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LOG HOME DESIGN IDEAS

Tour our Appalachian Mail Order log home

the NEW kitchen culture

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Coming Together in Tennessee

How do you build, landscape and furnish a log home without ever leaving home (or the office, in this case)? First and foremost, you’ve got to have a good team of suppliers and contractors. And even if they are spread out across the country, it can be done. The key to making it happen — mail order. With the cooperation of a dozen national furniture and furnishings suppliers, the Appalachian Mail Order Home was born in the hills of northeastern Tennessee.
ABOVE: No one could resist sittin’ a spell in this quiet setting. The home’s design and location lend it to year-round use.

From a raw piece of land to a classically-chiseled log home, the Appalachian Mail Order Home was almost eight months in the making. To see the finished home, read on …

PROJECT SPONSORS

Acucraft, Inc.
Aiphone
Appalachian Log Structures, Inc.
Beam Industries
Caradco Windows
Carriage Carpets
Hardman’s Lumber
Kemper Company, Inc.
Progress Lighting
Sika Corp.
Unico System
Union Church Millworks
Wilsonart International, Inc.
Wirsbo/Home Technology Group
Every detail in the great room — from the bear paw bookends in the sportsmen’s cabinet to the birchbark basket on the hearth — was coordinated by River Valley Furnishings. With its northwoods cabin décor, the great room has a rustic, natural feel. The theme is carried through in the glass-top coffee and end tables, which feature exquisitely-detailed riverbed carvings (INSET, FACING PAGE).

The fireplace is the new Z-Max zero-clearance system by Acucraft; Acucraft also worked with St. Croix Stone to provide the prairie blend stone that comprises the fireplace surround.

Capiz Shell Lanterns by Gardener’s Supply Co. • All other furniture and accents by River Valley Furnishings
ABOVE: One of the home’s most attractive design elements is the towering wall of glass that opens the great room onto the rear deck, and the trees and lake beyond.

RIGHT: Wrought iron table legs and chairs with a clean, classic design give the dining area a formal feel that contrasts with the great room’s more rustic décor.

The Appalachian Mail Order home is in Tennessee, not far from the Kentucky border. The log supplier has offices in West Virginia and South Carolina. Log Home Design Ideas, whose staff coordinated the decorating on the project, calls Wisconsin home. Throw in a landscaper from Virginia, a fireplace company from Minnesota and an endless stream of suppliers from points north, south, east and west, and pulling it all together could have been a logistical nightmare. A strong supporting cast made it all possible.

HOW IT ALL STARTED

Appalachian Log Structures, Inc. (ALSI) was interested in building a spec home. When Rob Miles, an ALSI builder and dealer based in Cumberland Gap, Tennessee, told the home office about the new Lone Mountain Shores development, a lasting relationship was born.

Located about 10 minutes from Tazewell in northeastern Tennessee, Lone Mountain Shores is a beautiful development in the rising and rolling
Table & Chairs by The Bombay Co. • Rods & Tab-Top Curtains by Country Curtains
Place Settings (flatware, napkins, napkin rings) by River Valley Furnishings • Torchiere by Meyda Tiffany
Leaf Prints by Sturbridge Yankee Workshop • Courting Candles by Berea College Student Crafts
foothills near Norris Lake. The setting is idyllic, a log home the perfect fit.

At the same time, Log Home Design Ideas (LHDI) was looking for a log home company that would join the magazine to create a project home. Public relations expert Jerry Rouleau brought ALSI and LHDI together, and the rest, as they say, is history.

OFF AND RUNNING

Construction of the home began in spring, 1999. Miles and his crew went to work crafting the 2,100 square foot home, a slight variation of ALSI’s Fair Oaks plan.

A testament to the simple, nature-inspired crafting of homes from wood in its most natural state, the Fair Oaks offers an open concept with flowing...
LEFT: The kitchen continues the home's open design with few barriers and a peninsula open to the dining area. Cabinets by Diamond, light fixtures by Progress Lighting and countertops by Wilsonart International mean this work center is ready to do its job.

BELOW: A buffet server is both attractive and functional, and provides a visual partition between the dining area and great room.

Emily’s Foundation, a non-profit organization that provides families the tools they need to stay together through the healing process after losing a child, is near and dear to the hearts of the NuHavens. When they lost their daughter Emily to a car accident in 1995, David and Judy NuHaven of Emily’s Foundation coordinated with members of the Appalachian Mail Order Home team, David and Judy NuHaven of Emily’s Foundation coordinated all of the local publicity for the open house events. From posting directional signs to the home to arranging interviews with area press, the NuHavens were almost singularly responsible for letting people know about the project.

In addition to publicizing the open house events for the mail order home, the NuHavens made contacts with church and community groups in the Tazewell area. Members of these groups assisted the NuHavens in staffing the home on both of the open house weekends. All of the proceeds from the preview and open house events were donated to Emily’s Foundation.
living spaces. It would be a beautiful log home in a beautiful setting. To complete the picture, the home’s inside needed to be decked out in fitting fashion.

**DESIGN AND DÉCOR**

As construction of the home continued in Tazewell, LHDI staff was at work in Wisconsin, selecting everything from furniture to candles to outfit the home. It may sound like fun, but one never realizes just what goes into making an empty house a home until you have to sit down and do it. Mail order, from catalogs and the Internet, made the daunting task easy and enjoyable.

A dozen national companies offered their product lines for the home’s décor. Choosing beds and bedding, tables, chairs and even place settings, the house was decorated from top to bottom, bedrooms to great room with furniture and accents found in catalogs and on Web sites.

**WHEN ALL IS SAID & DONE**

The end result of everyone’s hard work: a traditional log home with a northwoods flair and classic details.

The great room is open yet comfortable, masculine in theme but not too much so. The kitchen is colorful, the dining room simple.

Each of the home’s three bedrooms was decorated with a very different feel. The master bedroom is the home’s most feminine space, decorated in shades of burgundy and yellow to show how a woman’s space can be carved out of a very woodsy, masculine shell. One of the home’s guest rooms features a hickory log bed and furniture accented with pinecone and green furnishings. The other, decorated as if a child’s room, is whimsical and fun.

And at the end of it all, with open house tours long done and new owners ready to move in, the house is a place to call home. 🏡
LEFT: The master bedroom was purposely decorated in a feminine style with a cabin feel. This was achieved through the use of a plaid coverlet in shades of burgundy and yellow. The room is balanced by the harder lines of a forged-iron bed and accent pieces.

RIGHT: The first of two second-floor bedrooms was decorated for a child.

BELOW: A hickory bed brings a twist to the popular log furniture found in many log homes. Soft shades of green and pinecone accents create a warm environment.
Describing Lone Mountain Shores, location of the Appalachian Mail Order Home, as a “development” may be misleading. That word conjures pictures of home after home in a subdivision-like setting. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Straddling Norris Lake, Lone Mountain Shores is 10 miles from Tazewell. Just a short drive from the Kentucky and Virginia borders, the area boasts an almost perfect climate: cool in the summer and mild in the winter.

The drive through the development to the home, a winding course that takes you up, down and around the foothill setting, is at least 20 minutes in good conditions. And it may take longer if you take the time to enjoy the area’s beautiful wooded setting.

The lots being sold in the Lone Mountain development include an average of 250 feet of waterfront access, which makes them ideal for anyone who enjoys fishing, swimming or other similar pursuits. The beautiful scenery afforded by all of the parcels, waterfront or lake view, is breathtaking, featuring nature at its best. Best of all, the development offers privacy for those who want to “get away from it all.”