

MODERN LIVING

With Old World Charm

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Tim Ellis is 2018 NAHBR 1st VP

We're excited to announce that Tim Ellis, President of T.W. Ellis, was installed as the 2018 National Association of Home Builders—Remodelers (NAHBR) First Vice President. The installation took place in January at The New American Remodeled Home during the 2018 Design and Construction (D&C) week in Orlando.

This year's D&C Week drew one of the largest turnouts in recent years. It co-located the NAHB International Builders' Show with the NKBA Kitchen and Bath Industry Show and the combined events drew more than 85,000 attendees! Enthusiasm for the many exhibits, educational seminars, peer-group meetings, and home show tours was palpable.

One of those enthusiastic attendees was our own Tim Ellis. For many years, Tim has been involved in NAHBR because of his desire to raise the level of the remodeling industry through providing professional education and certification for its members. Tim also makes it a point to tour the enormous exhibit halls to pick up new ideas and learn about the latest products and technology that can enhance our clients' homes.

Tim Ellis (left) installed as NAHBR's First Vice President for 2018.



Garage and Breezeway Adds Beauty and Storage

Recently we had the pleasure of working on this project that includes a classic three-car detached garage, a connecting breezeway and a brick patio. Our clients felt very satisfied and comfortable with their home, but they needed more exterior storage space to accommodate their vehicles and lawn equipment. They came to T. W. Ellis because they had heard great reports about our team through word of mouth.

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It is fascinating that today's huge trend for integrating a home's interior seamlessly with its outdoor living spaces mirrors the original intent of this 80-year-old Mediterranean Renaissance style home in Orlando. Back in the 1920s and 1930s, this style of architecture was all the rage in Florida. The floor plans were usually designed so that the rooms opened onto a central courtyard and fountain. This made the garden an extension of the living space and promoted cross ventilation and the flow of fresh air.

Now through renovation work completed on its original 2-story core, along with expansive new indoor and outdoor additions, this historic home has been transformed into a showcase of modern living. It is The New American Remodel 2018, co-sponsored by *Professional Remodeler* magazine and the National Home Builders Association (NAHB). This project can inspire you with exciting ideas for opening up your home to the outdoors.

One new interior addition is the gallery, extending across the back of the home and connecting the existing core with all the other new additions. When the party starts, this space also accommodates serving tables. It is filled with natural light streaming through many large windows. A glass door opens onto an outdoor courtyard that features a fire pit.

The far end of the gallery leads to the new kitchen/family room/pavilion additions. A smart control system enables the TV, music, lighting and automated window shades to be controlled by a key pad, smartphone, tablet, or voice. The vaulted ceilings throughout, accentuated by dark-stained pine beams, unify the space. The family room pocket doors disappear into the wall, allowing a seamless entrance into the outdoor pavilion at the rear of the home.

A focal point in the pavilion is the fireplace with a sleek surround designed with porcelain slabs. The large format slabs create very few seams and require virtually no maintenance. Automated, retractable screens are recessed into the brick columns, offering insect protection, solar shading, and temperature control. The pavilion displays a lot of conventional framing, intricate brickwork and heavy timber that was also featured in 1920s-1940s architecture—tying the new addition to the original home.

The new brickwork on the home's exterior was completed in an authentic "old style" that is practically vanishing from the construction industry today. It creates attractive shadow patterns due to a combination of recesses and projections that are best noticed when the sun settles on the house. The outdoor area features a patio and pool deck made of hand-cut natural stone in soft gray and shades of green. This stone is used in all the outdoor spaces encircling the home, adding to its timeless look.

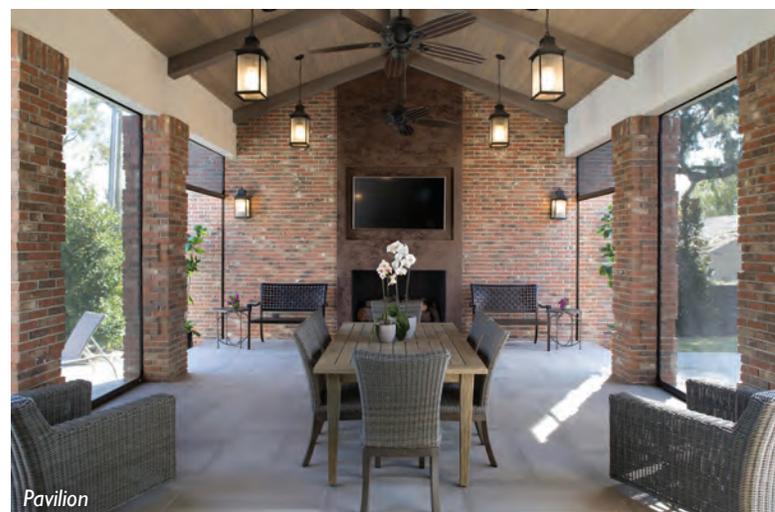


Gallery

Photo Credits: Photography by Jeff Davis



Kitchen/Family Room



Pavilion

NEW APPLIANCES FOR SOUS-VIDE COOKING

Have you ever been served a grilled steak that was dry and overcooked on the outside, yet a small section on the inside was still pink and moist? What a disappointment! If your steak had been prepared using the sous-vide process, it would have been cooked evenly all the way through.

