

Growth Rings 2014-15

REAL

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As we come to the close of 2014, it is surprising how fast this year has gone. The country has gone through another round of elections, and there is hope the new Congress will address many of the main issues like immigration and budgets. Civil unrest, here, and throughout the world, leave much to be done.



We started 2014 with finishing Gretchen Voss's camp north of Naples. All the planning finally came together, and the family's



retreat will provide an opportunity to enjoy the area for years to come. David and Sharon Mathiason own a camp surrounded by N.Y. State Forest south of Bath. David and Bill Ball, a Real Log Home owner and his wife, Jeanne, from Savannah, N.Y., built their home back in 1987 have worked together many years so it was only natural for them to assemble the custom pre-cut Real Log Home package. Since David's retirement, he has been able to spend more of his time



banding raptors. The owls are checked over for any health concerns, measured, and then released. The information is shared with DEC to note changes in bird populations, different migration patterns, and the general health of the species. David wanted to have the flexibility of setting up a couple classrooms in the basement for instruction and seminars so we



installed a walkout Superior Wall Foundation. It doubled the two bedroom ranch's 864 sq. ft.. The open great room will have a wood stove and several windows to the south. We overhung the side gable roof to shelter some of the deck. This will be a great area to observe bear and deer and all that nature holds.





Jim and Vicky Avery asked me in April to walk a piece of land on Smith Rd., Town of Hopewell, that backed up to the Canandaigua Outlet. By the end of May, the property was purchased, and we had our custom Real Log Home design in the final stages. As building any home is a "process", we had a home to sell, new financing to close, engineering reviews, and



site approvals to go through.On November 11, we took delivery of their 1774 sq ft. custom Real Log Home and 2 ½ car garage. The great room is open with cathedral ceilings and a loft at one end. The master

bedroom suite's glassed gable will allow plenty of morning sun in. The other main floor bedroom has access to a bath and the laundry area. The garage has an additional stairway to the 8 ft. Superior Wall basement. The dining room's 8 ft sliding glass door will lead to the back private deck and the great sunsets over the outlet. Zak and his team are taking much pride in the final product.



Tim and Kelly Hunter made a visit to Jon and Tara Hunter's Real Log Home in Marion, NY, only to find out they shared some distant relatives. Tim farms with his dad, and Kelly has a cleaning business. Tim has extensive knowledge in raising and breeding



deer stock in captivity. His pens are in circles so the animals will not have a corner that could cause them to panic if chased. Their new custom Real Log Home will be one floor with 10/12 cathedral ceilings and log rafters. The walkout block basement could provide additional living space. Windows, doors, decks and porches will all provide open views of the wooded paddocks. Tim and

Kelly, family members, and friends will be deeply involved in assembling their pre-cut log package to the steel roof. Log collar ties will be sawn from the farm's wooded area and custom fitted to provide structural strength. The log package will be delivered in January, and the process of assembly will start soon after the farm's spring work is completed.



Jim and Elva Martin have a new "old home" site just outside Binghamton. Jim is an "almost retired" pastor, and Elva works in health care. They had a home that has been flooded twice so it was time to relocate. They cleared the old building on the new site and had a walkout Superior Wall Foundation installed. They both enjoy nature and gardening so they nestled the 1461 sq ft. custom Real Log Home saltbox directly into the woods. The subfloor is now in place, and we are hoping for a March or sooner delivery. This is not a typical saltbox as the main girder is offset by 2 feet to give a greater loft area. The kitchen (salvaged from the flooded home), dining area, and living area will all have open ceilings. The first floor master bedroom will look directly into the wooded area. The future finished Superior Wall Foundation will give Jim the room he needs for all the archives he is responsible for.



Charles and Chrystyna Koltcoff have a camp located between Naples and Middlesex which was built in the late 60's. The site is surrounded by woods and has a beautiful large pond. The custom 1452 sq ft Real Log Home ranch will be built on a Superior Wall Foundation just east of the pond. Decks will surround two sides and a small entry porch will shelter the entry. The floor plan will be open with bedroom suites at each end of the building, both with glass gables. The great room will have two 8 ft slider glass doors to view the pond and some beautiful sunsets.

A Beautiful Place Rental overlooking Keuka Lake (www.abeautifulplace.org) was enjoyed by many a traveler and their pets last summer. This year, we had three Keuka students renting for the spring and fall terms. It worked great for everyone. Check it out.

As we look forward to 2015 and add another Growth Ring to our "Tree of Life", we are thankful for our many blessings! We wish you God's peace and good health for 2015.

Shalom, Ed & Jean



"A Beautiful Place" Rental located just off Keuka Lake, 2 miles south of Penn Yan. Great Weekend! www.abeautifulplace.us