

ELLE DECOR

gifts
galore

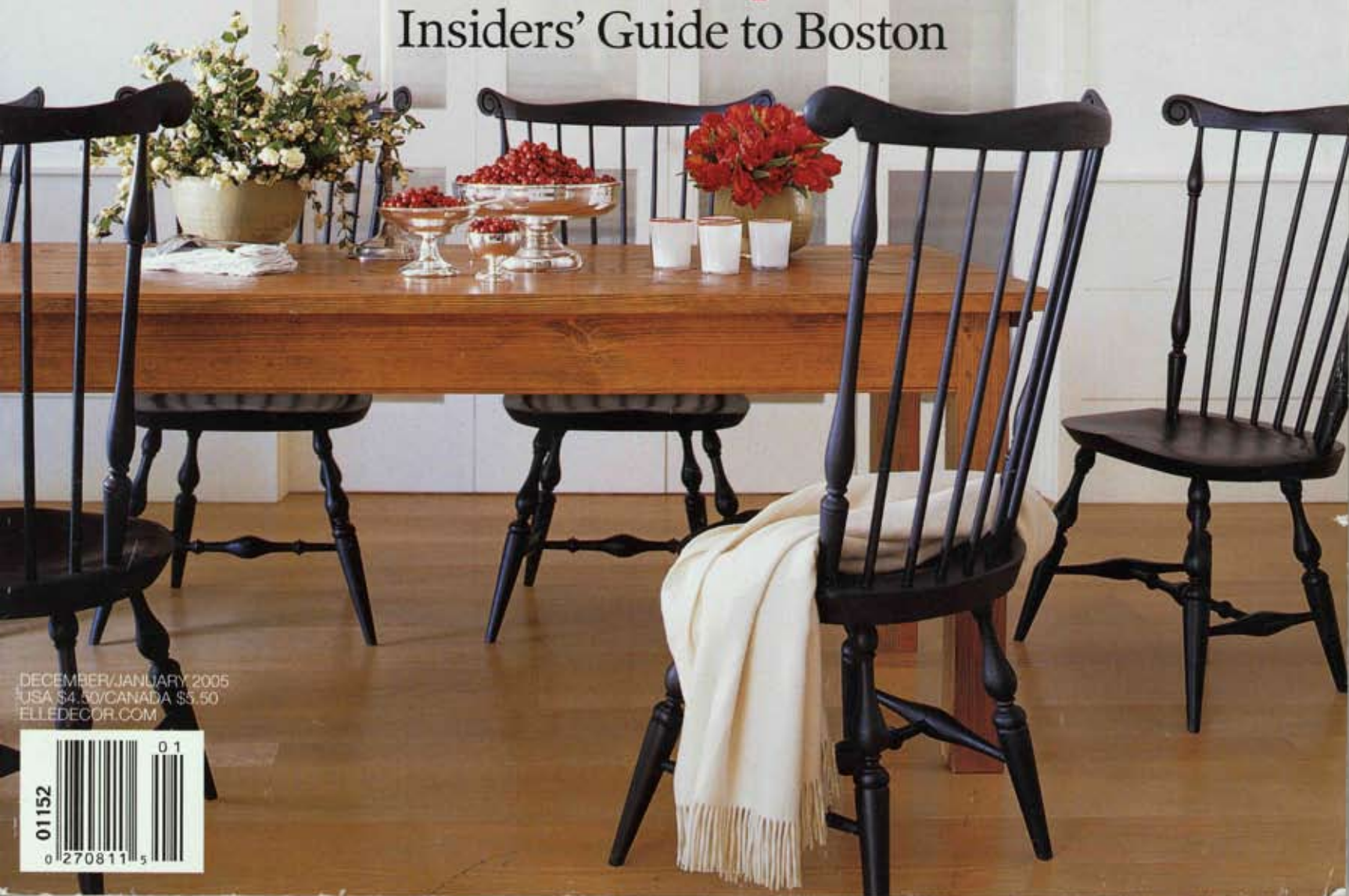
Celebrate!

Winter Cheer

Tradition Updated: The New Family Style

Fabulous Fireplaces

Insiders' Guide to Boston



DECEMBER/JANUARY 2005
USA \$4.50/CANADA \$5.50
ELLEDECOR.COM



ROBERT



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

FOR APRÈS-SKI OR SUMMERTIME TREKS IN THE
TETONS, A JACKSON HOLE GETAWAY
PROVIDES THE PERFECT RESPITE FOR A FLORIDA FAMILY

TEXT BY MAGGIE MCGUANE • PHOTOGRAPHY BY WILLIAM WALDRON
PRODUCED BY ANITA SARSIDI

Mary and Carl Siegel with sons Harrison and Bennett outside their vacation house in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Facing page: The stone, shingle, and timber structure is by Larry K. Berlin of Berlin Architects; Randall A. Ridless designed the interior. See Resources.





