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# At The Lake<sup>®</sup>

GENEVA LAKES AREA MAGAZINE

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ARTISTS'  
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# ORREN PICKELL

## DESIGNERS AND BUILDERS

In 2003 Bob and Suzanne Zaconne, siblings and business partners, bought lots in the newly developed South Shore Club (former site of the Northwestern Military Academy) and began working with South Shore developer Orren Pickell Designers and Builders to design their respective dream homes. Four years later their lake retreats were complete and Orren Pickell had won two Gold Key awards for architecture design.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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### PROJECT INFORMATION

Private residences of  
Bob and Suzanne Zaconne,  
South Shore Club on  
Geneva Lake

**THIS PAGE AND LEFT:** The homes of brother and sister Bob and Suzanne Zaconne were both built using all natural stucco, Wisconsin limestone, slate, cedar and brick accents.





## “My house is comfortable and traditionally decorated with a twist...”

“I had so much fun working with their architects,” says Suzanne. “They were really creative in helping me get the vision I wanted.” All of the homes in the South Shore Club feature a cohesive exterior design. “The driving factor is that everything has to be European in style,” Pickell explains. “The architecture can be varied, but it has to use local materials. The stone has to be quarried in Wisconsin. We wanted to give the project a Thomas Kinkadee look.”

Inside, Bob and Suzanne expressed their families’ individual tastes through design choices and distinctive décor. “While it looks kind of old-world French/English on the outside, on the inside, our house is modern and crisp,” describes Bob. Suzanne opted for a soft, curvilinear style in her getaway. “My house is comfortable and traditionally decorated with a twist... a lot of art,” she says.

For both siblings, a big part of the appeal of living in South Shore Club was the prospect of maintenance-free living. “We don’t have to worry about anything,” says Bob. “I can control my house from my laptop. I can turn on the alarm, adjust the heat, see video camera feeds... all on my laptop. It’s really convenient for a second home.”

Suzanne appreciated Orren Pickell’s incorporation of technology into the building process. “They coordinated

everything so that it was all organized on a Web site and I could check progress as we went along.” The Web site even allowed Bob and Suzanne to see 3-D renderings of the house as they made architectural design decisions.

For the Zaconnes, Lake Geneva is a family affair; Bob and his wife, Lisa, added a fully apportioned apartment on their top floor for their parents to stay in. “We try to spend the entire summer here,” he says. “We all have to be dragged away at the end of the season.”

Suzanne points out that building a dream house is hard work, but she loves the result. “If I were to ever do this again, I would want to work with Orren Pickell,” she says emphatically. “Everyone there was wonderful and I ended up with exactly what I wanted.” ▲

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:** Visit [pickellbuilders.com](http://pickellbuilders.com), or call 888-PICKELL.

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** This light-hued kitchen was fitted Wood-Mode cabinets, a custom range hood and furniture-style island with a granite, marbled tabletop; Wood-Mode custom cabinets and a vintage clawfoot tub make this bathroom both timeless and elegant; This cozy, screened front porch has a richly stained fir ceiling, a cedar floor and a fireplace to warm up to; Nothing about this space feels like a basement, though that’s exactly what this room is. Dramatic details include a hand-hewn fir mantle, box beam ceiling detail and Wisconsin limestone to match exterior.