

# in the family

SINCE 1944



## new lake home on Keuka Lake

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DION JOHNSON

A fishing cottage that had been in Dion Johnson's family since 1944 had outlived its usefulness when Dion and his wife, Suzie began making notes on the lake home they wanted to build to replace it.

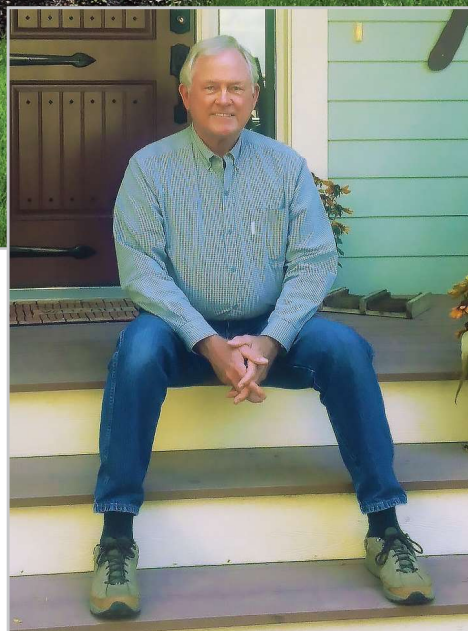
Their cottage had seen many generations and many additions and had provided so many fond family memories.

The search for a replacement began by boat. "We'd hop in the boat almost every evening and ride around the lake looking at homes until, one evening, we found a house we fell in love with near Penn Yan. We discovered that Lin Hough had built the house we had motored by," Suzie says.

After interviewing several contractors, the couple invited Lin, his wife, Cindy, and architect, David Pearce, over to discuss their project. The Johnsons were impressed by how friendly and down-to-earth the Houghs were and signed on with the builder.

Six months after demolition, the beloved old fishing cottage was just a memory and a new house stood in its place. Their new home now had all the amenities the older cottage lacked.

*The homeowners salvaged 2,600 vintage Corning red bricks from their old cottage on eight pallets to be used as a walkway at the roadside entry, to the new house.*





A fully-equipped kitchen greets guests just feet from the entryway. Kitchen walls are a soft blue gray. A center island, L-shaped cabinets in off-white detailed with dark cocoa inking and oak hardwoods make the kitchen inviting.

Black Cambria quartz countertops, flecked with gold and a dark brown Blanco sunken sink add drama. An antique look-alike Tiffany lamp over the table combines with pendants above the island and recessed lighting at ceiling height for both ambient and task lighting.

The same wall color spills into the dining room in this open first floor plan where the old oak dining table from the couple's previous cottage is flanked by spindle backed captain's chairs and assorted antiques in honey-colored oak and pine, including an antique washstand.

Works by local artists grace the walls of the Johnson's home. The couple, active members of the Arts Council of Yates County, have collected paintings by regional artists that they proudly display throughout the house.

The living room features a custom-built fireplace surround with stones in the shape of skipping stones. Wall-to-wall windows, with Hough homes characteristic transom windows, are above the multiple long panel windows which open the home to lake views. Crown molding and trim is also in Hough's signature off-white color, Crisp Linen.

A final stop to the master bedroom and en suite on the first floor places a special focus on the master bath. A central island with drawers and a niche to showcase art are unique features for a bath.

Closets on either side of the bath, with custom shoe racks were built by Lin Hough's father, Bernie, and combine luxury and function to this bath. Separate vanities and a walk-in Roma shower with metallic mini-tile accents, an oak hardwood floor and stackable washer/dryer take it, wonderfully, over the top.

Looking upstairs, on the wall of the hallway landing, is the original cottage's plank closet door with an angle sliced off the bottom edge — a reminder that to clear the old, uneven living room floor, Johnson had to take off a three-inch wedge.

Upstairs, a central office with computer work station, kitchenette and easy chair sleeper opens to a second-floor balcony. Two guest bedrooms and a full bath upstairs complete the layout.

Outside, aqua gray James Hardie board siding is enhanced by signature Crisp Linen off-white trim. Lakeside, a curved timber arch accents a gable above the balcony.

Facing the private lane, a decorative oval element, second floor crescent-topped window and a maroon, clavo-strapped front door soften the look of the facade.

The homeowners salvaged 2,600 vintage Corning red bricks from their old cottage on eight pallets to be used as a walkway at the roadside entry, to the home. Terracotta-colored porch flooring is the perfect accent to the walkway and the exterior paint color.

Lakeside, a full-length porch featuring wall-to-wall sliding doors with massive windows exposes the house to lake views and allows for easy access to the outdoors.

The Johnsons, repairing their home in Humble, Texas after flooding from Hurricane Harvey, relish the serenity of their summer home on Keuka Lake while they continue to restore their Texas residence devastated by the effects of the hurricane.

Dion and Suzie, both retired Air Force officers, met while on an Air Force base in Tucson, Arizona. Dion also worked as a commercial airline pilot before retiring for a second time. The couple has three children and two grandchildren who love to spend time with them on the lake each summer.

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