is the room's anchor, capped by a one-of-a-kind burled redwood mantel crafted by Redwood Burl in California. The adjoining log staircase makes its own statement and doubles as a fun conversation piece. Inspired from the pages of *Log*

Home Living, the hand-hewn "canoed" treads crafted of the same lodgepole pine as the other timbers were assembled into ash stringers by a local stair craftsman and our builder. For all its unique structural components, it's the view that really makes the room, though, and the oversized windows frame some of the most beautiful sunsets in New Jersey. Amanda says, "With all these windows, it's like being outside all the time, and it's just so relaxing to sit and watch the deer walk by."

The smallest members of the family have their own points of view, too. All three, of course, love their rooms. Outfitted with bunk beds in each space, it's where they enjoy playing with toys and an impromptu game of hide-and-seek. Though our son, Shane, admits, "The kitchen is pretty cool, too. There's a lot of room ... and a lot of hiding places." When asked to name her favorite space in the home, Molly was non-committal, "I love everything, because it's sooooo cool!" For as much arguing as I do with



Like a good Irishman, Sean loves his piano bar. Located just off the great room, the “Murphy Bar” utilizes the same cabinetry line as the kitchen. The durable quartz counter has a chiseled edge.



Thin wrought-iron spindles don’t compete with the home’s open-tread, “canoed” log staircase.

my 4-year-old daughter, I find it difficult to find flaw with that statement.

For those that have followed our journey with us, I’ve tried to share my opinions of things as we have moved along, and if I were to share all my favorite aspects of our house, we might need a book instead of a magazine article! One late addition I can share since the last “Log Home Journey” installment is that my great room bar has quickly turned into one of my favorite spaces in the house. The cabinets are from the same Omega line as those in the kitchen, albeit a different style. I absolutely love the Cygnus quartzite countertop with its rustic chiseled edge. It was a frontrunner for our kitchen, but lost out because of its darker color. I quickly revisited it when the bar opportunity came up. As an Irishman, having my own “Murphy’s Bar” is, in the words of



After the Murphy clan moved in, this outdoor fireplace was one of the first features of the home to be used, and who could blame them?

1: The long double-sink vanity ensures there's plenty of room for Sean and Amanda to spread out in the morning.

2: With its simple, ventless gas fireplace and private deck, the master bedroom is the refuge it's intended to be.

3: Sean's home office adds an extra dose of log home charm with the handcrafted accent wall, complete with thin white bands of chinking.



my daughter, "soooooo cool."

As proud as I am of my hybrid log house, what I enjoy most is watching my family and our friends enjoy it as they discover all the little things that Amanda and I did to make the home comfortable and inviting.

Amanda summed it up the best: "You keep asking me what I love most, but what I love most isn't a 'thing' or a 'place.' What I love most is that this house is us, and we made it together." And perhaps that statement is the reason I love her most. **1**

4: The outdoor dining area on the back deck is where this busy family comes together for a little BBQ and a lot of R&R.

THE MURPHYS' JOURNEY

Want to catch up on Sean and Amanda's Log Home Journey from start to finish?
Check it out online at: loghome.com/step-by-step-murphys



BELOW: Sean and Amanda wanted the exterior of their home to make a statement. Mission accomplished.



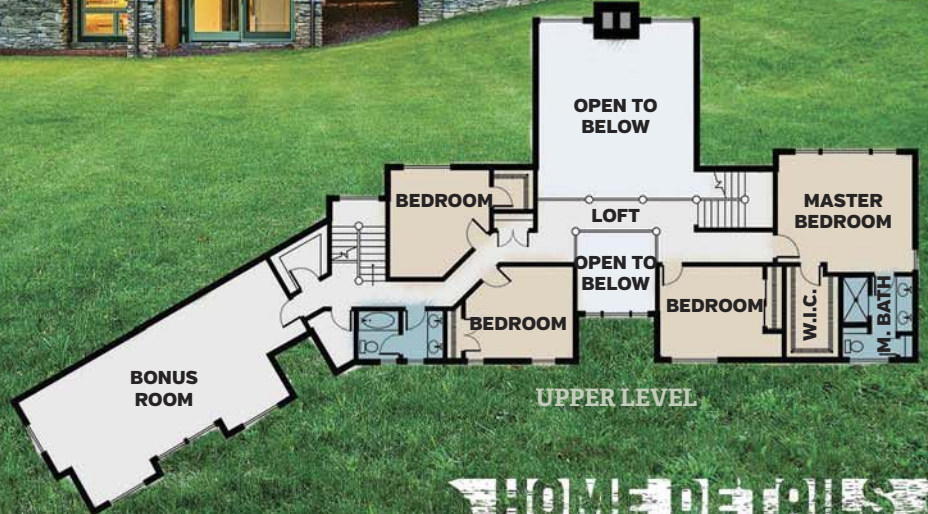
Thank You!

We are grateful to Sean for sharing his journey with us. He, in turn, would like to thank the following companies/people for contributing to his beautiful log home:

Bitterroot Valley Log and Timber (now Montana Custom Log Homes)

Mark Schonrock, Design Company Homes

Bronson Woodhull, Builder



Square Footage: 4,700

Bedrooms: 5

Bathrooms: 4 full, 2 half

Log Provider:

Montana Custom Log Homes



Backyard greenhouses can be as simple or elaborate as you like, but no matter what you choose, location and proper ventilation are essential to successful growing.



Garden Variety

Backyard greenhouses can boost your gardening efforts all year-round.

LOCATION

You'll want your greenhouse to be convenient, especially if you're growing in a cold climate and don't want a long trek through the snow. Some people find the best solution is a lean-to greenhouse that's attached to a house or garage. Others use it as a landscape focal point, with winding pathways leading to the structure. Whichever option you prefer, be sure to place the greenhouse near a water source (and protect your log walls).

GROWING SPACE

This is one area where it may be helpful to overestimate your needs. Because a greenhouse could potentially be in place for decades, you have to consider how you might be expanding your gardening efforts. Give yourself plenty of growing area, as well as room to move around.

Anyone who's ever tried to navigate stacks of pots, soil, trowels, watering cans and other gardening paraphernalia knows how quickly a garage or basement can turn into an unworkable space for plant cultivation or anything else (like parking your car). Fortunately, there's a simple solution: Build a backyard greenhouse.

Not only will a greenhouse give you the storage space you need, it also can help you get a jump on seedlings for the outdoor growing season. Plus, if you're up for keep-

ing it heated, you can have fresh veggies in the dead of winter or grow plants that aren't usually viable in your climate.

Here are some factors to keep in mind if you're considering a backyard greenhouse:

ZONING AND TAXES

Most likely, your greenhouse will be an immovable structure, unless you opt for a small, shed-like space. Because of that, check with your local zoning official about what permits you'll need (if any), what's allowed in terms of square footage and how it might affect your property taxes.

POWER, HEAT & WATER

The most efficient tactic for greenhouses is running separate electrical lines to the structure. Although this may be an investment upfront, you'll appreciate it for powering lights and heaters. If you want to get really professional with your backyard greenhouse, consider installing a misting system. They're surprisingly affordable, incredibly convenient and quite effective for helping plants thrive.

VENTILATION

Proper ventilation may be the single most important factor of greenhouse gardening. Every greenhouse needs to breathe, either in the form of fans or windows/panels that can be opened to allow air inside. Incorporating a good ventilation system that employs exhaust shutters and/or roof vents along with an exhaust fan and a quality evaporative cooler will significantly cut down the risk for plant disease, rot and mold.

CONSTRUCTION

Unless you have very specific shelving, light placement and framing needs, it's likely that you can make your greenhouse build more affordable by ordering a kit. These have come a long way in the past 10 years, and now there are many easy-to-assemble options that you can order online. They can range in price from \$800 to over \$5,000 depending on size and materials. But hiring local builders can be an equally affordable option, depending on where you live. Either way, make sure your flooring material is durable and offers good drainage to ensure your backyard greenhouse will be on solid ground for years to come. **L**

BELOW: Unless you have very specific needs that require a customized build, you likely can get by with a greenhouse kit. They're affordable and easy for the DIYer to assemble.





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Lakeside Living

by Janice Brewster

With 18 acres on Crooked Lake in Minnesota, Roxanne and Paul Peterson had the perfect spot for a log home. They envisioned a place to spend weekends (for the time being) while they looked forward to being there all summer long in the near future.

Why a log home: Ever since the Petersons got married, they had dreamed of a lake home. Then, during a tour of some summer residences, they came across a log home and became enamored.

