



“The whole experience and finished product exceeded our expectations.”
-Derek Munger



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Family-Owned Vacation Retreat Recreated In Dramatic Style

For 90 years, the Munger family has been vacationing on the shores of Lake Erie in beautiful Lakeside, Ohio. When the accommodations became outdated and lacked the privacy needed for the three generations of vacationers, a renovation was in order. That's where Zimmerman Remodeling and Construction of Bellevue, Ohio, came in.

Siblings Derek Munger of Houston, Texas,

and Debbie Collins of Tucson, Arizona, share ownership and recall the property's interesting history.

“Our grandparents bought it in 1918 and built a vacation home there in 1923,” Derek Munger said. “That home burned down in 1931.”

What remained after the fire was expanded over time into a cottage, and then a loft was added. By the mid-seventies, what existed was described by Debbie as “a double-wide with a loft,” but without heating or air conditioning.

“When the kids were all younger, the original set up was adequate,” Derek added. “But now that everyone's older and there are several families visiting, privacy and space became an issue.”

So the family decided a renovation was necessary

After consulting with a designer and reviewing a preliminary plan, demolishing and starting over seemed like the best action. So the Mungers and Collins started over to create

a new family vacation home. They sought bids from area homebuilders and selected Zimmerman.

“We picked Zimmerman because of the firm's reputation in the community for quality and outstanding service,” Derek said. “The bid was extremely competitive and we liked what we saw and heard about Greg and his company.”

When demolition began in mid January 2008, Greg promised the family would be moved in by Memorial Day. Initial contacts between the Mungers and Collins and the Zimmerman team were all by phone and e-mail.

“We talked about hiring someone to supervise the construction process for us, because we were so far away from the action,” Derek stated. “When I mentioned that to a friend in the area, he said there was no need to hire anyone to monitor the progress if Greg Zimmerman and his team were on the job!”

Zimmerman's crew was led by Dennis Rospert, who recalled, “Last winter's weather was the biggest challenge to overcome. We had to plan around the storms, constantly watching the weather forecast and adjusting our schedule and hours accordingly.”

“We worked long hours to keep the project moving,” he added. “And the homeowners understood the process, making everything go well. Debbie and Kathy (Munger) both visited to select the fixtures and materials we had to rely on others to supply. Ordering early helped eliminate delivery problems.”



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The siblings visited monthly, meeting with Greg. All the while, Zimmerman's team, "Continued to do what they said they would do," Debbie stated.

"The teamwork between the construction crew and the family members made this a great project for us," Dennis said. "We all had the same goal."

On May 23, 2008, right on schedule, the Munger home, now named "Past's Present" was turned over to its owners by the construction team!

The five-bedroom, four-bath, two-story home features nearly 3,000 square feet of living space, including a large kitchen, great room, and magnificent deck with spectacular views of the lake. The home was decorated by Derek Munger's daughter, an interior designer.

The open concept floor plan allows for plenty of social interaction. The expansive kitchen features granite countertops and maple cabinetry, with an island, dining bar, plus room for a long table. A large fireplace (constructed from stone hand-selected by the homeowners) and floor to

ceiling windows facing the lake highlight the great room. The first floor includes a bedroom, full bath, and laundry room. Hardwood, ceramic tile, and Seagrass carpet was selected for flooring throughout the home.

A partially open staircase leads upstairs where four bedrooms and three full baths are featured. Two bedrooms have private baths, and two are connected with a "Jack and Jill" bathroom.

At the front of the house, a sizeable 20' x 28' deck, constructed of low-maintenance Eon Decking material, extends the lake views and living space. A smaller, brick paver patio is on the side of the house.

"We couldn't be happier," Debbie said. "Greg and his team were a pleasure to work with and they kept their promise. We were in by Memorial Day weekend!"

"Past's Present" will continue to give the entire Munger family a vacation home where memories will be made for years to come.

We hope you enjoyed reading about the Munger project.

If you have a similar project or an area in your home that you would like to see updated, whether it's a small powder room, a family room addition or a whole house renovation, we are ready to serve you.

For more before and after photos, visit our Web site, www.zimmermanconstruction.com. Our courteous and professional team members can be reached at (419) 483-7250. We look forward to working with you.

Greg Zimmerman
President

