



Hot Off The Plotter

THE NEWSLETTER OF STYCZYNSKI WALKER & ASSOCIATES

Winter Newsletter • January, 2006

CUSTOM RESIDENTIAL

Oak Brook



Front elevation



Rear elevation

Just recently completed, this charming shingle style house was designed to fit its site like a glove. Located on a busy Oak Brook road, Kim Haig was challenged to arrange the house, a sizable detached garage and a pool into a space constricted by large zoning setbacks. But the scale and detail of the house hold their own against the location. The final product provides the owners with a warm and light-filled

living space which leads directly onto a stone terrace and pool deck. The terrace features an outside fireplace with a tapered stone chimney which backs up to the great room fireplace. One of the client's favorite rooms is the sunroom which brings in ample sunlight from three directions.

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Kitchen

A note from Bill

The staff at Styczynski Walker & Associates has been busy the last few months with a number of new changes. **Our website has been updated** with a fresh new look and an abundance of new content. We now feature commercial and multi-family projects along with our residential and addition/renovation projects. Our Gallery of Images is a mosaic of photographs from a variety of projects, while some of our latest renderings and animations can be found in the Services section. Other areas of interest include Current Projects, Upcoming Events and Racing News. Please visit our site at [www.swa-](http://www.swa-architects.com)

architects.com.

The SWA Demonstration Home has been completed and we will hold an **Open House** on Sunday February 12, 2006 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm. The house, located at 225 8th Street in Downers Grove, Illinois, was designed to display many of our design ideas, products and construction techniques. Everyone is welcome to visit this comfortable family home. Information from Lutron lighting controls to Lyptus wood flooring will be on display. Feel free to call our office for more information, including directions.

We continue to expand our horizons as projects take us to other states. I recently obtained my Arizona architectural license,

so we are now licensed in five states including Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan. Finally, thank you to everyone that stopped by our booth at the Midwest Home & Design Show. We enjoyed talking about many upcoming projects and the opportunity to meet some wonderful people in the process. We will also have a booth at the Midwest Builders Show on March 15-16, 2006.



CUSTOM RESIDENTIAL

Inverness



Front elevation

A young builder originally approached Kim Haig at Styczynski Walker & Associates with a desire for a house that evokes the cozy feel of his childhood home. He spoke with fondness of tiny back stairwells and transom windows. Chris Noon, President of Chestnut Hill Development, also wanted to build a house

that would showcase his skills as a builder. The final result is a charming home that combines classic details with a layout designed for today's lifestyles.

With a style that is becoming increasingly sought after, the exterior has the feel of a New England shingle style house, but with the solidity of stone cladding. The exterior features

a combination of limestone, cedar shake and brick with wide window trim and shutters.

The interior details complement the house's flavor with interior transoms, paneled columns and the dramatic contrast between dark wood floors and wide, painted white trim. Light floods the house through the trio of French doors in the great room which lead out to the raised rear terrace.

A lower level wine cellar is another popular feature that many clients are requesting. Other details, such as the stained, coffered ceiling in the study, and octagonal double tray ceiling and wainscoting in the dining room enrich the feeling of traditional elegance.



The kitchen features a large island
The music room



CUSTOM ADDITIONS

Darien



after

Styczynski Walker & Associates is excited to announce that they have been awarded the prestigious Gold Key Award by the Home Builder Association of Greater Chicago for their design of the McPherson Addition. Located in Darien, this home began as a plain brick ranch. The home was transformed by architect, Luka Andjelich and builder, Tom Molidor into

a prairie style home with large overhangs and a striking arched entry. The size of the house was more than doubled, with the first floor largely reconfigured to provide a larger kitchen, family room, and laundry room. The foyer was relocated and enlarged with a

wide staircase leading to the new second floor, which features four bedrooms, including a generous master bedroom suite. The existing buff-colored brick was stripped and replaced with a rich dark red brick on the first floor, with a contrasting stucco on the second story addition.



kitchen



before

focus on technology

RUB-R-WALL - residential waterproofing



Rub-r-wall being applied to the foundation of the SWA Demonstration House

Most new homes are built with 9-foot foundations in anticipation of finishing the basement. One often-overlooked feature is foundation waterproofing. Typically, a foundation is sprayed with a black damp proofing material, which meets the minimum requirements of the building codes. However, when small cracks develop in the foundation wall, leaks can occur and the necessary repairs can be expensive. Styczynski Walker & Associates has recommended for years to provide additional insurance against leaking basement walls by specifying an actual waterproofing material.

