

RUSTIC RETREAT

For these second homeowners, a uniquely crafted, modified A-frame in Osage Beach, MO was just the ticket to relaxing weekends with the family.

by Porsche Moran | photography by Donny Larsen







THE REASBECKS WORKED CLOSELY WITH DOUG ROSS, OF ROSS CUSTOM HOMES, IN CREATING A TRULY ONE-OF-A-KIND A-FRAME CABIN AT THE LAKE. UNIQUE TOUCHES INCLUDE A CUSTOM-MADE MURPHY BED, A LOFT WITH A LADDER, AND A CANOE CHANDELIER FOR THE DINING AREA.

New Year's Eve is traditionally a time for sipping champagne and counting down the minutes to midnight. But, Suzanne and Kenny Reasbeck spent the final day of 2014 moving into their new 1,500 square-foot, two-story cabin overlooking the Lake of the Ozarks in Osage Beach, Mo.

The couple lives in Warrensburg, Mo. where they own and operate Reasbeck Construction, Inc. (RCI). They've had vacation cottages at the Lake since 2007. When Suzanne and Kenny decided to build their dream second

home on adjacent land, they gave the units to their two adult children, Beth and Robert, who have families of their own.

"We wanted to build a place where we can live when we retire," explains Suzanne. "It's a fun, cozy home where our children and grandchildren love to spend time."

The Reasbecks hired Doug Ross of Ross Custom Homes, Inc. as their general contractor. It took four-and-a-half months to complete construction on the cabin.

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"Kenny and I were here every weekend watching the construction as it progressed," says Suzanne. "Doug was very easy to work with. He was flexible, and he was willing to make changes on the fly. Whenever I had a request he came up with a way to make it happen."

The modified A-frame home isn't your run-of-the-mill dwelling. The home's exterior combines pine siding, stone and plenty of windows. Inside, the living room's pine walls and stone fireplace mimic the home's facade. Each of the three bedrooms has a tin accent wall with a rustic finish. The kitchen showcases distressed wood cabinets complimented by butcher block countertops and stainless steel appliances. Ross installed engineered reclaimed hardwood for flooring in the open kitchen, living room and dining area. Suzanne envisioned repurposing steel plumbing pipes as curtain rods and grab rails. She also instructed Ross to recycle rebar for the staircase and loft balcony balusters. She wanted



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wood grain ceramic tile for the shower walls in the cabin's two bathrooms.

"I'm not afraid to try different things," says Suzanne. "I just did what I liked. I figured if it didn't look good, we could always change it."

Suzanne took an adventurous approach to the home's interior design, and combined elements of western, nautical and wilderness themes. She used turquoise as spot color for curtains, pillows, throws and other accessories to tie the lower level spaces together. Suzanne shopped in antique stores, furniture stores and online to find unique items. She asked Roger Spade of Spade Enterprises, LLC to build a tailor-made wood canoe chandelier for the dining area. She purchased a vintage trolley cart to use as the kitchen island. Suzanne was also able to bring some of her family's antiques into the décor. For instance, her father-in-law's saw rests on the fireplace mantle. A welded bull figurine that he made for her grandparents is on the kitchen table.

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She also displays some cookie jars from her father's collection. For the pièce de résistance, Suzanne asked Ross to wrap a wood whiskey barrel around a post on the main level to incorporate it into a custom bar.

"Suzanne has a lot of creative ideas," says Ross. "There were many things that we did in the cabin that I had never done before. It was fun to work with her, and to tackle the challenges of figuring out how to make her concepts a reality."

The cabin has two bedrooms on the main level. One is a guestroom that is often used by Suzanne's parents when they come to visit in the winter. The other first floor sleeping quarter belongs to the couple's youngest child Maggie who is a student at Stephen's College in Columbia, Mo. Charles Cloke of Ross Custom Homes, Inc. built a one-of-a-kind Murphy bed to conserve space in the bedroom. He decorated the bed's door with the wheel and handles of an old-fashioned wooden spinning wheel that Suzanne purchased

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to pay homage to her daughter's major in fashion design. The room also has a built-in ladder with a trap door that leads to a loft art studio.

The master suite is located on the upper level. It is separated from the loft's common areas by a sliding barn door. The comfortable, lodge-themed retreat is outfitted with a pair of wood snowshoes that serve as wall art. Suzanne commissioned a miniature birch canoe that she put in one of the room's two built-in sleeping lofts. The room also features large, built-in cubby holes for extra storage.

When the Reasbecks' grandchildren, seven-year-old Gabi and one-and-a-half year old Sam, come to the Lake on the weekends, they head straight to the cabin's treehouse-like playroom. Ross designed the kid-friendly space to include a faux rope bridge and a giant Lego wall.

With construction complete, the Reasbecks are looking forward to spending their first summer in the cabin. They'll be able to » please turn page »

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take advantage of the peaceful views of the Lake from their deck and the loft's patio. The family will also have cookouts and enjoy their renovated dock.

"My parents got a place at the Lake first, and then my brother came down, and eventually we followed suit," says Suzanne. "The Lake is an important place for us because it has always been where our whole family comes together to hang out, have a good time and reconnect."

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