Most important features: Views of the lake were key for the home, as well as an open floor plan with a master bedroom on the first floor.

The Lowdown

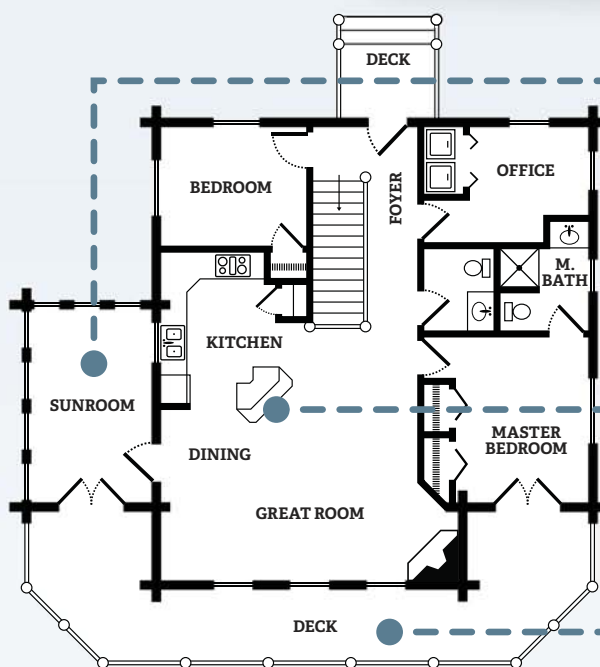
The Petersons looked to the staff at Hiawatha Log Homes in Munising, Michigan, to help design their dream lake house. Tim Robare of Hiawatha sketched out a plan that includes a gas fireplace set in one corner of the great room. "The position is perfect," Paul says. "You can see it from the kitchen and from the sunroom. When you enter the home it's the first thing you see." Another fireplace is located in the walk-out lower level.



Roxanne and Paul

Square Footage: 1,300
(with additional 1,300
in finished basement)

Bedrooms: 2 **Baths:** 2.5

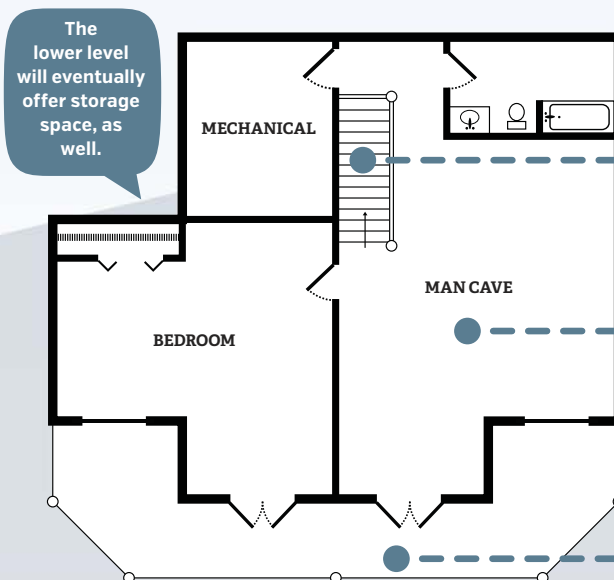


Main Level

A sun room is perfect for sheltered outdoor living.

The kitchen is open to the great room's activity.

The deck takes advantage of the lake view.



Lower Level

Log stairs lead to the lower level and provide plenty of cabin character.

The man cave is the place to relax and entertain.

The lower level has easy access to the lakefront and takes advantage of the sloped site.

The Inside Scoop

The lower level, which Paul hopes to completely finish out himself, is currently home to his man cave and boasts a bar and large family room. Leading to this level is a set of log stairs that Hiawatha Log Homes crafted of red pine with half-log treads, log railings and long, notched logs used as stringers. When planning the staircase in your home, consider these points:

- **Space.** If you have the floor space, you can plan for a long run of stairs with grand details. In a smaller home, you may need to add landings and switchbacks to tuck stairs into a corner.
- **Another option.** If space is truly tight and you just need to access a small space like a loft, consider a ladder. Rolling ladders, or those that can be lifted out of the way with a pulley system, create even more openness and flexibility.
- **Built-ins.** You may have extra spaces around or under your stairway once it's built. Think ahead about ways you could use these areas – maybe for storage underneath the staircase or drawers tucked within the risers. Deep landings can feature built-in window seats or cupboards.
- **Safety first.** To make sure your stairs are safe and easy to use, research your local building codes or talk to your architect or designer while you're in the design phase.



A corner fireplace makes room for plenty of windows in the gable overlooking the view.



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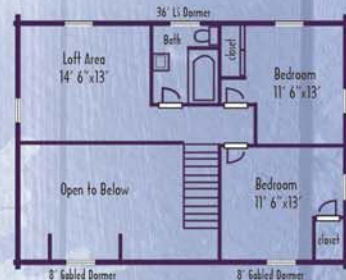
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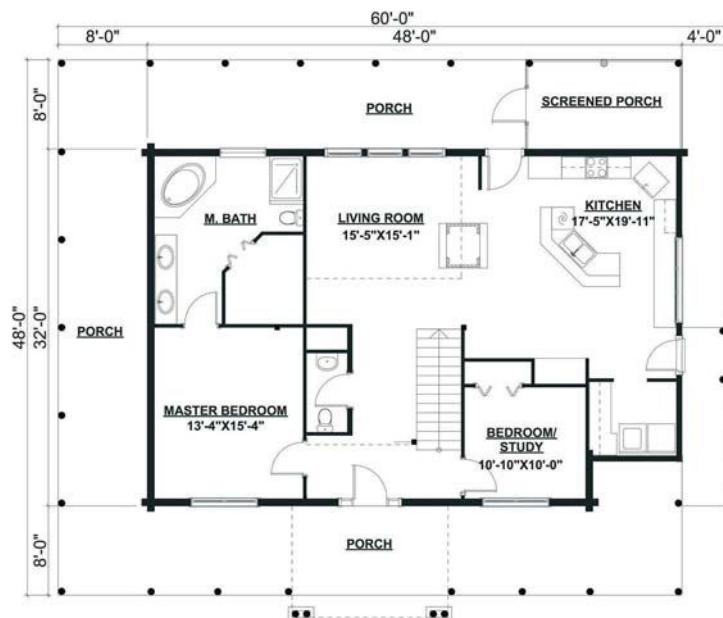
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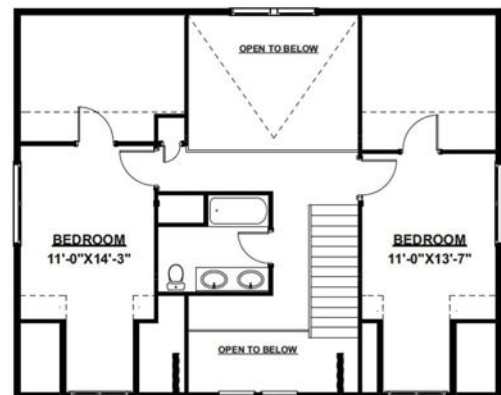


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Baths: 2.5

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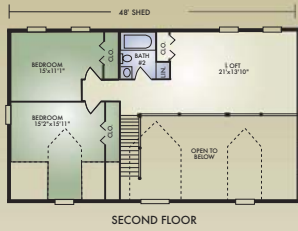
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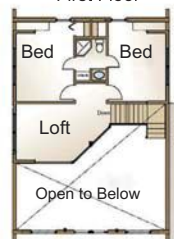
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- Cathedral ceilings
- Loft space
- Front porch & wrap-around deck
- First floor master
- Great plan for site with views
- Easily modified to suit your needs



