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The

# Remodelers' Journal

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**NARI**<sup>®</sup>  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
THE REMODELING INDUSTRY



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

After moving 19 times and conquering a couple careers, Jill Weber, CR took root in Atlanta, Georgia where she followed her true passion, interior design.

Jill is the owner of Kitchen Connections LLC, a design and shopping service for cabinetry. She says that her job only begins with the design and cabinetry. "I ensure that my designs are implemented correctly by staying on board with project management from start to finish."

Despite joining NARI only a year ago, Jill is no stranger to the organization or to fellow members. Not only does Jill regularly attend the monthly meetings, she also earned her CR within her first year of membership. "I tell people I earned my CR for fun. In reality, I have always loved the construction industry," Jill explains. "Preparing and becoming a

NARI Certified Remodeler has helped me understand and design around the unique challenges of the remodel projects I work on," says Jill.

Since starting her company in 2002, Jill has won numerous awards, including the 2005 Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles Kitchen of the Year, the 2004 Design with Decora Best Kitchen Design, National and South Region," and the 2005 Homebuilders Association Gold Award for a bathroom \$20,000 and up.

Jill also collaborated with another NARI member, Distinctive Remodeling Solutions, which earned both companies the honor of the 2004 Atlanta Homebuilders' Association Gold Awards for a Kitchen \$30,000 and Up, the 2005 Region II Contractor of the Year \$60,001 - \$100,000, the 2006 Atlanta



**JILL WEBER, CR**  
Kitchen Connections LLC  
NARI of Georgia

Years as NARI member: 1

Years in industry: 9

Homebuilders Association Gold Award for a kitchen under \$75,000 and the Atlanta Chapter 2006 NARI CoTY award for a residential bathroom \$30,000-\$60,000.

In addition to being an active member of NARI, Jill was also the 2006 president of the Georgia chapter of the National Kitchen and Bath Association and a member of the Westye Independent Designers Forum.

## PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

DUCT, DUCT -  
IS THAT A  
GOOSE?



Robert and Elizabeth Thompson were newlyweds who purchased their 2,000 square foot home from another young family. The sellers obviously had children who found it

entertaining to hide things in the floor vents. This is where the story begins.

The first improvement that Robert and Elizabeth wanted to make was replacing the central air handler because the system had low output and could not efficiently heat or cool the residence. The REALTOR knew that the Thompsons plan was to fix-up and flip the house so she recommended they call AdvantaClean of Charlotte to clean all the air ducts.

The AdvantaClean crew began to clean the downstairs system when they observed that

nothing was coming out of the exit line and into the duct collection vacuum. "That was the first sign that this was an extremely unusual job" Kelvin, an AdvantaClean Tech commented. "With 175 psi of compressed air discharging from the air whip and 2500 CFM of vacuum pressure we can generally dislodge and capture any and all debris in the ductwork." A quick increase in output pressure from the air

sneak and several pieces of large debris quickly went knocking through the transparent vacuum tube and landed in the collection unit. Several more "thuds" of debris quickly followed. "This was odd", he explained. "We checked the collection unit and found a surprise that we had never encountered before - toys, lots of toys." "Sure, we find the occasional GI Joe that has found its way into the foxhole of residential ductwork, but these were large toys, and a lot of them; you could



Heap of toys excavated from the ducts of a single 2,000 square ft. home.

say that it appeared as if someone had stuffed an entire rack of a toy store into the ductwork."

The duct cleaning continued and after it was all said and done the crew had extracted over 40 lbs. of toys, cosmetics and clothing from both the supply and return sides of the ductwork; "No wonder the HVAC system was inefficient; 40+ lbs. of toys and clothing will clog air ducts every time" commented Kelvin.

Contractor Craig John Oliver is wanted by the FBI. Mr. Oliver operated a home improvement/renovation company called Dominion Building and Construction Corp. in Virginia and Maryland (suburban Washington, DC). In

October 2005, Mr. Oliver plead guilty to defrauding 68 homeowners with losses over \$2.5 million in a fraud scheme. Mr. Oliver was released pending sentencing which was scheduled for January 20, 2006. It is believed

that Mr. Oliver fled the area in November 2005. Anyone with information regarding the whereabouts of Mr. Oliver should contact FBI Special Agent Jeffrey A. Reising at Jeffrey.Reising@ic.fbi.gov.