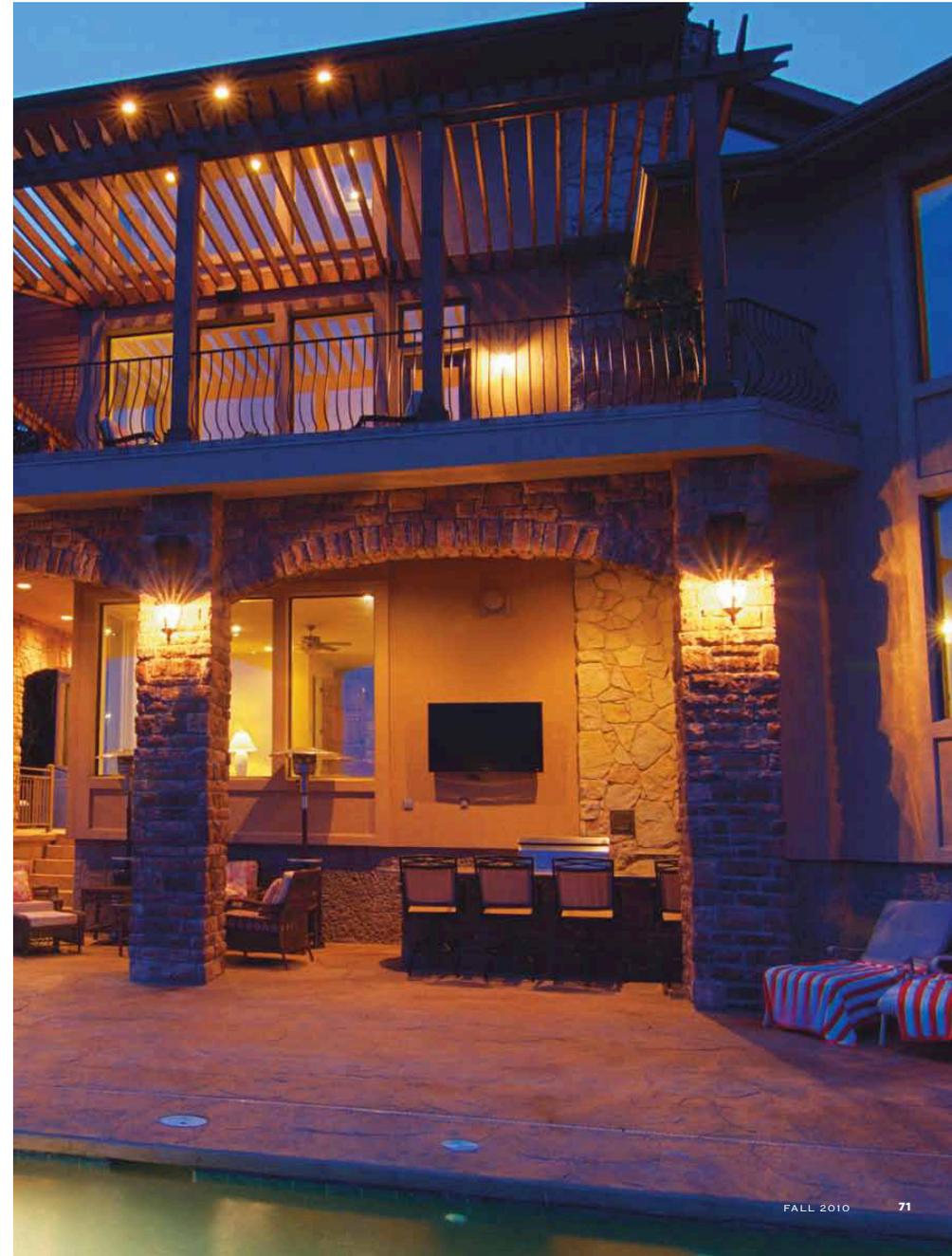


BUZZING *renovation at* BUMBLEBEE POINT

*For Hank Parisotto, a Complete Make-Over Transformed
His Four Seasons Cove Home into a Retirement Retreat*

by Porshé Moran | photography by Donny Larsen

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BUZZING RENOVATION AT BUMBLEBEE POINT



WITH UNIQUE AND SUBSTANTIAL RENOVATION, THE PARISOTTO HOME HAS BEEN FINE-TUNED TO BE A SPECTACULAR DWELLING WITH STUNNING VIEWS AND HANDSOME APPOINTMENTS IN EVERY LIVING SPACE, WHETHER IT BE INSIDE OR OUT. STYLE PERMEATES EXTERIOR, KITCHEN, DINING SPACE, FAMILY SPACE, BEDROOM AND PATIO AREA.