First Floor



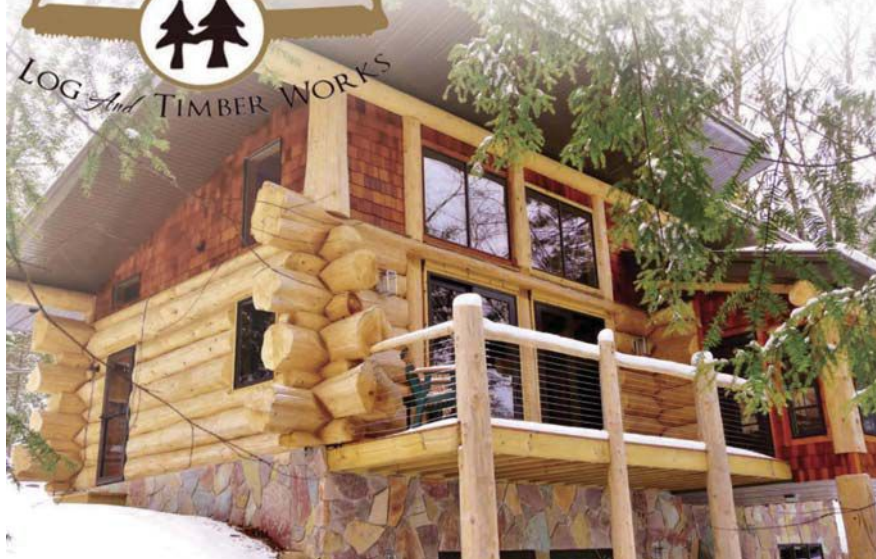
Second Floor

800.732.5564

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John 3:16

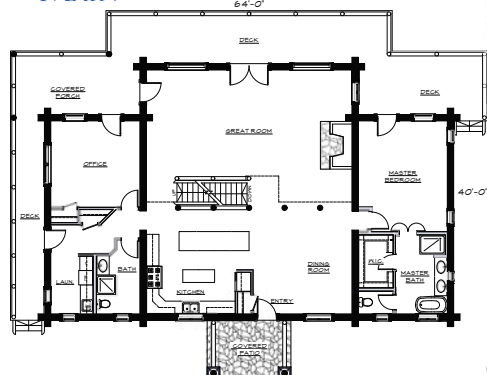


MODEL NAME
MLH-071

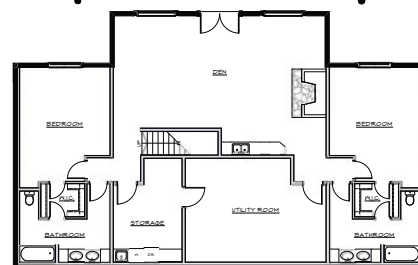
Bedrooms: 3 Baths: 4 full Square Footage: 5,200



MAIN



LOWER



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Country Craftsman

Step inside a Tennessee timber frame
where a vision became a forever home

Story by Claudia Johnson, Honest Abe Log Homes
Photos by Brandon Malone Photography



Lynn and Chris Langer's new timber frame home is a stunning example of how a vision becomes a forever home.

"I guess you'd call what we wanted a mountain-style, arts-and-crafts bungalow," says Lynn, explaining that their idea had been to create the feel of the early 20th century Craftsman architecture frequently seen in Adirondack mountain lodges.

Originally from New England, the Langers retired to Tennessee's Upper Cumberland region after finding land they liked online. They'd owned a timber frame in Connecticut, so they approached the design of their new home with a clear vision.

"It had to have a great room with high ceilings, an open floor plan and a cozy kitchen and dining room," Lynn says. "We found Honest Abe, and now we have exactly what we wanted."

Lynn said that she and Chris were drawn to Honest Abe Log Homes, which has been designing and manufacturing log and timber frame homes since 1979, because of its reputation in the industry. The fact that Honest Abe's design team can easily convert any plan to a timber frame coupled with the caliber of Honest Abe's products convinced the Langers that the Tennessee-based company was a perfect fit for their project.

"We were very familiar with post-and-beam construction, and right away we realized this was quality work," Lynn recalled from her first visit to Honest Abe's headquarters in Moss, Tennessee. "The wood was planed to a smooth finish, and the Douglas fir timbers

were nice and straight with a stylish chamfer."

Working with the Cookeville Honest Abe Log Homes sales team, Greg and Melissa Watson and Ed White, the Langers launched their design process in the spring of 2015.

The Navajo plan from the company's Legacy Collection was almost exactly what the Langers had in mind, but they wanted to customize it on both the interior and exterior. Award-winning designer Michael Hix of Honest Abe's in-house design and drafting department transformed the basic plan to match their concept.

For instance, a first floor guest room shown on the Navajo plan was repurposed into a full-time office, but placement of a Murphy bed in the office quickly converts it to a room for hosting guests like the couple's two grown sons, both city dwellers, who Lynn says love to "come for a rest in the country."

With the house located on 43 acres of rural land fronting the Caney Fork River in White County, Tennessee, the Langers wanted a comfortable spot for experiencing the seasons outdoors. Working with Honest Abe's design team, they created a 16-by-18-foot outdoor room under a large gable roof featuring a wood-burning fireplace of natural, hand-cut stone. "With the outdoor fireplace there's no mess or fuss," Lynn says. "When we want a real fire, we just go outside."

A gabled-roofed outdoor dining room connected by covered porches to the outdoor living room is designed with open walls to catch the summer breeze.

ABOVE: Centered on the front of the Langers' timber frame is a gabled outdoor living room with a heavy timber roof. The handcrafted wood-burning fireplace, the accents surrounding the front door and the floor are of natural, hand-cut stone. A ceiling fan and accent lighting make the room usable day or night.

RIGHT: The Langer home features a covered front porch, covered outdoor living room with fireplace and an outdoor dining room. The exterior siding is made from Hardie board with accents around the front door being natural wood and hand-cut natural stone that matches the fireplace.





TOP: The great room's focal points are the hand-cut natural stone gas fireplace, Douglas fir timber frame components, the heavy timber roof system, Eastern White Pine trim, 2-by-6-inch Engelmann spruce tongue-and-groove ceiling and dark hickory wide-plank flooring.

ABOVE: The main dining room is in the great room, but a cozy breakfast room with a wood-burning stove and a reading nook bathed in light from a row of clad windows are located off the kitchen.

As for climate control inside the home's 2,042 square feet, Lynn says that she and Chris are very impressed with their insulation package and the heavy timber roof system that resulted in surprisingly low heating bills.

"We always heated with wood in Connecticut, so we installed a Hearthstone stove in the kitchen area and our first-ever gas fireplace insert in the great room's natural stone fireplace," Lynn says, explaining that these supplement a propane fired HVAC system that keeps the home toasty warm during Tennessee's colder months.

Lynn said the design for the entire house, which has 1,782 square feet on the main floor and a 240-square-foot loft, demonstrates "very wise use of space" and is expansion-ready. The Langers had a full walkout basement created using Superior Walls. When completed, there will be a common area, two spacious bedrooms, each with its own large win-

dow, a shared full bath and a shop.

"Our house is super comfortable for two people," says Lynn, mentioning that because they plan to spend the rest of their lives there, they made design choices like creating a custom, wheelchair-accessible master shower and placing all living and sleeping spaces on the main floor to ensure that they will remain comfortable.

Lynn says that she and Chris remained "happy through every step" of the process that they had chosen Honest Abe Log Homes as their designer and manufacturer and also to complete the dry-in phase of construction.

"We are convinced that if you want a log or timber frame home, you need to get it from an experienced and reputable manufacturer," Lynn says. "The people at Honest Abe and the quality of their services and products made them a great choice for us."

Honest Abe's homes are shipped across the U.S., and customers are



ABOVE: Textured tile, dark-stained custom wood cabinetry and granite countertops create the feel of an early 1900s Craftsman house with the stainless-steel appliances and vent hood adding a modern touch.

RIGHT: The outdoor wood-burning fireplace is crafted of hand cut native stone and forms the left wall of an outdoor room centered on the facade of the house.

guided through the same process the Langers found comforting by a network of independent dealers and in-house sales consultants.

For more information about Honest Abe Log Homes visit honestabe.com or call 800-231-3695.



800-231-3695
HonestAbe.com
info@HonestAbe.com





Let it Glow

When it comes to illuminating your log home's spaces, let us shine a little light on the subject.

Shadow Play (top)

Welcome the forest into your home with a fixture from Elk Lighting's Woodland Sunrise collection. Available in wall sconces and pendants in a range of sizes, the collection is made from etched steel given a rich aged-bronze patina. elklighting.com, 800-613-3261

Right Angles

A rectangular chandelier looks right at home over a long dining table. The Houndslow from Currey and Co. combines black hammered wrought iron with a clean, contemporary shape and a sophisticated satin finish. curreycodealers.com, 877-768-6428



Photos courtesy of manufacturers listed.



