

President
Alex Dean, CR, CGR

Construction Mgr.
Michael Colman

Project Designer
James Steele

Lead Carpenters
Steve Mayberry
Gregory Burdette

Carpenters
Marvin Samoya
Hernan Morales

Administration
Kathy Poland

Members of:
NARI DC Chapter
Montgomery Co. Builders
Association

Recent Awards:
2002 NARI
CotY Awards (2)

2002 Montgomery
Co. Builders Assoc.
Awards (4)

2001 Montgomery
Co. Builders Assoc.
Awards (4)

2001 NARI
CotY Awards (2)

2000 NARI
CotY Awards (4)

2000 Montgomery
Co. Builders Awards (2)

1993 - 1999
Multiple Awards



Same song...new verse

The first child comes and the only changes are a crib with a whirlie-giggie-thingie attached to it and cute wallpaper. Then child number two arrives, and the need for more space intensifies.

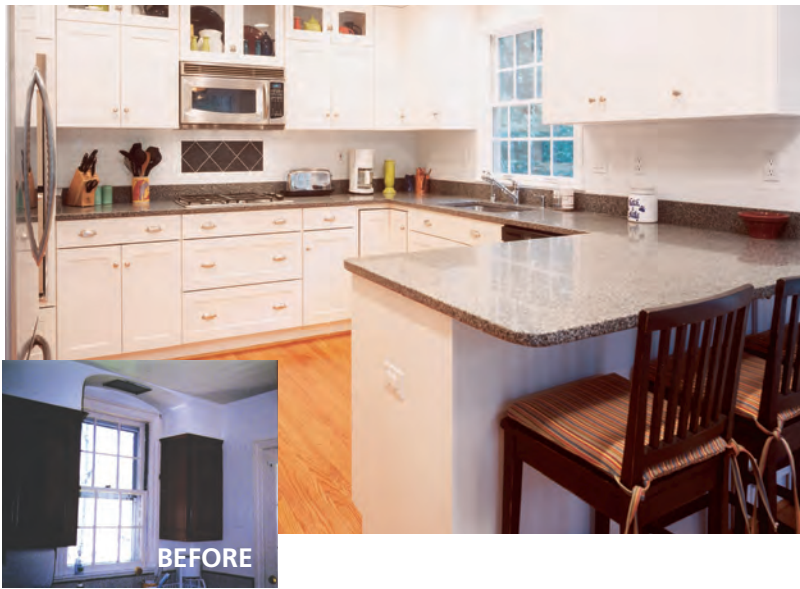
In growing numbers, today's metropolitan homeowners are choosing to stay right where they are instead of uprooting their family to move to a new community that may not be as convenient, nor as friendly as the one from whence they came. It's not that easy to find a neighborhood that has good schools, convenient shopping and amenities, fantastic neighbors, and in

the Washington DC area, within a reasonable commute time. This Bethesda couple chose their house knowing they would soon remodel to meet the needs of their growing family.

"We knew going in that the house was going to require a lot of work, but all things being equal, this was the house for us," the homeowner said. "Our biggest concern was, could we get done what we needed to before our son was born. We thank our house inspector every day for recommending Alex and his team. Though we wouldn't recommend it, we lived in the house during

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Photography ©2002 Alan Karchner Photographer



the entire process! The experience with The Alexander Group was great. Everyone was respectful and very considerate during the process.”

The first floor remodel included an addition that contained a new, up-to-date kitchen and breakfast room with new windows and sports new cabinetry with a modern suburban look and a host of new appliances. The original kitchen’s space was converted to a through-hallway and much-desired powder room.

The traditional basement space received a makeover including new drywall, paint, carpeting and lights, creating a comfy, multi-purpose family area where children can play when it’s just too cold outside. The new addition to the basement is now a new home office and situated to grow with the needs of the family.

The back yard was transformed from an underdeveloped lot to a leveled grassy area, a new walled-in stone patio and terracing to the street level—a pleasing family place where kids can play and parents can entertain on warm summer evenings.

“With Alex’s help, we absolutely accomplished what we started out to do,” the homeowner said. “The quality was excellent and we got exactly what we wanted. We have nothing but good things to say about the work. Our addition looks like it was always there, and we’re really enjoying living in our new space. We’ve recommended The Alexander Group to friends.”

Will Alex and crew be back? The homeowners had The Alexander Group design a future second floor plan with bedroom and bath above the kitchen addition as well as install the ceiling joists suitable to support a future second floor—just in case the family grows again—they’ll be ready!

Favored vendor: Power Decorating Company, Inc.

Whether it's a special application or a whole house painting project, Power Decorating Company, Inc. is the firm The Alexander Group dispatches.

"A recent client gave us a challenge: 'What can you do so I can hang my kids' art work without poking a zillion thumb tacks on my wall?' and Wayne Power had the perfect solution," Alex Dean said. "The solution was magnetic paint on the stairwell from first floor to the basement. Magnetic tape is used on the back of the art work and bingo—The Family Art Wall."