Sous-vide is a method of cooking that involves vacuum sealing food in plastic bags, then placing the bags in water or steam for a longer time than standard cooking requires. The temperature is precisely regulated to stay at a much lower level than for normal cooking. The goal is that the inside of the food is properly cooked without overcooking the outside, plus moisture is retained.

For many years, sous-vide cooking was a secret cooking technique used by a few innovative chefs at high-end restaurants. Only the expensive commercial sous-vide equipment achieved the precision and exact temperature control necessary to guarantee safety standards. In recent years, smaller and less expensive water baths, immersion circulators and vacuum sealers have expanded the method to the home cook.

At the 2018 Kitchen and Bath Industry Show, several manufacturers introduced new appliances that offer sous-vide cooking, eliminating the need for multiple separate gadgets. These appliances offer a tantalizing variety of sous-vide techniques.

1. Gaggenau's new vacuum-sealing drawer is designed to function together with their 400 series combi-steam oven. The drawer may be used for sous-vide cooking, as well as marinating and extended storage. For sous-vide the oven provides consistently low temperatures of 50 to 95 degrees.

2. Signature Kitchen Suite, LG's premium appliance brand, debuted a new 48" dual-fuel range with several burners and two ovens, one that is combi-steam. A shallow built-in compartment on top of the range offers the sous-vide technique. Two separate control knobs are included: one knob controls the temperature to within one degree, and the other is a timer that extends as far as 48 hours.

3. Perlick is a company well-known for its undercounter refrigeration units. Now for the first time it has introduced a line of full-size appliances, including dual-fuel ranges and gas cooktops. The oven utilizes precision temperature controls with a turntable system to provide sous-vide cooking inside the oven. A pot of water rotating on the turntable simulates the swirling water of an immersion circulator.

4. Electrolux's new convection single wall oven offers a different method it calls "air sous-vide". The oven circulates air instead of water around the food that has been vacuum-sealed in a pouch. The oven uses precisely controlled low temperatures—between 100 to 205 degrees Fahrenheit.



Video Doorbells



With so many families on the go today, homeowners are often not at home when their doorbell rings. Or if they are at home, they cannot constantly pause what they are doing to answer the door. If that is true for you, then you should consider a video doorbell for your front door.

Video doorbells include a security camera that takes videos of the area outside your door whenever sensors detect motion or someone presses the doorbell. They can capture daytime video as well as nighttime. The camera displays everything at your door step—a visitor's full body from top to bottom, as well as packages on the ground. It can even alert you when it spots a familiar face. The wide-angle camera lens also extends the area the camera captures beyond your front steps. The video doorbell then sends instant alerts to your phone,

tablet or computer. With the video doorbell's two-way communication, you can answer the alert—speaking to the person at your door in real time from wherever you are located—in your office, car or a restaurant. If you are in a meeting and cannot respond, you can reply with prerecorded messages.

Wi-fi is required for capturing the video, recording the video, and uploading it into the cloud where it is stored for several weeks. You can review your videos and share them with your friends. If you are concerned about a possible home intruder, you can also share the video with your local law enforcement agency.

Since there is a wide variety of video doorbells, the description above highlights features currently available in most but not every device.

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Garage and Breezeway Addition

Modern Living with Charm

Sous-Vide Cooking



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Our Family Working Together with Yours



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Asking for referrals from trusted family members and friends is one of the most reliable methods of finding a reputable remodeling company. Our clients were not disappointed.

The garage, breezeway and patio were designed to coordinate as closely as possible with our clients' traditional brick-front home. Dormer windows on the garage and a series of round tapered columns in the breezeway are some of the design features that emphasize traditional styling. Even the colors of the materials—red brick, white siding, and black architectural asphalt roof shingles—were carefully chosen to harmonize with the existing home.

The dormer windows are from Andersen Windows' 200 Series and feature Low E Glass that reflects heat. The attractive garage doors are from Clopay's Gallery Collection which offers decorative arched windows that match the brick masonry arch over the garage door opening.

"T.W. Ellis' design process is flexible and the team is very knowledgeable," remarked our clients. "The construction process was organized and the work is high-quality. We would definitely recommend T.W. Ellis to others."

At T. W. Ellis we work with our clients on a wide variety of projects, from decks and screened porches, to new additions, extensive remodeling projects, and custom homes. Our team has the expertise to handle every project with skill and we also provide good communication with our clients.

Contact us when you have a project in mind for your home. We will be happy to work with you and make sure you are delighted and satisfied you with your finished project.



Be inspired
by our project
photos online at:
twellis.com