Out Front

Exterior lighting makes your home a beacon of welcome to friends and family. Chateau Outdoor Sconces are available in a wide variety of finishes to fit your unique style. The sconces are made by Hammerton using a combination of Old World artisan techniques and modern manufacturing for exceptional looks and quality. hammerton.com, 801-973-8095



Who's a Pretty Bird? (right)

Woodworker Mike Warnock handcrafts his Egret Lamps using traditional Japanese joinery, so they can be packed flat and assembled with no hardware necessary. Each lamp can be customized with your choice of four wood options, three cord color options and a range of shade shapes and materials. warnockwoodwork.com, 704-942-1511



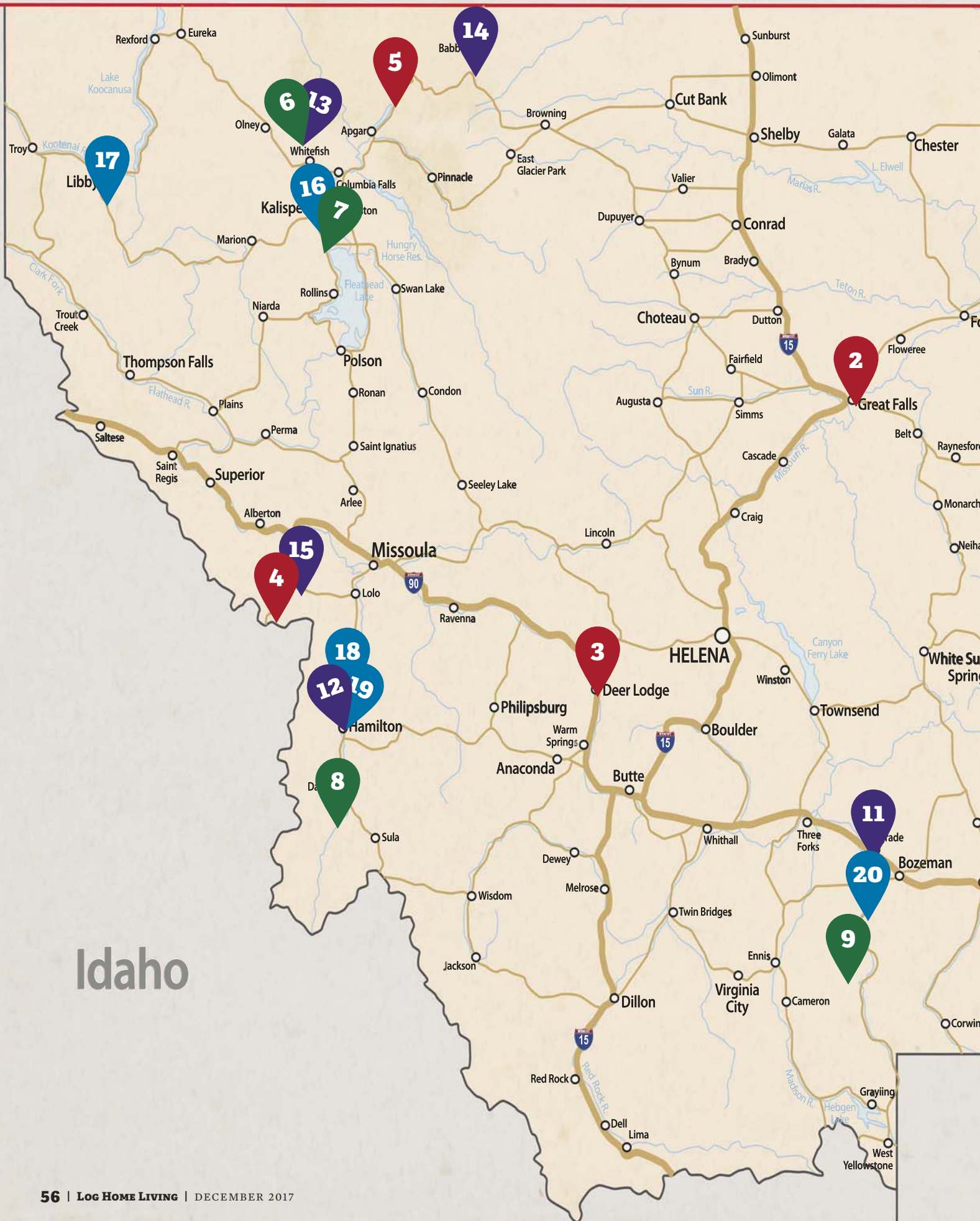
Nautical and Nice (above)

Whether your home is down by the sea or along the edge of a lake, give it a bit of shoreline style with the Fisherman's Pendant Light. Choose from weathered copper or antique bronze. The pendant includes a convenient 36-inch adjustable hanging chain. cabelas.com, 800-237-4444

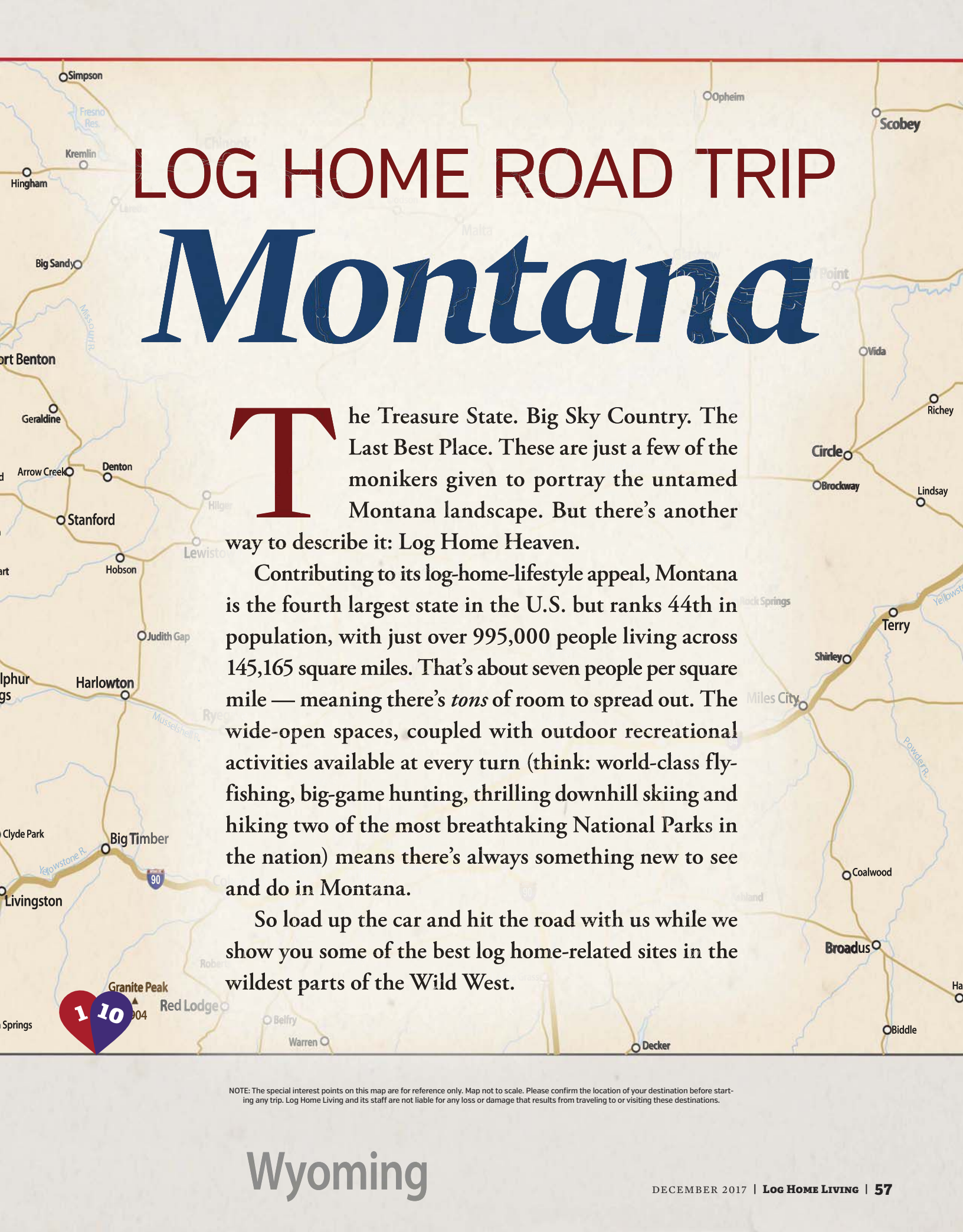
Light It Up (right)

Bring a bit of color and soft glow to a corner of your home with a decorative uplight. The glass cylinders echo the colors of the ocean and forests. Perfect for a night light or to accent a piece of artwork. grandinroad.com, 866-668-5962





Idaho



LOG HOME ROAD TRIP *Montana*

The Treasure State. Big Sky Country. The Last Best Place. These are just a few of the monikers given to portray the untamed Montana landscape. But there's another way to describe it: Log Home Heaven.

