

## DOROTHY & WAYNE'S NOTES

*What a winter! If you're like us, you can't wait to see spring arrive. Springtime is a busy time for remodelers—everyone is ready for change and one of the most favored changes is to tackle the remodeling project a homeowner has had time to dream about during the long winter. So, if you're in that group of folks, don't delay in contacting us. Wait times for project starts tend to get longer in the warmer months.*

*To help prepare for our busier months, we hired a talented new lead carpenter: Raymond "Skip" Banks. His exceptional construction skills are supplemented by a great personality. In addition to his many years in construction, he holds a degree in interior design; we know we'll be putting those skills to good use too.*

*Dorothy has been honored by the Richmond Home Builders Association with a Service Award for outstanding leadership and service to the remodeling industry. Dorothy has been working to organize remodelers' participation in the Home Builders Association Parade of Homes, which is held in the fall. Stay tuned for more details.*



Photography ©2002 Tom Kojisich

## Here he comes, to save the day!

Though Mighty Mouse doesn't actually work at DesignLine Remodeling, he certainly lives there in spirit. Faced with nearly insurmountable odds, sans red and blue leotards and a cape, Certified Graduate Remodeler, Wayne Booze did save the day for this south side Richmond family.

It was time . . . the kitchen had to go. The stove was down to only two burners, the refrigerator worked when it felt like it, the oven had shorted out, and the kitchen floor was "unusually" cold.

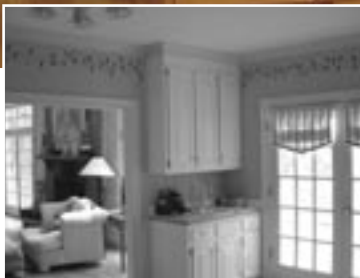
The homeowners, both very busy professionals, knew what they wanted—but they weren't necessarily in total agreement. She knew what she

wanted, and he knew what he wanted. Their list was long, but not insurmountable, and like many high-end remodels, the project grew from just a kitchen, to a half bath, a classic wet bar, and a custom desk area.

The area to be remodeled was a large room running from the front to the back of the house, and encompassed not just the kitchen area, but a sitting area with a fireplace, and a rounded, well windowed, "pagoda" breakfast area opposite the wet bar.

The original kitchen had dated white cabinets, and there was the cold floor issue. The island, originally had wainscoting, but the male half of the homeownership wanted raised paneling instead. She wanted to do

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everything furniture-like, and, you guessed it, he didn't. So they agreed the bar would have a "furniture" design on the bottom, but not throughout the whole kitchen. The cabinets needed to match the Rattan furniture in the

breakfast area, and it "might be nice if there was a raised bar over the island, but shouldn't it match the cabinets, and maybe it should be free standing." Granite countertops were spec'ed with a ceramic tile backsplash, then changed to matching granite.

So the two homeowners made their respective cases, and here's how it turned out:

- Built-in floor-to-ceiling linen and china cabinet with lights above and drawers below with easy access to the dining room just around the corner
- 36" island has prep sink and a glass front; a 24" wine captain (the perfect companion for entertaining—or just relaxing at home); the front of island and upper "free standing" 42" bar are cut from the same slab of granite and have the same radius; the bar pillars are custom made from maple and stained to match pillars
- All the counter tops and surfaces are done in granite
- Yorktowne Cabinetry, stained to match the maple on the island bar, spice stain with a white-wash
- Backsplash in granite tile to match counter tops
- Wet bar (same radius as island) with marble "vessel" bowl, from Bates Bowls of California
- 48" Subzero refrigerator with custom panels that match the cupboards
- A Dacor double oven with warming drawer underneath
- 48" Dacor gas cook top with large hood vent
- Meile dishwasher, with customized door paneling.
- A double-bowl LK Sink with soap dispenser and combo filtered instant hot and cold water
- Sharp microwave

. . . and what about the cold floor? When the old cabinets were removed, the DesignLine crew found a huge open hole beneath! The hole was filled with insulation covered, thus solving the mysterious cold floor.

