

Large south-facing windows in this Denver home provide stunning views of 180 feet of shoreline, and the open layout shows off vaulted post-and-beam ceilings.

Natural wood takes center stage in this Denver lakefront home

PERFECTLY FRAMED VIEW

One of the most unique homes in Denver was built eight years ago, but its natural beauty remains ageless. The 4,400-square-foot “mountain-esque” home on the lake is exquisite, according to Bruce Hafley, but what sets it apart is the Douglas fir mortise-and-tenon timber frame.

Hafley, owner of Timberframe Carolina, says the owners for whom he designed the home often brag, “There’s not a nail in the framework of this house.”

Expertly crafted, the custom-built Timberpeg® home accommodates both the retired couple’s lifestyle and personal taste. “They love the beauty and warmth of wood combined with the casual elegance of traditional interior detailing,” explains Hafley.

GREEN WITH A VIEW

Large south-facing windows provide stunning views of 180 feet of shoreline, and the open layout shows off vaulted post-and-beam ceilings. Another eye-catcher is the many arched trusses. With a timber frame home, what’s structural becomes decorative.

“The couple had owned their waterfront lot for 30 years and wanted something special” says Hafley, noting the couple’s love

of the mountains influenced the look they wanted. Hafley worked with L.C. Dellinger Building in Stanley to deliver the look, feel and custom features the homeowners wanted.

Wide white pine tongue-and-groove paneling fills the framing for the exterior walls, and Brazilian cherry floors enhance the ambiance. The home features a lot of natural light, much of which shines through one of two stained-glass windows

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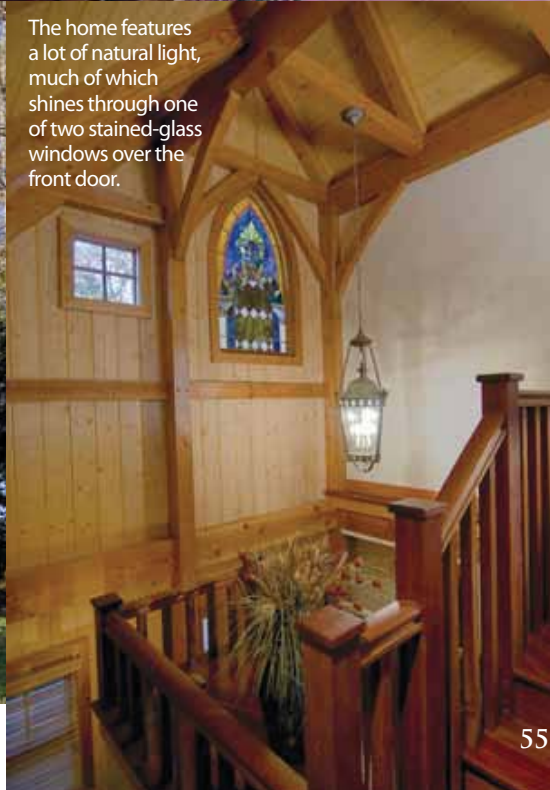
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The home also boasts state-of-the-art technology, including an elevator that rises from the walkout basement and guest suite to the main floor.



The home features a lot of natural light, much of which shines through one of two stained-glass windows over the front door.

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over the front door. Found in a 19th-century church in South Carolina, the windows were stored for safe keeping until the couple's lake home became a reality.

The home also boasts state-of-the-art technology, including an elevator that rises from the walkout basement and guest suite to the main floor. Certified timbers (from forestation projects that meet the criteria of the Forest Stewardship Council), energy efficient Structural Insulated Panels and low-e windows make this Lake Norman home very green. Timberpeg®, based in Claremont, New Hampshire, reports that timber framing is one of the top 15 eco-friendly trends in building.

WOOD IN HIS BLOOD

Hafley's commitment to quality design and wood construction is rooted in his passion for family. He grew up in Raleigh, the son of a forestry professor and wood-

worker. "We used to build furniture projects together when I was a kid," says Hafley, who earned undergraduate and graduate degrees at N.C. State. "A timber frame home is just a large piece of furniture."

Hafley moved to Charlotte in 1992 to work for Andersen Consulting, but left that full-time travel schedule when he married in 1999 and began planning for a family. He started Timberframe Carolina after his father chose timber framing for his retirement home in the mountains, and Hafley researched N.C. suppliers. Hafley and his wife moved to Denver in 2002.

"In general, I have wood running in my blood," he says.

CONSTRUCTION OF A DREAM


While they found Hafley on the Timberframe Carolina Web site and originally had brought him a photo of a log cabin-style house, the owners now tout their one-of-a-kind home as a "dream come true."


Hafley says, "After meeting them and in-

terviewing them about what they wanted, I visited the lot. I then custom designed a timber frame house that captured their vision, accommodating both their needs and unique qualities — as well as the limitations — of their lot."

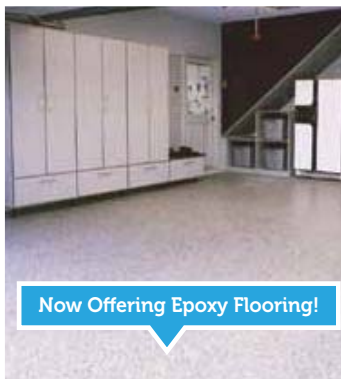
A timber frame home, Hafley adds, rewards those who live in it with natural beauty, architectural grace and structural fortitude. "These homes have unique character that is built from what homeowners envision and then help create." ^{LNC}

THE SCOOP
 Bruce Hafley was a first-place winner in the Custom New Homes \$701K-\$1M category in LNHBA's 2010 Best of the Lake Design Winners, see page 42.

 Lee McCracken is a Charlotte-area freelance editor and writer who lives in Stanley and grew up spending summers on Cayuga Lake in upstate New York. Since moving to the Charlotte area in 1994, she has written about business, education, health care and real estate for various publications.




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