Contributing to its log-home-lifestyle appeal, Montana is the fourth largest state in the U.S. but ranks 44th in population, with just over 995,000 people living across 145,165 square miles. That's about seven people per square mile — meaning there's *tons* of room to spread out. The wide-open spaces, coupled with outdoor recreational activities available at every turn (think: world-class fly-fishing, big-game hunting, thrilling downhill skiing and hiking two of the most breathtaking National Parks in the nation) means there's always something new to see and do in Montana.

So load up the car and hit the road with us while we show you some of the best log home-related sites in the wildest parts of the Wild West.

NOTE: The special interest points on this map are for reference only. Map not to scale. Please confirm the location of your destination before starting any trip. Log Home Living and its staff are not liable for any loss or damage that results from traveling to or visiting these destinations.

Wyoming



Mike Cline photo



National Park Service Digital Image Archives photo

Attractions & Adventure

1 The Northeast Entrance Station, Yellowstone

Silver Gate, MT 59081
307-344-7381

nps.gov/yell/learn/historyculture/northeastentrance.htm

No trip through Montana is complete without a visit to majestic Yellowstone National Park, and if visiting this American jewel is on your agenda, may we suggest you check in at the Northeast Entrance Station. Constructed in 1935 and held as a shining example of appropriate design for a National Park Service structure, this charming lodgepole pine log building serves as the gateway to the park and reinforces the feeling that you're entering the western frontier.

2 C. M. Russell Museum Complex and Log Studio

400 13th St. North
Great Falls, MT 59401
406-727-8787

cmrussell.org

This notable stop is devoted to displaying the works and letters of prolific "cowboy artist" Charles Marion Russell, as well as other 19th, 20th and 21st century art depicting the Old West and western landscapes. The museum complex features Russell's original log cabin studio among its historic buildings. In 2005, Russell's painting, "Piegangs," sold at auction for \$5.6M, so don't miss this chance to fully appreciate the mind and soul of one of America's most distinguished painters and sculptors.

3 Grant-Kohrs Ranch Historic Site

266 Warren Lane
Deer Lodge, MT 59722
406-846-2070 x250

nps.gov/grko/index.htm

If you had childhood fantasies about riding the range cowboy style, this is the stop for you. John Francis Grant, the original owner of the ranch, is often credited with establishing the range-cattle industry in Montana in the 1800s, but after a few of his deals went south, Grant felt he could no longer be successful. In 1866, he sold the ranch to Conrad Kohrs, a cattle baron in his own right. Today, the picturesque property is owned and operated by the National Park Service to "provide an understanding of the frontier cattle era of the Nation's history." Sign up for the "Cowboy Experience" to really take in life on the ranch.

4 Lolo's Pass Visitor's Center

44000 US-12
Lolo, MT 59847
208-942-3113

www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r1/specialplaces/?cid=stelprdb5108516

You could say that the Lewis and Clark Expedition was one of the first "Great American Road Trips" ever taken, and you can cross paths with these celebrated adventurers along your own Log Home Road Trip. Located along Highway 12 near the Montana/Idaho border, be sure to stop by this historic log cabin visitor's center, where you can pick up regional information while you enjoy a cup of hot chocolate, tea or coffee by a comforting warm fire in the "warming hut." After that, a world of wintertime fun in the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest (which operates the Center) awaits.



National Park Service. U.S. Department of the Interior photo.





Royalbroil photo

5 Going-to-the-Sun Road

Glacier National Park

glacierparkinc.com/plan-your-trip/traveling-going-to-the-sun-road

Sometimes on a road trip, you just want to cruise, and the main parkway through the heart of Glacier National Park is a driver's dream-come-true. Negotiating past glaciers, valleys and cascading waterfalls, this captivating roadway is the only one that crosses the Continental Divide through Logan Pass at an elevation of 6,646 feet, the highest point on the road. For nearly 50 miles, through narrow lanes and hair-pin turns, you can take a thrill ride through the most majestic natural scenery you've ever seen. Just be sure to share the road with the bighorn sheep.

Loggin' the Miles

Headed out on your Montana Log Home Road Trip? Let us know where you are and what you've seen! Check in or post pics to loghome.com/ facebook or loghome.com/Instagram and use the hashtag [loghomeroadtripMT](https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/loghomeroadtripMT)

Photos courtesy companies listed unless otherwise noted.

Resorts & Rentals

6 Whitefish Mountain Cabins

3864 Gelande St.

Whitefish, MT 59937

406-314-1090

whitefishmountaincabins.com

Offering the perfect mix of rustic logs and contemporary style, this intimate ski-in/ski-out getaway is within walking distance of iconic eateries and bustling nightlife. With all the trimmings of a 5-Star resort, staying in one of its tiny, well-appointed black-and-white cabins is an experience where comfort reigns and memories are made.

7 Somer's Bay Log Cabins

5496 Highway 93 South

Somers, MT 59932

888-443-3881

somersbaycabins.com

Centrally located in the Flathead Valley just eight miles south of Kalispell and 45 minutes from Glacier National Park, this collection of cozy log cabins is nestled among the pines on the northwest shore of Flathead Lake, the largest natural lake in Montana. Fly-fishing, boating, golfing, hiking and skiing are all here for you to enjoy.





8 Triple Creek Ranch

5551 West Fork Road

Darby, MT 59829

800-654-2943

triplecreekranch.com

Perched on the edge of the Idaho border, Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest and the rugged Rockies, this classic Montana hideaway boasts charming log cabin accommodations ranging from quaint one-bed/bath to luxury log homes. Just a leisurely stroll from the cabins you'll find the main ranch, which serves as the hub of activity where guests come together. An exceptional gourmet dining experience, vintner events — even a cooking school — keep visitors entertained and fully sated during their stay.

9 Lone Mountain Ranch

750 Lone Mountain Ranch Rd

Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730

800-514-4644

lonemountainranch.com

If LMR looks familiar, you may have spied its feature in the April 2017 issue of *Log Home Living*; but the accommodations are so good they bear repeating. Adorable one- and two-bedroom log cabins offer quiet spots to relax after a day of snowshoeing, dog-sledding, horseback riding or downhill skiing. Several onsite restaurants and an old-fashioned saloon mean you never have to leave the ranch to find a good time.



Heidi Long photo



Dine & Shop

10 Log Cabin Café

106 US Highway 212

Silver Gate, MT 59081

406-838-2367

thelogcabincafe.com

Located just north of Yellowstone's Lamar Valley, this 80-year-old staple features savory home cooking for hungry explorers seeking to fuel their wilderness adventures. Start your day off right with the secret recipe to the perfect pancakes that they've "guarded with their life" and top them with succulent organic blueberries when they're in season.

11 J. Dub's Metalworks

521 Business Hub Dr.

Belgrade, MT 59714

800-622-9015

jdubs.com

Instead of a coffee mug or shot glass to commemorate your Montana Log Home Road Trip, why not pick up a souvenir that means something — stop by J. Dub's showroom for a piece of functional, decorative or architectural metal art you can incorporate into your own log home. Known as the home of "The Original 30 Cowboys,"

J. Dub's produces everything from off-the-shelf weather vanes to custom artisan metalwork for doors, balconies and more.

12 Specialty Woodworks Co.

212 Pennsylvania Ave.

Hamilton, MT 59840

406-363-6353

specialtywoodworks.co

Since 1981, Specialty Woodworks has proudly professed that its handcrafted doors, cabinetry and fireplace mantels and surrounds are "Made in Montana." Conveniently located in the beautiful Bitterroot Valley, the folks here would love nothing more than for you to come see their exquisite work in person while you travel along your Log Home Road Trip.



13 Café Kandahar

3824 Big Mountain Road
Whitefish, MT 59937
406-862-6247

cafekandahar.com

The freshest ingredients, many of which are locally sourced, are the hallmark of one of Montana's most critically acclaimed restaurants, conveniently located on the doorstep of Road Trip stop #6. Gourmet offerings include elk roulade, black trumpet mushrooms, sturgeon and buffalo tenderloin. For an evening of fine dining, you can't go wrong here.

