

2020 HOME

METHOW

**GOOD
NEIGHBORS**
Stewards of the land

**METHOW
STORIES**
Six distinctive homes

REAL ESTATE
Record residential sales



FREE

A supplement to the
Methow Valley News

Low profile

Elegant Bear Creek home unobtrusively captures Pearrygin panorama

BY MARCY STAMPER

There's no denying that the views are exceptional—the full length of Pearrygin Lake and a vast sweep of the North Cascades. But the owners and architect of the striking home nestled in the hills of upper Bear Creek wanted to preserve views for everyone, including folks who are camping and swimming at Pearrygin Lake State Park.

“It was very important to the clients—even before we put pen to paper—to respect the scenic area above Pearrygin Lake,” architect Tim Hammer, a principal with CAST Architecture, said. “We wanted to blend into the hillside. We wanted to experience the place and soak in the beauty,

but didn't want to take away from others' experience.”

Once the homeowners (who asked not to be identified) had carefully chosen the site, the design of what they've come to call Bear Creek Basecamp grew out of the same values. Hammer drafted three designs and the



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAST ARCHITECTURE

family picked one and refined it. “I felt like he was a genius at what he does and he was easy to work with,” the homeowner said.

“It's really a house that blurs the line between indoors and out,” Hammer said. The goal was to create a single ceiling plane from the interior to the exterior to connect all the spaces. All the modules line up, unifying the structure.

“We asked the architect to

take advantage of the view, but didn't specify how many windows,” the homeowner said. Indeed, the house is more windows than walls, with multiple views through the structure to the outdoors and to other wings of the house.

PRACTICAL, AND ATTRACTIVE

Design choices accommodated practical needs and aesthetics.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAST ARCHITECTURE

 **SchulerBuild.com**

Building high efficiency custom homes in the Methow Valley since 1997.

Contractor# SCHULEL962NB



Architecture +
Project Management
Duff Bangs | Architect
509.433.7545 | 206.902.8232
modformllc.com

The roof and outdoor spaces accommodate the seasons. The gently sloping shed roof holds snow for insulation and keeps ice and snow from landing on walkways.

Generous overhangs block the summer sun but let the low winter sun heat the slab floor to soak up warmth. In the summer, the owners can open windows and doors at night to circulate cool air.

Walls and windows have extra insulation. "Even though there's a lot of glass, it's a fairly efficient energy envelope," Hammer said. Exterior materials are

rusted steel and concrete for low maintenance.

In the great room, a vast open space with living room, dining room and kitchen, the owners thought hard about the layout to suit the family's love of cooking—and of preparing food while visiting with guests.

As a result, the kitchen is the core of the great room. While it's unusual to have the kitchen in the center of the space, it's where the family spends all their time, Hammer said. "It's a hub, figuratively and atmospherically," he said.

The dining room is on the west

side, overlooking the lake. That accomplishes two goals—as a floating plane, the dining-room table doesn't block the view the way a sofa and ottoman would. But it also reserves the best views for guests. "The kitchen island is all about entertaining, but the dining room is really all about the lake," Hammer said.

The configuration makes ordinary chores a pleasure. When you're doing dishes at the kitchen sink, you can gaze out toward the mountains. "Standing at the sink, looking at the view—that's what we hoped for," the homeowner said.

Hammer used the same vocabulary and materials throughout the house. The color palette of muted taupe and white blends seamlessly with the warmth of vertical-grain fir cabinets handcrafted by Phil Woras. Counters are a manufactured, pale white-gray stone that resembles marble.

"Tim was really adamant about repeating elements, using the same color palette, and keeping it simple," the homeowner said. "It's my belief that you get a certain amount of harmony and comfort if you play materials against each other," Hammer said.

Woras built bunk beds to sleep

six as well as sofas with ample cushions in the TV room that can be converted to even more beds. Walls in the bunk room are indestructible steel.

GOING OUTDOORS

The house has two outdoor spaces—a protected courtyard shielded from wind and summer sun and a wraparound veranda that takes in the views. The great room has six doors to the outdoors.

Outdoor spaces were conceived as part of the overall plan. Approaching through the veranda establishes a psychological experience of entering the home, Hammer said. "It's a continuous experience from the great room to the patio to the guest wing," he said.

