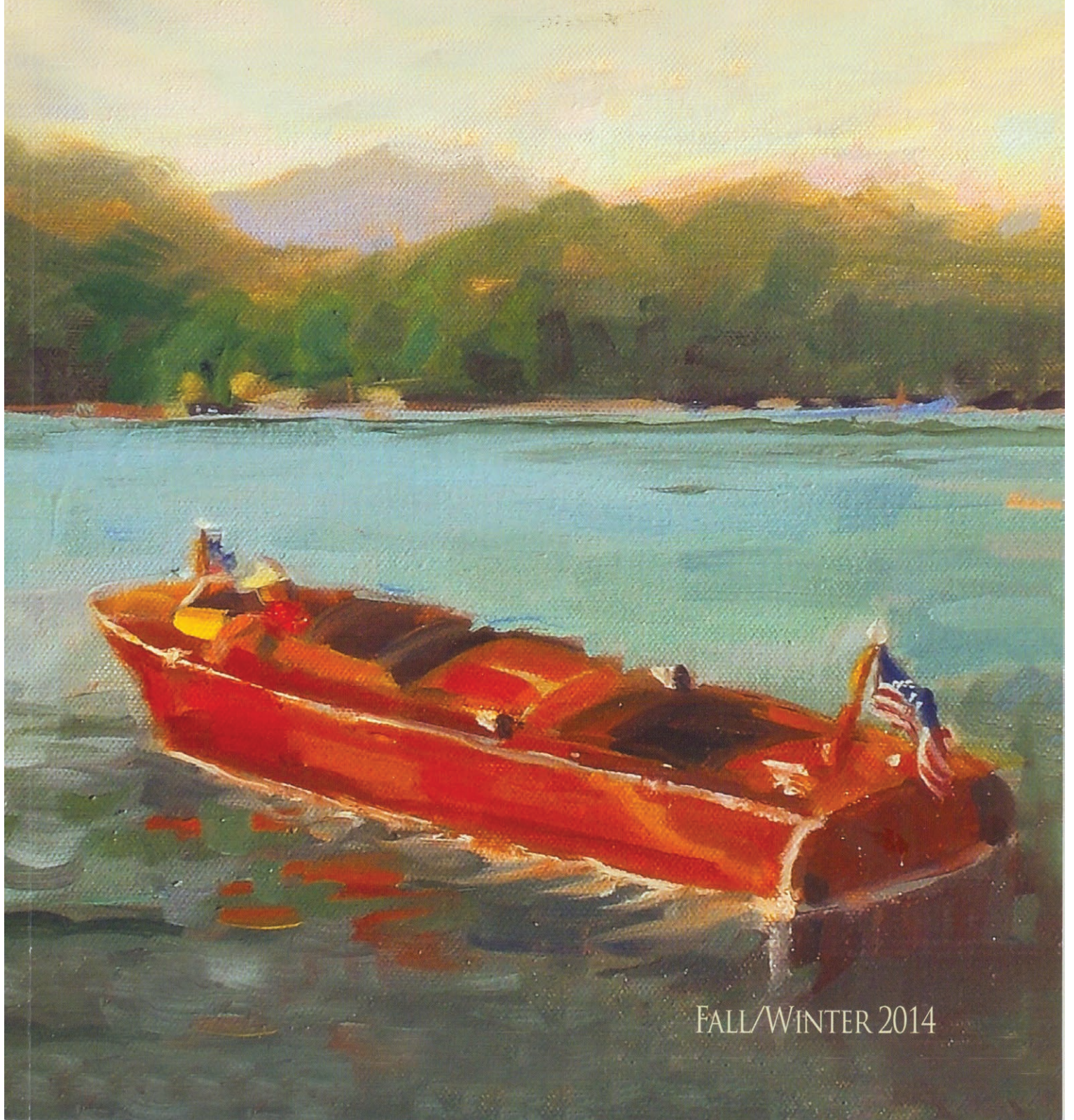


# CABIN & COVE

BURTON › SEED › RABUN › CHATUGE



FALL/WINTER 2014



# Artfully Restoring Order

By Heather Leigh Johnson - Photos by Peter McIntosh





It's almost a rule of nature that order arises from chaos. So when Mother Nature causes the chaos, it's especially nice to see order restored. Such is the case in the home of June and John Douglas. In 2011, when the tornado destroyed so much of Lake Burton's Timpson Cove area along Meeting House Mountain Road, it did not spare their home. Faced with the task of rebuilding, the Douglasses worked closely with architects Bill Harrison and Rick Hatch as well as with local artists and craftsmen to create a masterpiece of lake living.



From the entryway, the ceiling soars to over twenty feet and straight ahead, a Palladian window gives a first glimpse of the lake and the face of Charlie Mountain. Up high, Queen Anne trusses support the vast open space with their elegant timber frame structure. Each truss is bound with black iron straps, created by local craftsman Dwayne Thompson, that add stability and visual interest. The high ceiling is punctuated with a row of clerestory windows that pour abundant light into the kitchen, dining room and great room seating area.

The kitchen, oriented toward the lake, is an understated work of functional art. Reclaimed barn wood fronts the cabinets and appliances with its velvety grey veneer, giving the open space a cohesive appearance. Through a wide door to the left, the view looks up the lake toward Glassy Mountain. Wide screened sections on the porch become anchored by the fireplace, the massive hearthstone of which was pulled from the ruins of the boathouse after the tornado and placed here as a testament to the family's resilience.

June Douglas, the creative driving force behind the home, says her favorite part of the kitchen is the pebble mosaic behind the sink. The work of art was designed and installed by Veronica Annis, the mother-daughter artist and design team of Barbie White and Holli Watts. Working with the local artists was, in fact, June's favorite part of the rebuilding process.

The work of Barbie and Holli can be found throughout the house, from large to small. They designed the great room's soaring stacked-rock fireplace, the focal point of the seating area. They also designed the burlap-covered headboards in the downstairs guest bedroom. Further, when June worried about little guests falling out of bed, Barbie and Holli designed

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the matching side rails to keep them in. From there, their design shows up in nearly every room in the house.

Some of their best work can be seen in another charming feature of the home, the custom-made vanities in each bathroom, using photographs and sketches provided by June the vanities were hand crafted by Shaun Greer. It was then the work of Barbie and Holli to finish each cabinet, whether that meant creating a distressed-wood finish or painting an Italian-inspired spray of leaves on the downstairs powder room vanity.

Holli and Barbie's artistic touch appears even in the details. A nearby office space showcases a sweet rabbit and ivy light fixture that Barbie used as inspiration for creating custom-made ivy drawer pulls for the cabinets behind the desk. It's a small touch, one that might hardly be noticed, but it's one that brings a smile and a sense of completeness to the office.

Their artists' touch permeates the house, from the weathered bead-board finishes in many rooms and along the downstairs hall, to an antiqued wardrobe custom-made for its nook. Holli and Barbie's expertise with color choice and design elements helped June Douglas achieve her vision for a Big Sky, Montana-inspired home. Their shared vision brings harmony and order to a place where there was none, and it will continue to do so for many years to come.

*To see more of Holli and Barbie's work, see their ad on page 27 or visit their website: [www.veronicaannsinc.com](http://www.veronicaannsinc.com).*