14 Johnson's of St. Mary's

21 Red Eagle Road
Browning, MT 59417

johnsonsofstmary.squarespace.com

Known for its homemade bread, spicy fried chicken and unlimited creativity when it comes to huckleberries (they use them in everything from cocktails to mile-high pie), this family-style restaurant near Glacier National Park is the place for good old-fashioned fare. Food is served family style with big plates and bowls to share. Open seasonally from mid-May to late September.

Photos courtesy companies listed unless otherwise noted



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Montana Custom Log Homes proudly offers the finest Full Length Milled Log home packages available in the marketplace. Our ability to mill logs up to 60' in length, and in diameters up to 24", we can guarantee ZERO BUTT JOINTS in your new home. Come visit our 6,400 sq.ft. show home in Victor Montana, and see what we can do for your next project!



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instagram.com/jdubsmetalworks



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From "Cabins to Estates" the craftsmen at Kalispell Montana Log Homes have been handcrafting custom log homes and cabins since 1975. The talented log smiths hand peel, scribe and notch each log to fit perfectly together, like a fine work of art. Whether you are looking for a rustic "log cabin" or an impressive "log estate" the professionals at Kalispell Montana Log Homes have the experience and knowledge to make your dream home become reality! Visit us on the web at MontanaLogHomes.com



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www.montanaloghomes.com



Nathan Winter photo

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specialtywoodworksco.com



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Welcome to our brand new ski in/ski out luxury log cabins! The perfect mix of rustic and contemporary, our cabins sleep up to 6, with fully equipped kitchens and outdoor amenities including private hot tubs. Experience a true Montana vacation at Whitefish Mountain Resort, only a short walk or ski away from restaurants, bars and shopping, and a 10-minute shuttle ride away from town. Come create memories in our winter wonderland!



406-314-1090
vrbo.com/961711
whitefishmountaincabins.com



15 Lumberjack Saloon

7000 Graves Creek Road
Lolo, MT 59847
406-273-6264

lumberjacksaloon.com

This offbeat cedar-log bar and grill is a favorite hangout of locals and lucky visitors alike. The full bar features a wide array of microbrews, juicy burgers, live music and even cabins and camp grounds (in case the fun goes on all night long!) Open Tuesday through Sunday.

Log Home Companies

16 Montana Log Homes

3250 Highway 93 South
Kalispell, MT 59901
406-752-2992

montanaloghomes.com

Handcrafting and attention to detail have been the hallmarks of MLH since 1975. This award-winning company is known for

its intricate log joinery, hand-scribed construction and exceptional millwork. With stock plans ranging from 600 to 6,000 square feet, there's a solution for every buyer's budget. Take a break from the road and pay a visit to this world-class log home producer along your journey.

17 Meadowlark Log Homes

50 Meadowlark Lane
Libby, MT 59923
800-850-8554

meadowlarkloghomes.com

The Amish community has long been synonymous with hand-made products of exceptional craftsmanship, and Meadowlark Log Homes has been building log homesteads in that time-honored tradition for decades. A stop here won't merely expose you to their log houses — visit their Farm to Market Store & Bakery, located next to the office, for a selection of organic Amish groceries or simply to enjoy coffee and a roll



in a charming log cabin setting.

18 Montana Custom Log Homes Inc.

2036 US Hwy 93 N.
Victor, MT 59875
406-642-3091

bvlogandtimber.com

The Bitterroot Valley has long been known as log home country, and Montana Custom Log Homes (formerly known as Bitterroot Valley Log & Timber) carries that tradition proudly. Their stunning 6,100-square-foot show home and offices, as well as their mill, are open for you to tour along your Road Trip. Here, you can see the outstanding craftsmanship that goes into each of their milled log or timber framed homes for yourself.

19 Rocky Mountain Log Homes

1883 Highway 93 South
Hamilton, MT 59840
406-363-5680

rockymountainloghomes.com

Rocky Mountain Log Homes has been a staple of the industry for the past four decades. In their experienced hands, a log or timber home isn't just a place to live — it's a piece of sculpture. But don't take our word for it, see for yourself by visiting their state-of-the-art facility in Hamilton.

20 Lumberjack Log Homes

70 Williams Road
Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730
406-763-4421

lumberjackhomes.com

Specializing in round, Swedish-scope styles made from sturdy standing-dead lodgepole pine, Lumberjack Log Homes has been a Montana-based, family-owned business since 1981. And since they're conveniently located on the way to Yellowstone National Park, so stop by to learn about their charming full-log and log-sided homes. **L**



Photos courtesy companies listed unless otherwise noted.



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 March 23 or 24, 2018

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Ready for a graduate's degree in building your dream home?

If you're serious about building a log, timber frame, hybrid or custom wood home, the Log and Timber University is a must for you. This course provides detailed, step-by-step instructions to save thousands, avoid pitfalls and correctly budget, plan and build your dream wood home.

Our University professor will provide **unbiased** guidance to help you build your dream home. In addition, the course draws upon more than 50 years of knowledge contained in the pages of *Log Home Living*, *Cabin Living* and *Timber Home Living* magazines.

Topics include but are not limited to:

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- Site considerations
- Deciding on a lender, supplier and builder
- Design decisions

- Manufacturing, delivery and installation
- Finishing your home

The presentation also includes a question and answer session with our professor and numerous images from the pages of our magazines to inspire your own design.

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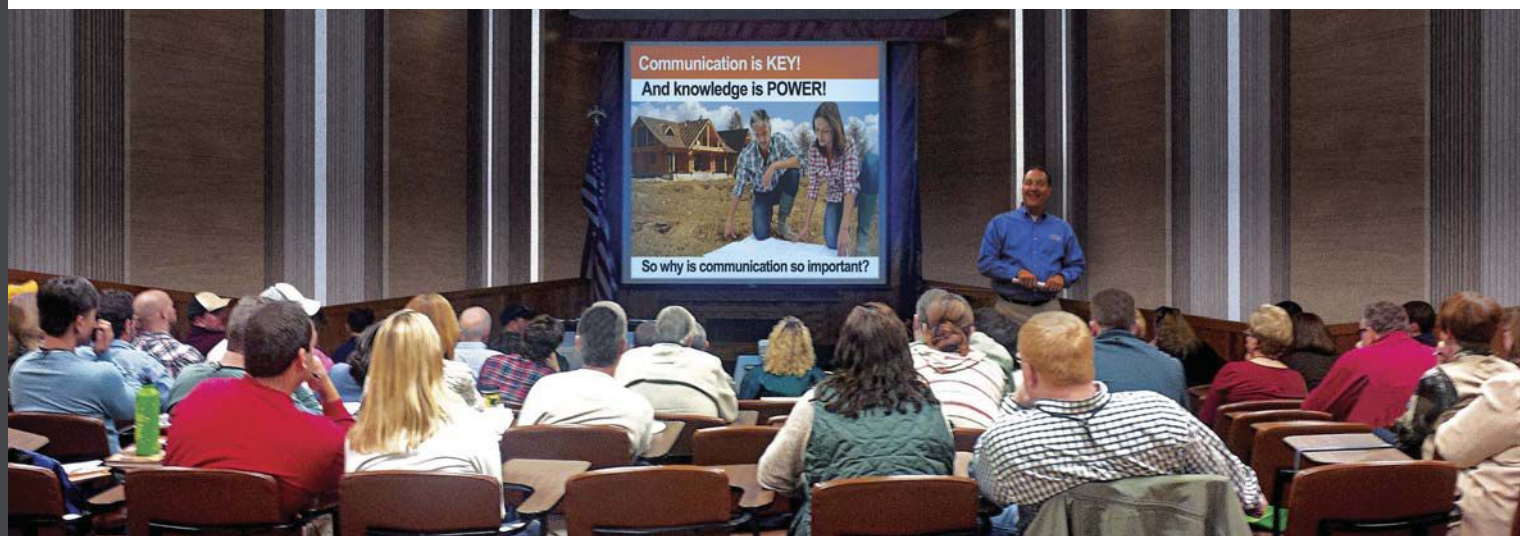
The course is \$119 per couple or \$85 per person, which includes the Course Guide, a comprehensive textbook to guide you through the entire homebuilding process; *Annual Buyer's Guide*; continental breakfast or snacks; plus **FREE** Lifetime Alumni Pass to the Log & Timber Home Shows.



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90% of the people who take this course would recommend it to others.