The homeowners are so pleased with the project, they've already commissioned a new master bath . . . with an arched doorway . . . through a beautiful hand painted wall . . . but what the heck, their contractor is Wayne Booze, after all!

Get out your cape, Wayne!

## Yorktowne cabinets expands line

Yorktowne Cabinets has introduced a wide range of new products to its 2003 line. The new selections include:

- 7 new door styles in high quality cherry wood and cherry veneers
- 3 new door styles in popular maple wood
- 2 new door styles in hickory
- 2 new doors styles in oak
- 1 new glaze, 3 new standard finishes
- 16 additional choices in glazeable door styles
- 5 new character finish packages

“We’re excited about the expansion of Yorktowne’s products,” said Wayne Booze. “We’ve used Yorktowne in many of our kitchen remodels and the addition of speciality storage cabinets, enhanced features in drawers and trays, and the added styles and finishes will go far in creating great kitchens for our clients.”

The kitchen photo featured on the right is the Eastridge line, a classic cherry flat center panel door, is just one of dozens of new products, colors and glazing techniques.

“In total, Yorktowne has added 401 new style and finish combinations for 2003,” Wayne said, “which brings the total number of choices to 701.”



■ Log on to [yorktowneinc.com](http://yorktowneinc.com) to see more selections

## Wall Street: Zip — Homeowners: 10

The stock market may have just had its worst period in 15 years,” said Wayne Booze “but long-term mortgage rates are below six percent, so appreciation rates are driving the investment potential of homeownership.”

Supporting Wayne’s position, David Seiders, National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) chief economist recently said, “The Federal Reserve’s most recent move to lower short-term interest rates appears to be helping to support consumer sentiment.” In fact, the housing sector is currently, and will continue to bolster the economy well into next year.”

Equity conversion and refinancing have made remodeling, worth \$330 billion dollars by June of this year, a realistic option for many homeowners. The largest segment of the remodeling market was in high-end specialty projects of \$20,000 or more, and these dollars were spent to improve an existing kitchen or bathroom, or, on an addition to the home. Housing has performed much better than many other investments in the last several years, making remodeling an ever more popu-

lar way for Americans to not just add space and comfort to their lifestyle, but add value to the family portfolio.

“We’re truly excited about what we have to offer our clients today,” Wayne said. “Its an exciting time in our industry, and the clear winners are those who place their trust in us.”

And never has there been more, or better quality materials from which to choose. Today’s remodeler can install windows that really don’t leak the cold breath of winter, and they can make available tile selections from the finest sources in Italy and Spain, as well as marble cut to fit in China, and assemble in place at value points unheard of 10, or even five years ago.

“We’ve come a long way in one decade,” Wayne said. “Imagine what the next decade will bring.”



## Remodeling: The Insurance Conundrum

Planning to remodel your home? If so, be certain your home, your contractor and his trade contractors are all adequately insured.

You might think the time to contact your insurance agent is after the new addition is complete, but that could be too late. If the new addition is destroyed or damaged before insurance coverage has been increased, you may find yourself responsible for the cost of repairing or rebuilding the addition! Contact your insurance agent or representative before, or shortly after, the construction agreement is authorized to increase the insurance coverage on your house to reflect the increase in the cost (and subsequently home value) to rebuild the structure.

Your general contractor must not only have sufficient general liability insurance, but workers' compensation insurance as well. Don't be shy. Ask to see a copy of the policy. Workers' compensation pays for medical and rehabilitation expenses and covers lost wages if a worker were to sustain injuries while on the job. Injured workers can, and often do, sue the homeowner if the contractor does not have proper insurance. Verify the insurance coverage of the contractor and the trade contractors before your project begins. If the coverage is insufficient, fill in the gaps by extending the limits of the liability portion of your homeowner's policy.

DesignLine Inc. is fully insured, as are all its trade contractors. If the unthinkable were to happen, we've got you covered!

*Bringing design home to you*

ADDITIONS ■ WHOLE HOUSE RENOVATIONS  
KITCHENS ■ BATHS ■ PORCHES, DECKS & PATIOS

*Visit our Web site: [DesignLineInc.com](http://DesignLineInc.com)*