



Valerie Stuessi, CKD



Araya Jensen, CKD



Mary Maney, AKBD, ASID



Annette Streiff, WIRD



Photo by J.H. Peterson



## Greseth kitchen: unique design using sustainable materials.

Designer: Araya Jensen, CKD

There was one goal when Vicki and John Greseth set out to remodel their kitchen, to be unique. Using a variety of materials and an eye towards sustainability and quality, most would agree that they achieved their goals.

**Green Points:** (see numbers on photos)

- 1) Lyptus wood cabinets: Lyptus trees are a renewable material, growing 85 feet in 16 years.
- 2) Springfield door style: Veneer wood uses less material than solid door.
- 3) Crystal Cabinet Works: Made in Princeton, MN within a 500-mile radius.
- 4) Natural stone counter tops: Durable.
- 5) Concrete island walls and top: All natural products, manufactured locally.
- 6) Bamboo floor: Renewable material.

7) High efficiency/Energy Star Certified appliances: Wolf cooktop & double oven, Subzero refrigerator, Asko dishwasher

8) Onyx and natural stone backsplash: Durable

9) Low voltage lighting: Uses less energy.

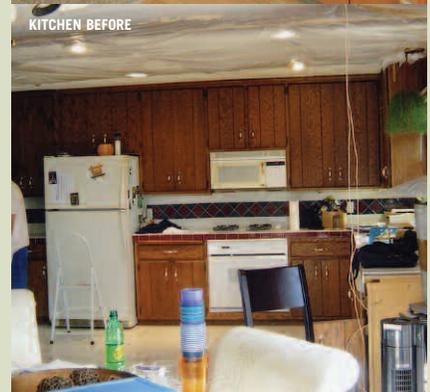
10) New window: Better energy efficiency.

**Q:** What was your inspiration for the materials chosen?

**A:** I watched a lot of decorating shows, read magazines and searched the internet for ideas. I wanted to use local products as much as possible and to be green friendly by using durable materials. I did not want a carbon copy of kitchens I saw in magazines, I wanted my kitchen to be completely unique.

**Q:** What do you like most about your new kitchen?

**A:** The openness of the new area and the clean lines of the cabinets and counters.



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# New faces at CKC.



**Promotion of  
Mary Maney,**  
AKBD, ASID

Mary Maney, who joined CKC in May 2007, has moved into the position of Designer/Sales. Congratulations Mary!

*Mary Maney*



**Introducing  
Annette Streiff, WRID**  
(Wisconsin Registered  
Interior Designer)

Annette joined the CKC team in October 2007. She will be focusing on outside sales with Architects, Builders and Designers. Annette comes from Green Bay, where she operated her own showroom with Crystal Cabinets. She is married and has one daughter.

*Annette Streiff*



Photos by J.H. Peterson

## *Marcia and Joe Eaton, kitchen remodel condo living.*

*Designer: Val Stuessi, CKD*

From a home in Kenwood to a downtown condo, the Eaton's move to a more maintenance free lifestyle had been working great—until the laminate cabinets started chipping! “They looked ratty,” says Joe Eaton. Marcia and Joe decided to embark on the remodeling journey. Trips to International Market Square, scanning websites and checking Angie's List led them to the CKC showroom and designer Val Stuessi. “We knew after one meeting, Val was the person to work with, and the fabulous showroom gave us ideas from a variety of displays” recalls Marcia. In addition to new cabinets with doors (all the old uppers were open “cupboards”) they wanted an open flow to their kitchen by removing some walls. There was one other reason—Joe had recently been diagnosed with cancer. They decided to plan for the future, so why not a new kitchen. The project was a welcome distraction from Joe's treatment regiment. The fact that Joe has been cancer free for over a year is a added bonus.

“Condos present a unique challenge to remodeling, but once we saw the schedule was being maintained, the temporary inconvenience was

more bearable” says Marcia. Joe got to know and enjoy the abundance of downtown eateries.

So the end result? —Better than they had ever envisioned. Taking out a wall improved traffic flow and the Cherry wood cabinets are stunning. Adding a custom Bubinga wood raised counter, a Dacor double wall oven and Sub Zero refrigeration gives the new kitchen classic beauty and



## *“Family Bath”*

Bath renovation on cable TV's DIY (Do It Yourself) Network.

A behind the scenes look as an outdated bathroom is transformed, with the help of designer JoLynn, into this luxurious oasis. Catch this four part series this spring on cable TV's DIY Network!

Part 1: March 31 at 8:30 p.m.

Part 2: April 7 at 9 p.m.

Part 3: April 7 at 9:30 p.m.

Part 4: April 14 at 9 p.m.





## From our kitchen to yours...

I love spring! Seeing **Green** grass and colorful flowers entering our world again makes us feel alive after a long winter hibernation. The two kitchens we are featuring in this newsletter remind me of spring. The wide-open space of Eaton's downtown condo has a contemporary-Artsy feel. The Greseth kitchen uses exotic materials with an eye towards sustainability.

