



Mountain Retreat

by Anne Surniak
Photography by Jonathan Harper





The home of Scott and Bernadette Henning rests near the summit of Blue Mountain overlooking the Susquehanna River and the valley below. The structure is a pleasant balance of sharp angles and gentle curves and is perfectly positioned to take advantage of the panoramic view. Cedar-colored siding and a landscape that preserves the natural beauty of the wooded lot allow the contemporary home to fit comfortably in its environment.

But don't let the lodge-like appearance and woodsy setting fool you. This 8,500-square-foot home is anything but rustic.

From the moment you step through the bronze doors into the foyer, you know you are in for something extraordinary. The foyer is formal



with polished white porcelain tiles, a chandelier suspended from a vaulted ceiling, and dual staircases that curve to the upper level.

As you pass between the staircases, you enter the great room. The casual nature of this room balances the formality of the foyer. The great room features an exposed double-sided stone fireplace, cedar ceilings, polished hardwood flooring, a sunken wet bar, and comfortable furniture.

The most eye-catching feature, however, is the magnificent view. With a rear wall consisting primarily of windows, the outdoors becomes a part of the home. A sitting area in front of a window and a telescope for stargazing allow the Hennings and their guests to relax, reflect, and take it all in.

With such a grand entrance and spacious great room—not to mention two levels of decks and a back patio with a swimming pool and hot tub—the Henning's home is made for entertaining, which brings us to another fantastic room: the kitchen.

The kitchen is a cook's dream. Granite countertops and a large center island provide ample room for preparation and cooking. The kitchen has two conventional/convection ovens and a microwave. Maple cupboards offer plenty of storage and conceal the refrigerator, freezer, dishwasher, and trash receptacles. A butler's pantry, a small room between the kitchen and formal dining area, includes a built-in wine rack, sink, warming drawer, dishwasher, and extra counter space. It's a convenient way to keep everything you need close at hand while entertaining in the dining room.

When they are ready to escape the day, the Hennings head upstairs to the master bedroom suite. A beautiful sleigh bed, comfortable sitting area, and a double-sided fireplace make the room a private retreat. Adding to the ambiance is the master bath, a spacious room with his-and-hers vanity areas, a walk-in shower with multiple showerheads, and a Jacuzzi bathtub nestled snugly in front of the fireplace.

Aside from its size and luxurious amenities, one of the most amazing things about the house is that most of its layout and design was conceived by the homeowners, who knew exactly what they wanted. It just took finding the right architect, Gary Grimm, and builder, Carlson Construction, to make it happen. Bringing on Classic Interiors to help with the interior design pulled together the look and feel of the home's rooms.

The result? "Believe it or not, it is almost exactly what we envisioned," says Bernadette. ■

