

JULY 2011

WAG

MAKING *Waves*

**DAVID
BANK
AT HOME
ON THE
WATER**

SEA QUEST
Two families'
global adventure

**DROPPING
ANCHOR**
Yacht clubs
and racing

**ARMANI'S
AQUA
PROJECT**

**ROMANCING
THE LAKE**



A Riverside shingle-style house designed by Bartel-Pagliari Architects L.L.C. showcases the use of nautical architectural elements and material. Photograph by Olson Photographic.

ANCHORED IN TASTE

BY PATRICIA ESPINOSA

THE OCEAN HAS A UNIQUE WAY OF buoying our senses. From the taste of salt on the lips, to the sound of water crashing against a boat, the exhilaration that comes from being out on the water is perhaps why so many of us try to recreate that spirit and joie de vivre in our homes through nautically inspired architecture and decor. Here you'll find several that are truly shipshape.

Designed by Bartel-Pagliari Architects of South Norwalk, this Riverside shingle-style gem on the water is a perfect blend of form and function. Step inside and you're immediately transported to a ship at sea, albeit a very luxurious one. The floors are made of clear maple wood that's the color of sand. The entry ceiling is exposed wood with a beach-weathered look, reminding us of the hull of a ship. The walls are painted a high-gloss white like that of an old life-guard station, offering a stark contrast to the woodwork.

Just down the hall is the powder room, designed to look like a Chris Craft boat, from its teak and holly strips – the same material found on the deck of a boat – to its ship-hull vaulted ceiling. The mirror is wall-to-wall, reflecting the striped wood and “doubling” the visual scale. The plumbing fixtures (all by Waterworks) are polished nickel and were selected for their simplicity and utilitarian use. The lime-

stone slab “floats” without legs, adding to the feel of maritime minimalism.

Upstairs, three bedrooms and a master suite revolve around a two-story, sky-lit stairwell, which is anchored by the office and playroom area.

“Our goal is to have the eye go through the glass and to the view,” explains architect Chris Pagliaro.

The ceilings are treated with various materials to provide scale and tone.

“Ceilings are the most important surface of a home, even though they are ignored by too many designers and architects. Especially in an open plan (as most people desire these days) the ceiling materials define space without impeding it.”

Meanwhile, light plays on the high-gloss white interiors and the pale maple floors that recall the sandy beaches just outside.

“The homeowners of this new house on the water in Old Greenwich (next page) were interested in custom details that connected their house to the water, details that were specific to their site,” explains architect McKee Patterson of Southport's Austin Patterson Disston Architects.

The house's stunning breakfast room opens its doors to the Long Island Sound and features a classic varnished fir wainscot ceiling often found in 1900s beachside shingle houses. A colorful painting of a scuba diver climbing into a boat hangs over

the fireplace, flanked by two metal candle lanterns. Rope detailing on the fireplace and a hanging light with elements of an astrolabe add elegant nautical touches. Neutral sand-colored chairs and a textured sisal rug punctuated with red accent colors complete the marine theme.

When you think of nautical decor, does a ship's captain's wheel and fish netting hanging from a window come to mind? This next house is proof that decorating with aquatic touches can be imaginative and tasteful.

“Our client wanted their beach house to be fun, chic, sophisticated and most importantly, livable,” says Christine Sullivan Roughan of Roughan Interior Design in Greenwich. The vintage Sputnik chandelier is a focus in the room, and the sofas are by Robert Lighton of New York City. Octopus art hangs on the walls. The rush stools are from Mecox Garden, and the wall covering is from Ralph Lauren. The end result is an exquisitely decorated living room that gives a nod to boating.

One of the ways to bring out the individuality that is at the heart of home decor is with displays of collectibles and pieces inspired by childhood memories. The owner of one Darien house near the ocean drew on her Maine roots and her passion for collecting.

While the home is English Manor in style, there are hints of the nautical every-

where, starting with the foyer entrance. A metal anchor hangs on the door, while a striped rug leads up the stairs. The crystal flush mount chandelier resembles small glass floats, and a small painting of boat-houses hangs on the wall.

Indeed, the artwork throughout the home is decidedly nautical. Resting on the family room stone fireplace is a Stephan Hodecker painting called “Rocket Red,” which depicts a mound of brightly painted buoys outside one of the fish shacks on Monhegan Island. It's flanked by HomeGoods mercury glass lantern finds. The wood and metal coffee table is from Dovecote.

A collection of Japanese fishing-net glass is tucked in different parts of the home. Shells and candle lanterns are in abundance, as seen on the screened-in patio.

An interesting hand-carved whale with green glass eyes (bought at the Brimfield Antique Show last spring) sits center stage on the dining-room table. Above are two Oly Serena drum chandeliers with capiz shells. The ceiling beams are cerused oak, the result of a waxing process that lightens the wood as well as giving it a whitewashed appearance.

These homes are proof that you don't have to own a boat or live on the water to appreciate the beauty and peace that come from the sea. ■



Top, imaginative aquatic touches by Roughan Interior Design give this Greenwich beach house a look of nautical chic. Photograph by Tria Giovan.

SEASPIRATIONS

By PATRICIA ESPINOSA



6.



1.



3.



4.



2.



5.

1. Nautical boards, prices range from \$50 to \$300, (781) 293-9721 nauticalboards@yahoo.com.
2. Juliska – Sea urchin-looking pendant light, \$750 each, (203) 316-0212, juliska.com.

3. Pottery Barn – porthole metal Lanterns, \$24-\$79, (888) 779-5176, potterybarn.com.
4. HomeGoods – pillows, \$19.99 each, (203) 256-9453, homegoods.com.

5. Hoaglands – Kim Seybert napkin and ring, \$16 and \$20 respectively, (203) 869-2127, hoaglands.com.
6. Good Food Good Things – Thomas Paul melamine plates, \$48 for a set of four, (203) 655-7355.

ROUGHAN

INTERIOR DESIGN



Photography by Tria Giovan

GREENWICH CT | NEW YORK

T: 203.769.1150 F: 203.769.1151 WWW.ROUGHANINTERIORS.COM