Natural Attraction

The Koblenz family wanted a one-of-a-kind log home that harmonized with their Rocky Mountain locale. Summit Log & Timber Homes gave them what they wanted and then some.

story by **Donna Peak**

photography by **Heidi Long**





ABOVE: Many of Summit's clients opt for a corner treatment called a "staggered corner," in which the butt end actually comes out farther than the tip, showing the flared root base and giving the home a more rugged appearance. But this house has a more refined "flush-cut" corner, where the ends are trimmed to the same length. They are joined with a wedge notch, which provides a cavity that allows the logs to tighten as they settle.

LEFT: In crafting a rustic western red cedar log home for the Koblenz family, Robert Lockerby, co-owner of Summit Log & Timber Homes, and his team employed a variety of masterful techniques – especially the joinery. For example, the unique truss system is called a "bell truss," because within its more familiar "scissor truss" design, there's a hanging king post in the center, which resembles the striker of a bell.

RIGHT: The show-stopping staircase is the focal point of this home. Simple wood-slab treads are notched into a single, naturally curved log stringer that the owners affectionately nicknamed "the humpback whale." The stringer itself is roughly 24 inches in diameter. The result is a piece of functional art.







ABOVE: Where each log contained within the walls retains its natural contour, the kitchen cabinetry has a sleek, uniform appearance. This creates visual interest even though the walls and the cabinets are stained the same hue. Rough-honed black granite tops the counters and ties in with the slate tile flooring below.

LEFT: The large-scale, randomly shaped fieldstone encasing the fireplace [the same rock that was used for the foundation] creates the dramatic effect necessary for the hearth to hold its own among the large-diameter cedar log walls. Western red cedar is used quite frequently in the world of handcrafting because it's durable, insect resistant and very easy to work with. Plus, it has fantastic thermal properties, so it's highly energy efficient.

RIGHT: Cedar is very straight grained and typically only develops small checks where wood fibers separate. It settles about 4 inches for every 10 feet of wall. "It will take about two years for logs of this size and diameter to completely settle. Many people believe that it's the slow release of moisture that causes settling, and that's certainly part of it; but the bigger factor is gravity and the sheer weight of the building materials," says Robert.





BELOW: The Rocky Mountains provide the perfect canvas for a log home that echoes its rugged terrain in both its design and its materials.

BOTTOM: After a day of hiking, a convenient outdoor shower, located beneath the home's deck, provides an elegant place to clean up.



TOP: Though the logs are large, the home's footprint is not. The cozy master bedroom boasts a reading nook, adding healthy doses of charm and natural light. The furniture is simple so as not to compete with the architecture.



ABOVE LEFT: In keeping with the home's "all natural" theme, the creative tile work in the master bath's shower mimics a babbling brook trickling down from a gentle waterfall and cascading over the threshold.

ABOVE RIGHT: For the master bath's non-log walls, the owners used a paint shade somewhere between mauve and mocha. The logs are stained with a 50 percent cut of Timber Pro Coatings Canada TR-32 "Harvest Brown."





SECOND LEVEL



MAIN LEVEL (Lower level not shown)

HOMEDetails

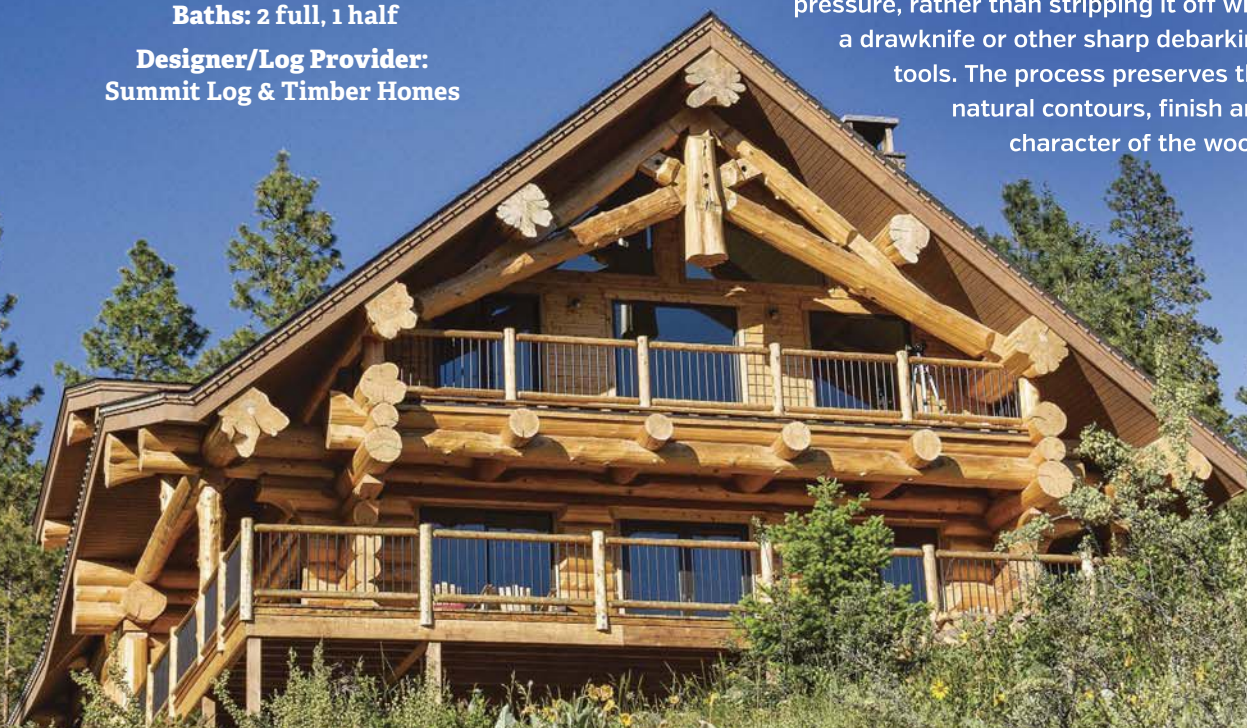
Square Footage: 2,703

Bedrooms: 2

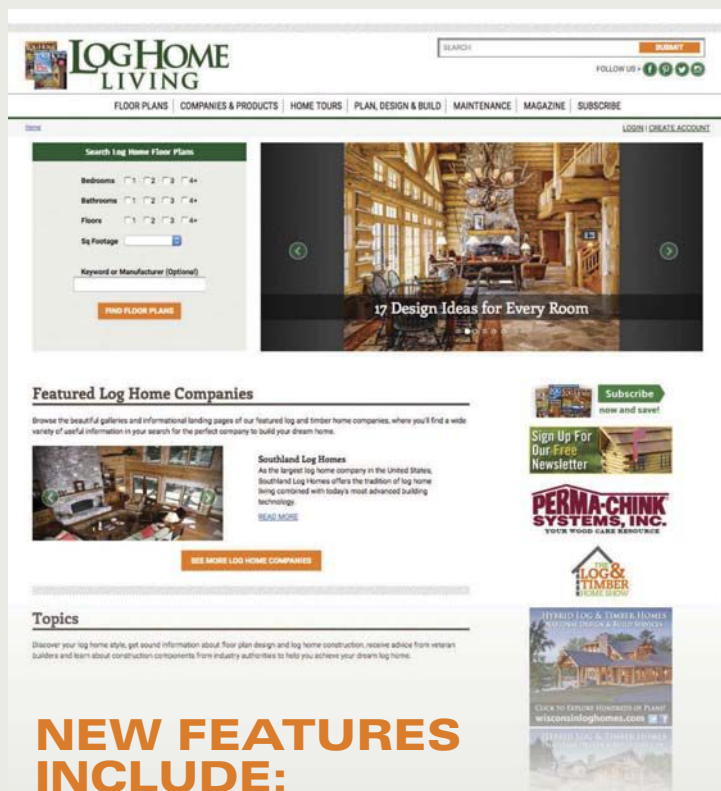
Baths: 2 full, 1 half

Designer/Log Provider:
Summit Log & Timber Homes

BELOW: The log shell of this house is built with “latewood” cedar, which is achieved by removing the bark with water under high pressure, rather than stripping it off with a drawknife or other sharp debarking tools. The process preserves the natural contours, finish and character of the wood.