In the winter, the homeowners roast marshmallows on a fire pit designed by Tim Odell of Hotspot Fire Pits in the courtyard. In the summer, they stash the fire pit in the garage and pull out a table and chairs where they can relax in the shade.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAST ARCHITECTURE



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAST ARCHITECTURE

Art That Kicks Butt

Ginger Reddington
Gracing homes throughout the valley.
Commissions upon request
509.997.2721 • cell 509.995.2471
PonderosaStudio-GingerReddington.com

METHOW VALLEY
2020 HOME TOUR
ARTful living in Twisp

Sponsored by
CONFLUENCE
gallery & art center
SAT AUG 01

With over 30 years in the Methow our experience makes the difference

J. Bart Bradshaw

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT, PLLC



Income Tax Preparation • Tax Planning & Advice
Small Business Consulting • Payroll
Quarterly Reports • QuickBooks Professionals
E-File & Direct Deposits
Professional & Confidential

509-996-2820 • 106 Bluff St • Winthrop, WA
www.winthropcpa.com • jbb@winthropcpa.com

- SIDING (509) 379-2313
- ARCHITECTURAL SHEET METAL
- ROOFING

ARCHITECTURAL CLADDING INC.

PO BOX 1358 | Twisp, WA | 98856



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAST ARCHITECTURE

Even the hot tub is nestled into the slope to preserve the view. People who aren't overly modest can take advantage of an outdoor shower that's open to the landscape. "We deliberately didn't screen the shower," the homeowner said.

The family lives in Vancouver, B.C., but the husband first came to the Methow Valley in the 1990s on a mountain-biking trip. When he and his wife met in 2001, he was eager to introduce her to the valley, and it became an annual winter pilgrimage.

Now that they have three kids, ages 7, 10 and 12, they treasure the opportunity to explore as a family or in more intimate outings with one parent and one or two kids. They're all busy—the wife is a law professor working on her doctorate—so they relish their time on Bear Creek to relax and experience nature.

With his own institutional investment company, the husband

can work from Bear Creek as easily as from the city. The owners joked with Hammer about making sure that even the office had a view. "This is the best office I could imagine," said the homeowner, who starts work early. "I got up at 4 a.m. on the summer solstice."

It's an active family, with kids involved in every sport there is—hiking, mountain biking, golf, horseback riding, skiing and fly fishing. A small garage is given over to gear, crammed with skis, ice skates, fishing poles and bikes.

The homeowners appreciated the expertise of local contractors, including Lost River Construction as the builders and B&B Excavating for careful grading that preserved the contours of the property.

"I could just look at those mountains all day. Some people look at the lake, some at the mountains," the homeowner said. "The light is incredible. The views are marvelous. It's totally quiet." #



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAST ARCHITECTURE

Choose local. Choose independent.



Choose The VIP Insurance Agency.

VIP MELBOURN INSURANCE

The best local independent insurance agency in the Methow Valley

Offering business, farm, auto, home, secondary home, nightly rental insurance, and more.

info@vipagencygroup.com • www.vipagencygroup.com
In Twisp: 102 S. Glover St. • 997-5291
In Winthrop: 76 Highway 20 • 996-4515



58 Horizon Flats, Winthrop | 509-996-2264 | www.northvalleylumber.com



Nick Brandenburg, Store Manager
nickatnvl@gmail.com

Our knowledgeable & friendly staff can help with:

- Framing Lumber, Rebar, Plywood
- Trusses, Hardware, Timbers, Glulam Beams, I-Joists
- Wood & Gas Stoves
- Doors & Windows
- Modern Roofing Materials
- Composite & Wood Decking
- Cabinets, Floor Coverings, & Interior Finishes
- Boom & Forklift Truck Service



ZERVAS
ARCHITECTURE | INTERIOR DESIGN
209 PROSPECT STREET
BELLINGHAM, WA
360.734.4744
zervasgroup.com

LEUSCHEN
CONSTRUCTION LLC



- New Construction
- Custom Homes
- Remodels/Additions
- Garages/Carports

(509) 429-5626

leuschenconstruction@gmail.com
LEUSCCL811M9