

A stair hall, located off the house's northern entrance, provides drama and fills the great room with light. The steps lead up to a second-floor balcony. An entertainment room and wine cellar are in the basement.



Scout's Honor

A rustic lodge provides the inspiration for a modern country home in Lancaster County. BY REBECCA HARPER

Sometimes remarkable design is the result of giving a classic an updated twist. In the case of a rustic-modern house in Lancaster County, architect Jeffrey Wyant used a pavilion at a Boy Scouts lodge as the basis for a great room off the entrance to the home. Exposed timber trusses frame the room's 23-foot ceiling, bringing an alpine-chic feel to the room, while the steel plates holding the trusses keep the overall design up to date. Pella custom-made casement windows cover the entire height of the room's north- and south-facing walls. "The trusses bring the warmth of wood inside and also continue the connection with the outdoors that was so important to this project," Wyant says. Oversized windows provide full views of the lot's wooded area to the north and an enviable pool patio to the south.

A courtyard provides an outdoor living area for the couple in warmer months. At the far end of the space, a waterfall cascades from a limestone wall into a wading pool.





The stylish kitchen is a hub for entertaining. A Viking cooktop is on the island, hidden behind bar seating, while the counter behind it holds a steam table, deep fryer, single burner and a faucet for filling pots. Cabinets, painted in Texas Leather by Benjamin Moore, match all of the house's interior doors.



Top: The Lombardos wanted a comfortable master bath that used warm materials. It's fitted with a raised soaking tub and dual sinks by Kohler. The tiles—Botticelli on the walls and Jade on the floor—are from Dal-Tile. A window next to the tub provides views of the property.

Bottom: Rich woods combine with sleek steel in the space that showcases the homeowners' extensive wine collection. In the adjacent entertainment room, the deep earth-toned walls provide a nice contrast to a grand limestone fireplace.

It's the pool patio, though, that makes the most of the wooded, 10-acre lot's proximity to nature. The courtyard, enclosed by the house, guest wing, pool house and long limestone wall (complete with waterfall), creates an outdoor living area for the homeowners, Sam and Dena Lombardo. Double French doors connect the patio to an indoor-outdoor Jacuzzi room in the multi-level master suite, which includes an office, dressing area, master bath and cozy limestone fireplace. A spiral staircase from the suite leads down to an exercise room fitted with its own bathroom and sauna.

Off the great room and the adjoining dining room, a display kitchen allows Sam Lombardo to cook and entertain at the same time. Wyant studied how Lombardo moves about the kitchen so the appliances were placed in the proper position. A large pantry and a butler's pantry keep all of home cook's equipment and supplies out of sight.

Because the home is located on a steep hill, Wyant and the construction team faced some design challenges. The reward, however, was a day-lit basement





The great room's double French doors open to an outdoor living space. Warren Muller of Bahdeebahdu designed the kinetic light sculpture. The sectional sofa is by Roche Bobois.

Inset: The great room lights up at night thanks to custom casement windows designed by Pella.

that let the Lombardos create a chic entertainment space without worrying about the musty scent associated with underground recreation rooms. And because the basement was so accessible, the couple chose to showcase their wine collection inside a glass-walled, temperature-controlled room that looks into the entertainment room. "They have a taste for the finer things in life," Wyant says. "They were looking for a wine cellar, great open spaces, a place to entertain and an exercise room; things you might find on the Main Line, but not necessarily in Lancaster County."

This showcase home is full of luxurious amenities, but the architect's favorite feature is a stair hall off the northern entrance to the home. With stainless steel cables, steel frames and maple treads and landings, the staircase leads up to a linear second-floor balcony that overlooks the great room. It's these architectural details that keep this country home on the cutting edge. ■