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Past is present in Lakeside

By LORI KOELSCH | Monday, October 20, 2008 11:34 AM EDT

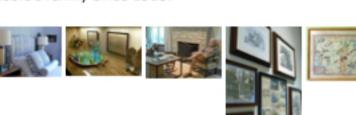
LAKESIDE

Many homes have history attached to them. Not many will carry that history into the future. "Past's Present" is a testament to family heritage as well as forward thinking to the future.

Clement and Bertha Hostler bought the property at 714 E. Second Street in Lakeside in 1918. In 1923, Clement built a small cottage where he and his family could enjoy the lake view. In 1931, his dream was demolished by rumrunners who in burning an adjoining property, ended up burning down his home as well. All that remained was the a partially standing wall at the west end of the property. Hostler took the lumber that remained and built a garage on the property. Eventually he was able to rebuild the cottage adding a screened porch. As time went on, an indoor bathroom with shower and a kitchen with refrigerator



Register photo/ABBY VERBOSKY This home at 714 E. Second St. in Lakeside belongs to Debbie and Peter Collins and their family. The property has been in Debbie's family since 1918.



Recently Debbie Munger Collins, maternal granddaughter of Clement

were added.

and Bertha, her husband, Peter, and daughter, Melinda, were in Lakeside from their home in Arizona to talk about the evolution of the home over the years.

Debbie and her brother, Derek Munger, have been vacationing in the home all their lives. Growing up in Columbus, the summer home was a treat and a chance to spend time with extended family. Debbie and her family, including daughter, Courtney, and Derek's family, composed of wife, Kathy, and daughters, Amy, Elizabeth and Anne, spend time every year in the home.

Debbie reminisces about the changes in the homestead over the years. About 35 years ago her parents realized a bit more space was needed to keep up with growing families and refashioned the home into an A-frame. They added a deck with a large catalpa tree breaking through the middle. The home also hosted a loft that was a favorite of all the children when they visited. "It was a right of passage" to stay in the loft, Debbie and her daughter, Melinda, relate. Even though it wasn't really set up for anyone taller than a 10 year-old-child, the fourth generation continued to stay in the loft when they visited, well into adulthood.

At times there have been up to 17 people at a time in the small cottage. "You had to find room to sleep where you could", laughs Debbie. "People were in the bedrooms, on pull-out couches, and in sleeping bags".

Since their parent's passing, Debbie and Derek's own families have continued to grow, and they decided the vacation home needed to grow as well.

The two Munger siblings agreed they wanted to keep the loft and the back bedroom if possible. When they discovered that it wouldn't be possible to do what they wanted to do and keep those two rooms, they decided to tear the original structure down and start from scratch.

The family hired Zimmerman Remodeling and Construction of Bellevue to do the renovation. Zimmerman began construction January, 2008, with a promise of completion of Memorial Day.

While the hired crew worked their magic on the structure, the siblings and their families worked their magic inside. Debbie and her sister-in-law, Kathy, worked on the interior design while Kathy's daughter, Elizabeth Munger, a decorator, assisted. They found they were in agreement on most things such as fabrics and furniture, so choices were easy and made fairly quick.

This was a good thing as Zimmerman and his busy team kept their vow. The house was ready for habitation May 23.

The home has a large front porch; plenty of room for the third, fourth and fifth generations to come together, sit looking at the lake and reminisce. Foilage surrounds the house. An American flag waves guests in.

Inside the house, the family has integrated many pieces from the past with the new. The colors are light and airy, the perfect feel for a summer vacation home.

The kitchen table and buffet belonged to Debbie and Derek's great-great-aunt from Chicago. "Every child learned to play penny poker at that kitchen table", Peter shares. The light fixture over the table was originally in Debbie and Derek's great-grandmother's farm in Bellevue.

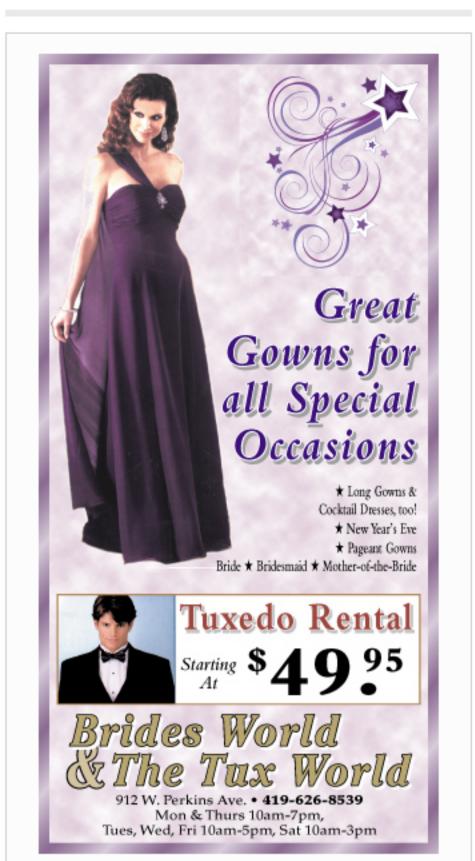
In the family room, a couch and comfy chairs surround a stone fireplace. There is a side table made of seashells handcrafted by Derek's oldest daughter, Amy Munger.

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