The magnetic paint, made by Kling Magnetics, is perfect for a large space to hold magnets of all shapes and sizes.

"Not only is this a fun application for a kid's room, it's also great in home offices for scheduling or in a kitchen area," Wayne said. "It frees up the refrigerator from serving as an gallery for the kids' latest art projects. That not only lessens the clutter in a kitchen, but also gives the children a special place for all their art work. It's also great for grocery lists, coupons and all the other small items that tend to end up on refrigerator doors."

On another project, Wayne painted a wall with blackboard chalk paint and a 14-year-old stu-

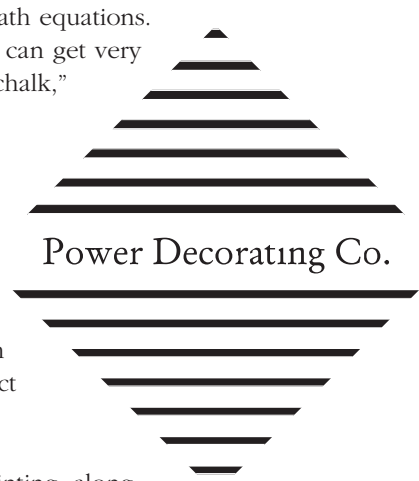
dent uses it for art work and math equations. "Kids love a blank canvas; they can get very creative with a box of colored chalk," Wayne said.

Founded 26 years ago, Power Decorating focuses on residential painting and wall covering services. With 11 employees, Wayne's philosophy is to keep the business small enough to manage quality—both product and service.

"We do interior and exterior painting, along with deck cleaning and sealing," Wayne said. "A substantial percentage of our work is in custom painting, working with homeowners' remodelers or designers. Wall coverings include vinyls, vinyl coated papers, silks, string linens, foils, custom murals, wood veneer, 24 karat gold foil, grass cloths and hand-trimmed European papers."

The Alexander Group is high on Wayne's preferred contractors lists also. "We enjoy working for The Alexander Group because the team is also very committed to quality, and understands that a good paint job entails a thorough preparation of the surfaces. Today's painting trend is that most customers desire an eggshell finish on their walls. This requires even further wall preparation. The higher the sheen value of the paint, the greater the preparation requirements. Wall preparation consists of sanding the walls and trim, removing all nail pops and sinks, applying joint compound to wall imperfections and applying paint primer to any areas where preparation was performed. The Alexander Group understands all that goes into doing a job right the first time.

"Another reason we look forward to working on an Alexander Group job is their great communication skills with everyone involved on the job site. The trade contractors, client, and field crew are all informed of scheduling and what is required of them to maintain the job timeline. It has been our pleasure to work with The Alexander Group over the past four years and we look forward to many more years working together to make clients happy in their homes."



▲ More details about magnetic paint can be found at www.kling.com. Blackboard, or chalk paint, can be purchased through Benjamin Moore Paints, BenjaminMoore.com.



Did you dodge the hurricane bullet?

Last month's hurricane was unusual for the DC area. Most homes dodged the bullet—this time. But storms are a fact of life and it's best to be prepared.

irrigated. Water under hydrostatic pressure can seep through foundations with traditional coatings—even in areas that aren't cracked.

▲ *We love it when our satisfied homeowners take a few minutes to send an email or note.*

"We appreciate the quality of the team you have assembled that have been working with us at our house. Thanks again."

Robert and Melissa

According to TUFF-N-DRI® (www.tuff-n-dri.com), water on the outside of any basement would love to come inside. And the laws of physics make an improperly protected basement a most inviting destination. In fact, outside moisture can enter basement spaces in three main forms—foundation wall leaks, seepage and condensation. Damp basement space can create an uncomfortable environment. Plus, it can demand more energy by making heaters, air conditioners and dehumidifiers work harder.

Leaks: Foundations, whether block or poured concrete, crack naturally over time. Traditional foundation coatings such as damp proofing crack right along with the concrete, creating a place for water to easily penetrate the wall.

Seepage: Water underground is under hydrostatic pressure. This pressure increases with rainfall, melting snow or when the lawn is

Condensation: Water vapor condenses where hot meets cold, known as the dew point. When the basement is uninsulated, or insulated only from the inside, the foundation wall is cooled to the temperature of the ground—so the dew point is on the interior foundation of the wall, and condensation can form there. When the foundation wall is insulated from the exterior, its temperature is the same as inside air—so water doesn't condense there.

Mike Colman, construction manager, favors TUFF-N-DRI®, a waterproofing product that protects against these three main forms of basement moisture. Its flexible membrane bridges foundation cracks to seamlessly block leaks and seepage. TUFF-N-DRI's foundation board insulates basement walls from the exterior to protect against interior condensation, while also assisting drainage.

▼ *Visit our Web site: AlexanderGroup.net*

▼ *Excellence in architectural craftsmanship and remodeling*