**Green** is the hot topic of 2008 and Crystal Kitchen Center is offering a seminar on how we all can become green in our homes. Check out our web site at [www.crystalkitchen.com](http://www.crystalkitchen.com) for upcoming seminars and events we are offering through out the year.

Thanks for a great 33 years; I look forward to many more.

JoLynn Johnson CMKBD, CAPS

## Countertop Corner Granite -vs- Quartz

There has been much information (and mis-information) as to the pro's and con's of Granite versus manufactured Quartz surface. Engineered quartz is composed of 93% crushed quartz mixed with resins and pigments. Granite is a natural stone composed primarily of feldspar, with varying percentages of quartz and biotite. The bottom line is both are an excellent choice a for kitchen counter upgrade. Consumer must decide which fits their tastes and lifestyle:

### BOTH ARE:

1. Extremely durable and scratch resistant.
2. Professionally installed and may include visible seams.
3. Low maintenance–improved sealers make granite comparable in this respect and need not be done every year.
4. Resistant to bacteria–Much marketing has been done touting quartz with a “anti-microbial” properties, but the reality is bacteria needs food and granite in not a food source for bacteria. Keeping your counter clean keeps bacteria away.

### THE KEY DIFFERENCES WILL AFFECT WHICH PRODUCT WORKS FOR YOU:

#### GRANITE

Very heat resistant–up to 1200° F  
Richness and uniqueness of natural stone  
May includes fissures/pits–No warranty  
Polished, honed and textured finishes  
Most stains/scratches can be fixed  
Needs periodic sealing

#### QUARTZ

Needs protection at 350° F  
Consistent color and patterns  
Most manufactures include 10yr warranty  
Polished and some honed finishes.  
Resists stains/scratches better than granite  
Does not require sealing



style. “We entertain more, cook fancy meals on the weekends and love the quality and features of our new kitchen” said Joe. •



## Greseth kitchen / continued from page one.

**Q:** What was the most important thing you learned?

**A:** Instead of spending time on researching materials, ideas and coordination of all the different aspects to remodeling, I would have spent time on finding a quality General Contractor, and let them handle all the details. Having a designer like Araya Jensen was a great help in putting together materials and details that I would not have thought of.

**Q:** What advise do you have for people thinking about a kitchen remodel?

**A:** Other than getting a General Contractor (I think I ended up spending about the same amount of money doing it myself), I would say be realistic about what things cost. There are little things that add up fast, like cabinet hardware or door handles, which you might think are no big deal. If you estimate yourself add 50%! •



## Design Seminar:

### Earth Day, easy steps to become "Green" that every home can embrace.

Tuesday April 22, 2008 • 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Located at Crystal Kitchen Center, 3620  
Winnetka Ave. N., Crystal

Presenter Annette Streiff has been part of the Minnesota Greenstar Remodeling Pilot Program and sits on a committee with NARI to educate and promote the Greenstar Program. She brings information that all of us can use to become "greener" in our existing homes or if you are planning a remodel or new home, she goes through what is available in green materials and construction.

**Seminar fee: FREE**  
**RSVP: 763-544-5950**

**Fall Remodelors Showcase: Coming Oct. 10-12!**  
Watch for times and dates in our fall newsletter!

Fall Seminars offered at CKC will be published  
in the fall newsletter and on our web site.



In the design industry, word of mouth is our proudest form of marketing, because what our customers are saying about us is what matters most. But it is still an honor when the industry itself takes note of our work and our accomplishments, as it has several times over the past year. We hope to continue making the news...by making your home beautiful.

**Remodeling Magazine, June 2007**

"Job Cost Focus" JoLynn is interviewed on tips and techniques for creating accurate job estimates.

**Twin Cities Home Improvement Magazine, July 2007**

"Remodeling Guide 2007" Your step-by-step renovation resource.

**Furniture & Interiors, Fall 2007**

"Crystal-Clear Vision" Designing a functional kitchen and why working with a professional kitchen and bath firm and remodeling company can make the projects go smoothly and save money.

**Midwest Home, October 2007**

"Arty and Airy" featuring JoLynn's award winning Grover kitchen.

**Midwest Home Magazine, November 2007**

"Does Building Green Cost More" CKC designer Araya Jensen, CKD, helped answer the question that in the long run it saves money.

**Spaces Magazine, November 2007**

"Counter top Punch" Kitchen surfaces hit their stride. Granite, tile, quartz, laminate Which is right for you?

**Homestyle Magazine, January 2008**

"Mind's of their Own" CKC's Araya Jensen, CKD, offers tips on selecting shower heads with today's amazing options.

**Kitchen Makeover Magazine, Spring 2008**

Gives readers an idea of what it costs to do a kitchen makeover with general price ranges for each major element of a kitchen.

**Edina Magazine, March 2008**

"Time for an update" features the Key's 1930's colonial in the country club area of Edina. CKC's Val Stuessi's, CKD, was the designer for the kitchen and family room remodeling projects. The home was our 2007 entry in the Remodelors Showcase tour.

**Eco Special Magazine, May/June 2008**

"How to live eco responsibly at-home" – JoLynn gave tips for the kitchen and bathroom.



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