

WASHINGTON

# spaces

DC • MD • VA • GUIDE TO LUXURY LIVING

*Party Barn 142*

*On Water's Edge 116*

*Crackling Fires, Private Ice 158*

2ND ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

\$5.95

EARLY WINTER 2006

DISPLAY UNTIL 01.09.07



## The Nucleus of the House

"This is my favorite place in the whole house. If anything wears out, it's going to be those stools," Dale says, as she glances at the kitchen bar stools, covered in Manuel Canovas fabric. Dixon, collaborating with Jack Rosen Custom Kitchens Inc., created a kitchen that's so warm and inviting, it's become the nucleus of the house. Dixon covered the ceiling and walls with a French hand-painted buttery yellow wallpaper and chose lovely botanical prints that are cross sections of seedpods for the window treatments. He added a large round table at the end of the island where everyone congregates.

"Gary loves to cook," Dale says. "We do a lot of cooking together and the whole family likes to sit here when we're having appetizers and hors d'oeuvres." The light fixture above the round table, made from a 19<sup>th</sup> century Chinese fish trap Dixon had wired as a lamp, casts wonderful fishnet shadows on the ceiling at night.

The family especially enjoys eating crabs, so Dixon accented their dining area, which holds a square oak table for eight and opens to the garden, with a cluster of

antique hand-colored engravings of crabs. He hung them with the frames flush against each other, so the collection almost reads like a window.

A charming vignette in one corner of the kitchen holds a table Dixon designed called the Potting Trough Console, various vases, and apothecary jars. Above them, original photographs of fruit by Michael Belk hang asymmetrically. Sometimes, you don't really notice art when everything is framed the same and hung perfectly in a grid, Dixon says. But the jolt of bold frames hung in an unexpected manner catches your eye.

Dixon collaborated closely with Geri Yantis of Sutton Yantis Associates Architects and Richard Mandell and Phil Leibovitz of Sandy Spring Builders LLC when their clients were originally planning their home. A key component that carries the Arts and Crafts feeling from the outside of the residence inside are the graceful arcs and pilasters Dixon designed. One particularly wide arc connects the kitchen and family room, and provides interesting architectural detailing.



**Kitchen draperies**  
Bergamo/Sahco  
Hesslein  
Filomena  
7803



**Kitchen wallpaper**  
Elitis/Osborne & Little  
Beaulieu  
PP 143-002

Everyone congregates around the round table Dixon added at the end of the island in the kitchen. Bar stools are by Phuket through Matches at Miley, draperies made by Agora Interiors Inc.



ABOVE: Dixon displayed antique hand-colored engravings of crabs from Core Dean because the family enjoys eating crabs. Dining table from Milling Road through Baker Knapp & Tubbs, chairs by Hickory Chair.

RIGHT: Dixon, who collaborated with Hedy Shashani of Jack Rosen Custom Kitchens Inc., designed the hood, which was made by Ron Kelly at Kelly Metalworks. Shashani designed a secret spice cabinet to the right of the stove and a narrow pullout drawer for long cooking utensils.

FAR RIGHT: Dixon designed the Potting Trough Console for Mike Reid Weeks, available through J. Lambeth & Company, and arranged the original photographs by Michael Belk in an unexpected manner.