After years of living in Chicago and working as the vice president and treasurer of a pharmaceutical company, Hank Parisotto was eager to find a place where he could retire. Florida and Arizona were the top contenders, but a family getaway with his two daughters to the Lake of the Ozarks was enough to convince the St. Louis native to stay closer to his roots.

"Every year after my divorce, I would take my daughters on a big vacation," he says. "This one year they wanted to go to the Lake of the Ozarks. This is where we used to go when they were younger, and where I would go on vacations when I was a kid. We came down here for a week. I rented a condo at Emerald Bay, and a pontoon boat. We just had such a great time that they both talked me into

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looking for real estate here that very weekend."

It took two years for Parisotto to find a property that fit his description of the ultimate retirement retreat. "I wanted a pretty good sized house, because I have a lot of relatives and friends and they would visit," he explains. "The problem I had was that you had these magnificent houses, but you'd have one bedroom or maybe two bedrooms with a great view, and the other three bedrooms would be looking into someone's foundation, someone's garage or a parking lot. You might have a great view in the living room or family room, but not from the kitchen. It just bugged me."

His search was finally over when he walked into a 6,000 square-foot home on a cove point in Four Seasons. Unfortunately, the home's awe-inspiring 180-degree views of the Lake came with a hefty listing price. "My realtor

"THE MINUTE I SAW THIS HOUSE I KNEW THIS WAS IT. I ENDED UP BUYING THE HOUSE AND THE LOT NEXT DOOR."

said, "This is considerably over your price, but I think this is exactly what you are looking for," says Parisotto. "The minute I saw this house I knew this was it. I ended up buying the house and the lot next door."

While the Lake views exceeded his expectations, the five bedroom, five-and-a-half bathroom estate wasn't exactly what Parisotto had in mind. He consulted several general contractors to find out his options. "I was never satisfied with some of the things in

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“IT WAS MORE THAN BUILDING A HOUSE FROM SCRATCH WHEN IT WAS ALL DONE. EVERYTHING IN THE INTERIOR WAS GUTTED.”

dollar house on this lot. It is that spectacular,” recalls Parisotto. Vandervort’s list of upgrades included remodeling the decks with new concrete and structural steel, putting on a new roof, trading the lap siding for stucco, and installing a swimming pool and an outdoor kitchen. Parisotto says he was surprised when the contractor advised him to tear out the home’s third floor loft and to demolish the two central staircases that closed off the kitchen from the living room. The

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LIKE MANY OTHER ROOMS IN THE PARISOTTO HOME, THE BATHROOMS ARE AS BEAUTIFUL AS THEY ARE FUNCTIONAL.

the house,” Parisotto says. “I had several builders come and look at the house and give me ideas. Most of them came up with minor changes in colors, awnings and new decks, but nothing really substantial.” It wasn’t until Parisotto met with Merlyn Vandervort, founder and president of **Millennium Design Build**, that he realized the extent of the renovations that he could do on his new home.

“Merlyn said: ‘You have a million dollar lot with a sub-standard house.’ ‘You could build a four or five million

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removal of the third floor resulted in a 30-foot-tall living room ceiling. The central staircases were unnecessary due to the home's elevator and back staircase that provide access from the second floor to the ground level.

"The staircases were a big obstacle and it was awkward, but I never

AN ELEVATOR IS ONE OF THE MANY UNIQUE AND FUNCTIONAL FEATURES THAT GRACES THE PARISOTTO HOME AT BUMBLEBEE POINT.

actually thought about tearing them out because frankly, I didn't think it was possible," Parisotto says.

For the next year-and-a-half, Parisotto marveled at the massive construction project taking place at his Lake Ozarks home. "People don't realize the type of engineering it takes to get something like this done," he says. "It was more than building a house from scratch when it was all done. Everything in the interior was gutted. Most of the rooms were down to the studs. All of the floors are new, all of the walls are new and all of the doors are new."

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Other new features included the expanded upper deck that was outfitted with custom railings and an Italian villa-style Pergola roof. A faux vanishing edge pool was installed on the lower level patio. Parisotto and his fiancée, Suzanne, chose a warm, earth tone color scheme for the home's decor and opted for luxurious finishes like granite countertops and high-quality wood cabinetry. But, despite the impressive renovations on the home, Parisotto can't stop looking out the windows.

“When you wake up in the morning, in all directions you are looking at water,” he says. “We created a view that is unobstructed by land, and it gives you this spectacular feeling of almost floating over the water. I don't think most people around the country have any concept that there is a lake of this magnitude and this beauty with beautiful multi-million dollar homes on it in the middle of Missouri.”




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