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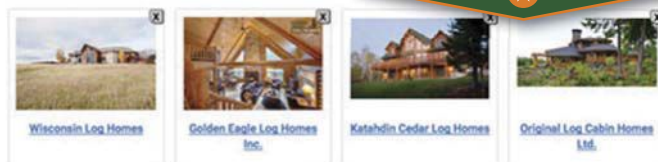
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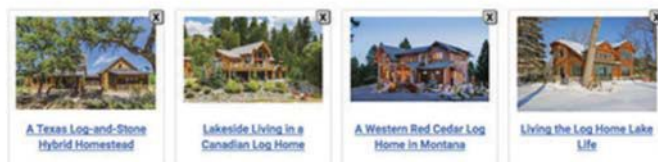
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Log and Timber
Homes Council

Seal Your Deal

As you're shopping for your dream log home, you should look to producers who bear the Log and Timber Homes Council's seal. Here's why.

BY DEVIN PERRY

The National Association of Home Builders' (NAHB) Log and Timber Homes Council is firmly established as North America's premier advocacy group for log and timber home manufacturers.

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Council members craft exceptional homes in a wide range of styles and wood species.

To find a log or timber home producer in the Council, you've got two online resources at your disposal: nahb.org and loghomes.org.

For additional information, contact the LTHC at 800-368-5242 ext. 8576.



Around the same time General Motors had Americans singing about “Baseball, Hot Dogs, Apple Pie and Chevrolet,” a group of dedicated individuals started laying the groundwork to promote and protect another national icon, the log home. Now, 40 years later, The National Association of Home Builders’ (NAHB) Log and Timber Homes Council is firmly established as North America’s premier advocacy group for log and timber home manufacturers.

Founded in part to resolve technical and code compliance issues that were impacting the industry, members of the Log and Timber Homes Council have worked tirelessly to protect America’s archetypal home style.

Representing more than 30 of the top manufacturers in North America, home buyers would do well to work with companies that are part of NAHB’s Log and Timber Homes Council, as they hold themselves to a higher standard of business and construction practices. Log and Timber Homes Council members must:

- Abide by a strict code of ethics.
- Grade their logs and timbers by third party agencies to ensure structural integrity.
- Provide detailed construction manuals to ensure correct construction techniques.
- Sponsor scientific studies that advance log building technologies.
- Provide free information to help consumers make smart choices.

“I have never worked with a group more dedicated to customer service and ethics than my fellow Log and Timber Homes Council members,” says Council chairman Josh Beasley of Honest Abe Log Homes in Moss, Tennessee. “Each company invests not only in themselves, but also the entire log home industry to ensure its vitality for years to come.”

Members of the Log and Timber Homes Council also abide by the free enterprise system, where companies compete on a level playing field for their clients’ business. Members agree that they will not attempt to injure, with malicious intent, either directly or

indirectly, the professional reputation of other members, nor to indiscriminately criticize another member’s work in public, or take unfair advantage over fellow members. Each member agrees to conduct his or her business in a manner that avoids controversy, but that if a situation does arise, to resolve the dispute through non-litigation mechanisms whenever possible.

Although the Log and Timber Homes Council has no way of mediating disputes with non-members, the Council maintains a file on all non-member complaints it receives. This helps the Council to protect the entire industry – whether they’re members or not. The Ethics Committee also reviews this file when considering a log and timber home manufacturer for Council membership, to ensure the Council seal always denotes a quality supplier.

“As one of our founding principles, Council members dedicate themselves to protecting the log and timber homes industry,” explains Josh. “Part of that effort is ensuring that only companies who meet our strict eligibility requirements are able to carry the NAHB Log

“As one of our founding principles, Council members dedicate themselves to protecting the log and timber homes industry,” explains chairman Josh Beasley of Honest Abe Log Homes in Moss, Tennessee. “Part of that effort is ensuring that only companies who meet our strict eligibility requirements are able to carry the NAHB Log and Timber Homes Council seal.”



RIGHT: Katahdin Cedar Log Homes; FAR RIGHT: Golden Eagle Log Homes; TOP RIGHT: Timberhaven Log & Timber Homes; BELOW: Southland Log Homes



and Timber Homes Council seal.”

To ensure the best experience possible for your log home plans, look for the NAHB Log and Timber Homes Council seal before you design or build your dream log home. To learn more, visit the consumer website of the NAHB Log and Timber Homes Council at loghomes.org or call 800-368-5242, ext. 8576.

DID YOU KNOW that log and timber homes are considered systems-built structures? This classification comes from the systematic approach to building the homes, as well as the controlled environments in which they are crafted. Other building-system methods include modular, panelized and concrete construction, and often these systems combine to make for a truly unique and high-performance house. The National Association of Home Builders' Building Systems Councils (BSC) represents all of these types of housing and the highly skilled men and women who build them. For more information, contact the BSC at 800-368-5242, ext. 8576 or visit nahb.org/bscbrochures.



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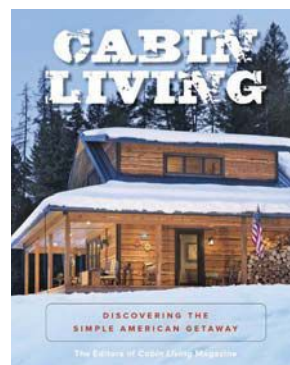
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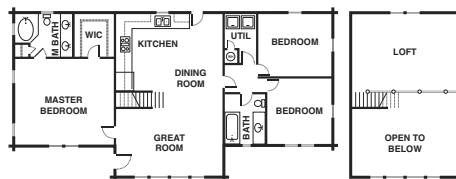
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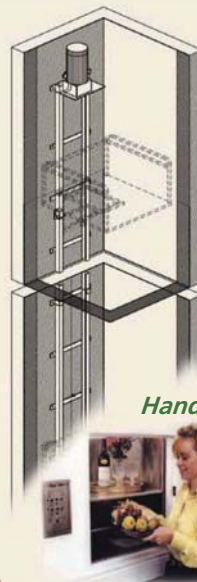
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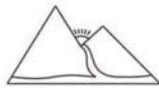
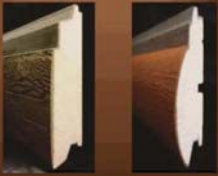


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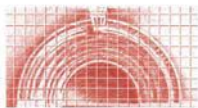
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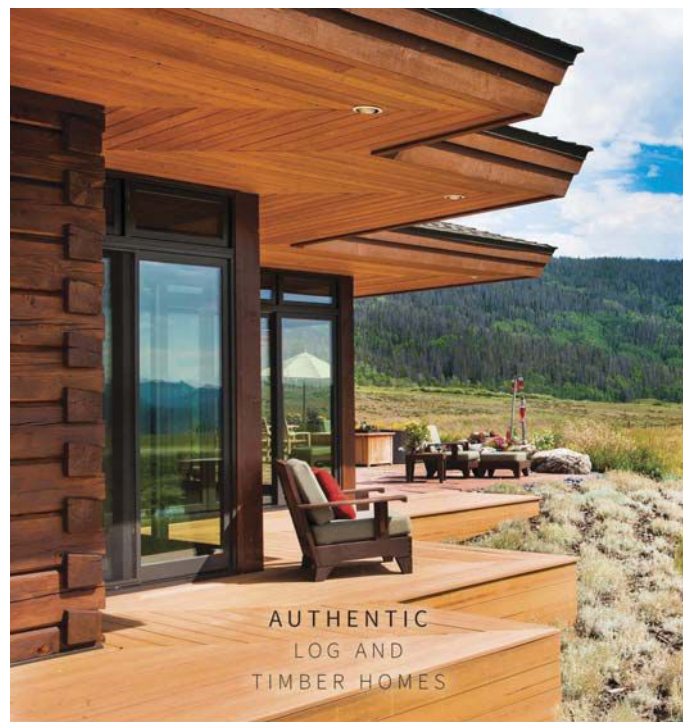
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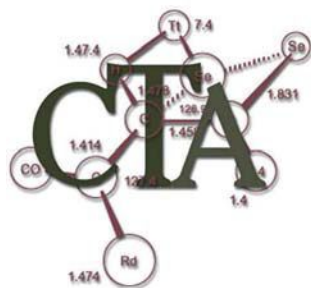
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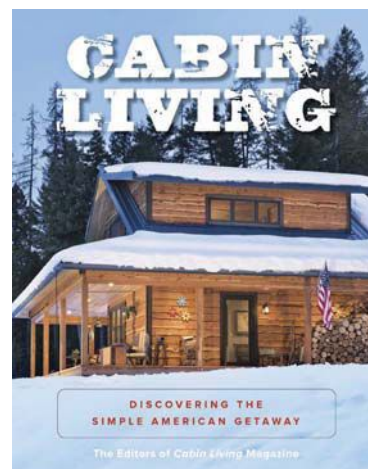
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