

Carlsbad home remodel in Craftsman style



LEFT: Architect Sam Chereskin worked with Kelly and Pat Hurley to remodel their Carlsbad home.

BELOW: The Hurley's in their new kitchen.

By Louis Shook
SPECIAL TO THE UNION-TRIBUNE

Soon after Pat and Kelly Hurley purchased their Carlsbad home, they started thinking about remodeling it. The couple moved from Point Loma to Carlsbad in 1999. Kelly works for Realty Executives and Pat is an insurance broker. The original house was built in 1960 and was 1,500 square feet with three bedrooms. As their family grew, they knew they wanted more living space as well as a home that reflected their personal style.

"We always liked the craftsman style," said Pat. "In fact, on our first date we went to a Frank Lloyd Wright exhibit." Recognized as one of America's greatest architects, Wright designed many homes in the craftsman style that typically feature extensive use of wood, open floor plans, stained or leaded glass windows, and built-in cabinets. When the Hurleys were ready to begin their remodel project, they contacted Sam Chereskin, a local architect who has designed a number of San Diego homes in the craftsman style. Chereskin developed



plans for the Hurleys that included five bedrooms and nearly doubled the size of living space to a total of 2,800 square feet. The remodel plans also included the addition of second floor with a spacious master suite that opens to a balcony and a panoramic ocean view.

Once the plans were approved, it was time to determine what it would cost. "At the time we were getting bids, the real estate market was hot and general contractors were very busy," said Pat. "Initial bids from contractors were very high - too high." To make it work within his budget, he hired a contractor to do the major structural and electrical work. For everything else, Pat essentially acted as the general contractor-hiring subcontractors and doing a lot of the "dirty work" himself. He also did a lot of fine interior details himself.

The result is a larger home that showcases a beautiful craftsman style. Pat is very skilled in woodworking and used these skills to add many of the finishing touches. He first learned the basics in high school woodshop classes. Over the years he has worked on boats and built furniture. Recently he has been building beautiful wood guitars for himself and friends, and a ukulele for his daughter. He uses his garage as a workshop. Examples of Pat's fine craftsmanship include an ornate fireplace mantel, window and door trims, wood plank flooring and stone tiles. The interior also includes wood furniture that he built. The living room opens to a large patio with a stone fire pit, large wood deck and stone tiles.

With the remodel complete, the Hurleys have more time to relax and enjoy life from their new second-story balcony. From the fireplaces, to kitchen cabinets, there is clean design and quality workmanship everywhere you look. The Hurleys now enjoy a home that reflects their sense of style, and has the extra living space they wished for.



The fireplace and coffee table are examples of Pat Hurley's woodworking talent. Photo by Louis Shook.kitchen design.
Photo by Lou Shook

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