

November 2012

Country Living

make it personal!

108 easy ways to put your stamp on any room

Our
Best-Ever
Thanksgiving
Recipes!
SEE PG.104



Start your
holiday shopping now!
The country's coolest craft fairs

Traveler's Insurance

After decades spent globe-trotting, Laurie Buchmiller finally settled in Georgia. Then, she built a house her loved ones can always call home.

written by KENDELL CRONSTROM | photographs by QUENTIN BACON

An antique runner from Budapest and a bench made by Laurie Buchmiller's grandfather bring a sense of history to the upstairs hallway, which overlooks the home's great room.

Red Rock
Benjamin Moore



Laurie's collection of vintage tramp-art mirrors hangs above a custom settee—enlivened by a Utility Canvas quilted blanket—in the master bedroom. Interior designer Barbara Westbrook sourced the carpet, sewn with Turkish flour sacks, from Sullivan Fine Rugs.

Knoxville Gray
Benjamin Moore

DKC-39
Donald Kaufman

SEE SHOP GUIDE, page 138, to get the look of the Buchmillers' master bedroom.



THIS PAGE The entryway's antique pine bench offers a spot for removing shoes.

OPPOSITE PAGE Appealingly asymmetrical built-ins—one with hidden storage, the other open—flank the great room's fieldstone fireplace. French leather club chairs from Wyatt Childs, plus a pair of Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams sofas, serve up plenty of seating.

bright idea!

Laurie mined a circa-1910 educational flip-chart for a wall's worth of art.



“Lake Burton is the kind of place where strangers wave to each other from their boats,” says Laurie Buchmiller.



Laurie scored her bedroom's reclaimed railroad sign—implo-
ring conductors to announce their
approach—at a local antiques
shop. Ditto the lamps and the
folk-art chest. Flat Rock
Furniture made the hickory bed.



DKC-47
Donald Kaufman

A weathered shelving unit, unearthed at a flea market, holds an assortment of glass-stoppered chemist's bottles.



DKC-12
Donald Kaufman

**bright
idea!**
An old mailbox
finds new life as
a bath caddy.

Rather than hide the guest bathroom's custom-painted Sunrise Specialty tub behind a shower curtain, Laurie opted for a faucet with hand-shower attachment by Newport Brass.

(continued from page 98) to weave in a few Southern archetypes, from wicker antiques to a decommissioned sign from a Georgia railroad route. Other pieces—a twiggy bed, leather club chairs—could've come straight from an Adirondack lodge, and offer a wistful nod to Laurie's New England summers. There are also artifacts that reference her far-flung travels, including German dish towels repurposed as upholstery.

Together, these meaningful totems effect a vibe that's worldly, yet so comfortingly familiar, it's hard to believe the house was constructed during the past decade. "We chose vintage doorknobs that are grazed and nicked, and just wonderful to wrap your hand around," Laurie explains. Board-and-batten walls and built-in bookshelves add to the sense of permanence.

Just don't mistake it for stolid perfection. "When the kids come with their friends, they drop their bags and immediately stretch out on the great-room sofas and play games on the coffee table," Laurie says. The same goes for her extended family—scattered across the globe, with one sister in the Netherlands, another in Australia, and three brothers living in different parts of the United States. "I longed for a place where we could all congregate," she says, "since we never had that growing up." What she got? A home so welcoming, nobody ever wants to leave. ♦

"I longed for a place where my family could all congregate, since we never had that growing up," Laurie says.