Ridless designed the great room's armchairs, which are upholstered in a Decorators Walk stripe; the Brancusi ceramic stools are from Far Eastern Antiques & Arts, and the lantern is from Chameleon. Facing page, from top: The fireplace surround is made of moss rock indigenous to the area; the ottoman, covered in a paisley fabric from Fonhill, and the painted wood clock are both Ridless designs. A print by Walton Ford and a carved wood umbrella stand in the entry. See Resources.



CARL AND MARY SIEGEL knew what they wanted when they went looking for a vacation house. The Boca Raton couple just didn't know where they'd find it. They were in the market for a place out West, somewhere that they and their teenage sons could enjoy winter skiing and summers far from Florida's heat. They visited the usual locales—Aspen, Telluride, Vail—but nothing did the trick. Until they landed in Jackson Hole, that is. "We've always loved the West," says Mary, "and Carl and the boys love to ski. Jackson Hole is so beautiful, we knew the minute the plane touched down that this was it."

Less enthralled with the Western clichés that abound in the area, including log mansions outfitted in cowboy kitsch, the Siegels turned to Larry K. Berlin to construct the stone, shingle, and timber building and Randall A. Ridless to design the interior. Ridless, whose portfolio includes the recent renovation of Bergdorf Goodman and Burberry's New York flagship, had just opened his own firm after stints in retail design at Saks Fifth Avenue and working with designer David Easton. "We've known Randy forever," adds Mary, who's related to Ridless by marriage, "and we were familiar with his work," so there was no question who would handle the project. For Ridless, the commission held special meaning: "They were my first residential clients, and they had the faith to give me enough freedom to really create."

The dining room's chairs, upholstered in Edelman leather, sofa, table, and ceiling fixture are all Ridless designs; the sofa and curtains are of Ralph Lauren Home's Ticking Stripe. Facing page: Knotty alder cabinetry and granite counters in the kitchen; the cooktop and hood are by Viking, and the refrigerator is by Sub-Zero. See Resources.





To start, Ridless, Berlin, and the Siegels agreed on a classic layout for the house—a large central square with two wings. The square would hold a double-height great room; in one wing would be the dining room, library, and kitchen, and in the other, the master bedroom suite, bedrooms for Harrison, 15, and Bennett, 13, and a guest suite. Next, a Website was set up so that Ridless and the Siegels could communicate with Berlin and the builder without having to board a plane to Wyoming. "If the group met in person four times over the course of the project," Ridless says, "I'd be surprised."

Once construction was complete—using materials indigenous to the area, including moss rock for the entry floor and cedar and Douglas fir for the beams and shingles—Ridless and his associate, designer Beth Martell, had a truckful of furnishings, from antiques and custom-built pieces to towels and bed linens, packed up for the cross-country drive.

Once the contents were delivered, the house was set up and ready to go in a day and a half, just in time for a late-winter ski trip.

The great room serves as the core of the home—in spirit as well as by design. Carl, a real-estate attorney, had wanted a place for family and friends to gather on holidays and for the boys to relax after a day's skiing. Likewise, Mary, a former advertising executive, longed for a space for summer entertaining after hikes in the nearby Teton mountains. "We didn't want to be precious about the furniture," explains Ridless. "We wanted it to be tailored yet simple, but not so simple as to be minimal. And we definitely avoided any heavy or oppressive patterns." The generously scaled room, with walls painted a rich ocher, incorporates three distinct seating areas beneath a soaring beamed ceiling: one for board games or cocktails, another for watching television, and the third for quiet conversations by the fire.

Facing page, from top: *Geronimo*, a 1986 silkscreen by Andy Warhol, is propped on the master bedroom's mantel; Ridless designed the couple's upholstered bed. The walls of Bennett's bedroom are covered in a Fabricut plaid; his bed is by La Lune Collection. This page: A Waterworks mirror is flanked by Vaughan sconces in the master bath; the nickel lantern is by Charles Edwards. See Resources.





Adjacent to the great room is the dining room, an elegant setting that Ridless has outfitted with a tufted sofa, a mahogany pedestal table, and leather-upholstered chairs, all of his own design, and curtains in a tailored Ralph Lauren Home ticking stripe. Along the walls are custom-built bookcases that house Mary's collection of books. "I like being surrounded by them," she says. "Books are a great comfort to me."

In the opposite wing, Ridless went for an urbane aesthetic with a lighthearted touch in the master bedroom, including a large Warhol silkscreen of Geronimo that gazes out over the couple's upholstered bed; above the bed is a shadow box filled with cowboy and Indian figurines from Carl's childhood. The master bathroom is a study in white, with luxurious fittings, a cowhide rug, and windows that open onto breathtaking mountain vistas. Meanwhile, in Harrison's and Bennett's rooms, the designer paid homage to the rustic setting with beds made of hand-carved logs, vintage game boards turned into nightstands, and walls upholstered in humble blue and red plaid, a shirting-like fabric that Ridless found in New York.

Overall, the family's vacation house has proved as inviting and comfortable as they had hoped: Boots are kicked off at the entry, friends eat in the kitchen, and kids come and go. There's only one thing missing. To complete the picture, Mary says, smiling, "we just need a dog." ■