Jack Leonard of Westside Rub-R-Wall in Lisle installed the waterproofing on our Demonstration home in Downers Grove. This green colored product is sprayed on the bare concrete that then cures as a flexible rubber polymer membrane, which will elongate to bridge over shrinkage cracks. Jack can be reached at 630-378-9490 to discuss the benefits and cost of this waterproofing product. You can also visit the manufacturer's website for additional information at www.rpcinfo.com.

LUTRON - lighting control

Most owners of custom homes understand good lighting is an essential part of the design. It creates mood and excitement. It makes performing tasks easier. Light is a necessary part of our daily existence. Lighting control however is usually dismissed because most homeowners don't understand the benefits. But like the power windows on a car, once you realize the convenience it affords, you can't imagine life without it.

Lighting controls should be an essential part of the lighting design, from the use of simple dimmers to whole house lighting control. With lighting controls you can create a desired ambiance to match the mood or task. The lighting can be controlled using what is known as "scene control". One touch of a button will transform the lighting in a room or group of rooms to the perfect lighting levels.

Styczynski Walker & Associates utilizes products from Lutron Electronics to meet a variety of needs. The Maestro IR is a

stand alone dimmer with a remote control that can be used to control the lights from your bed. The HomeWorks system is a sophisticated whole house lighting control system that is programmed to do an almost endless variety of tasks. The Radio RA system allows an existing home to be retrofitted using proven Lutron wireless technology. Radio RA is a great system to use when you are doing a major addition or renovation.

An often overlooked form of lighting control is the control of natural light using shades and blinds. Light filtering fabrics are used to maintain view but dramatically cut down on UV and glare. Other fabrics include those for privacy or blackout shades for media rooms. Lutron Sivoia QED motorized shades utilize a quiet and compact motorized drive to allow remote control of shades. These shades are especially useful in hard to reach areas



Multiple lighting sources in the kitchen and great room are managed by Lutron lighting controls

behind a whirlpool tub, high windows and large expanses of glass. Lutron shades can also be integrated into the lighting control system.

A Radio RA lighting control system, in conjunction with other localized dimmers, is used in the SWA Demonstration house to show how lighting control can make a difference. A great source of additional information can be found at the Lutron website at www.lutron.com.

GREENFIBER - cellulose insulation

As energy costs continue to rise for natural gas and electricity, consumers are asking for advice on better insulation products. ARC Insulation of Romeoville, Illinois installed GreenFiber Cocoon cellulose insulation in the SWA Demonstration Home and held a demonstration of the insulation during the construction phase of the home. Craig Matteson, from ARC Insulation, demonstrated the sound deadening qualities of cellulose along with its resistance to fire. One of the many benefits over conventional fiberglass insulation includes the ability of the blown-in

insulation to fill the gaps and voids in walls, especially behind electrical boxes and conduit. Other benefits of cellulose insulation include a significant reduction of air infiltration; better in-place R-values and a significant reduction in sound transmission. Besides reduced energy costs, the homeowner will benefit from a more comfortable, quieter home with reduced drafts.

Besides viewing the insulation benefits for single family homes, code officials from numerous local municipalities were also invited to view a mock-up of the new

UL U370 2-hour fire wall for multifamily applications. This firewall assembly greatly simplifies construction and reduces the cost of a two-hour wall, requiring only one layer of 5/8" Type C gypsum board on each side of a double 2x4 staggered stud wall, without the need for gypsum in the center of the assembly. Call Craig at (815) 293-1250 for more information or visit www.arcinsula.com





YOU'RE INVITED!

SWA Demonstration Home

OPEN HOUSE EVENT

Sunday February 12, 2006
1:00 pm – 5:00 pm
225 8th Street Downers Grove, Illinois
Open to the Public

The Demonstration House was built to show design ideas, construction techniques and showcase new building products. Contact our office for more information and directions, phone 630-789-2513

Featured products include:

- Lutron Radio RA lighting controls
- Pella Architect's Series windows
- Weyerhaeuser Lyptus hardwood floors
- Greenfiber Cocoon cellulose insulation
- Rub-R-Wall Foundation waterproofing
- TrusJoist Performance Plus framing system
- James Hardie Siding
- Eldorado Stone veneer
- Kohler "Water Tile" Body Spray

Browse our new updated website!
www.swa-architects.com

HOT off the Plotter

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If you have any questions or comments, or want to be added to our mailing list, contact us in one of the ways shown above.

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VISIT OUR BOOTH!



Styczynski Walker & Associates will host a booth at the fourth annual Midwest Builders Show on March 15-16. The show will be held at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, IL. SWA will be at booth #728. This show is open to builders and tradesmen and features many new products and building technologies for the construction industry. Contact us for free passes to the show!



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