

# San Diego Home/Garden

**SUNFLOWERS!**

**CASA SIMPLEX**

Chinese New Year Recipes

# HOME *of the* YEAR





# HOME OF THE

**N**ow celebrating its 14th year, San Diego Home/Garden magazine's HOME OF THE YEAR

competition recognizes residential design innovation and excellence in recently constructed and remodeled San Diego County homes. Architects, builders, homeowners, and interior designers are encouraged to enter.

Fine craftsmanship, the challenge of urban in-fill on small lots, fresh architectural ideas, interior design, and historic restoration are saluted in this year's five award-winning homes.

by **Phyllis Van Doren**  
Photography by Glenn Cornier

## GRAND AWARD WINNER

### The Schwartz-McManus Residence in Del Mar

Owners:

**Joel Schwartz and  
Helen McManus**

Architect:

**Bruce Peeling, AIA**

Builder:

**Wodehouse Builders**

Landscape Designer:

**Karen Scarborough,  
ASLA**

Interior Design:

**Patrick Lee,  
ASID Allied Member**



The sunny, pool side of the Schwartz-McManus residence has become the main entrance. Kitchen/dining area is behind the left set of doors, with a barbecue hide-away/potting table visible in side yard. Lots of windows on both front and back create a see-through quality to the house

Helen McManus and Joel Schwartz, and their children, Natasha, 9, and Dylan, 12, are totally comfortable with a casual lifestyle that seamlessly combines indoors and out. With this, the first home they've built from the ground up, they participated with the architect fully





# YEAR

SAN DIEGO HOME/GARDEN  
February 1993

# 1993





# HOME OF THE YEAR

Sunny master bath puts you right in the forest treetops. Cool marble elegance is warmed with cherry floor inset in the center and custom cherry cabinets



Helen McManus says, "I like to do lots of cooking and entertaining and I also wanted a lot of windows." Adds her husband, sportswear manufacturer Schwartz, "We wanted more function for the way we live... and more fun. We wanted to open windows and not use air conditioning."

The idea of a formal dining room was rejected in favor of a large open eating area off the kitchen, which opens to the outdoors and the pool via tall bi-folding French doors. An informal family living area is open to the kitchen and dining areas but is also stepped down for a cozy feeling. According to Peeling, "Habitable rooms are pushed to the perimeter creating a large open central stairwell with an operable skylight which, with cross ventilation, allows the belvedere effect for cooling. Deep overhangs at the lower level create attic spaces which allow built-in dressers and storage."

McManus is a knitwear designer and her eye for color is apparent in the house. "The colors started with one Manuel Canovas fabric I just loved." The exterior green color was chosen from a photograph of an old barn in Julian that Patrick Lee found. "She and I spent a lot of time together. I was the art director, guiding them through the project. Ninety-eight percent of the furniture is custom designed," says interior designer Lee. The functional but elegant interiors include polished concrete floors inlaid with stainless steel strips, warm cherry cabinets and flooring, and colors like sunny yellow, bluish teal and dusky grape.

Karen Scarborough, the landscape designer, is justifiably proud of this project, too. "I tried to create as many outdoor living spaces as there are on the interior, using perennials, colors and textures. We worked around the existing old trees: a Torrey pine, podocarpus and huge eugenia. The sunny rear side of the house is a perennial garden and an elegant



Shady, forest side of the house has a comfortable veranda for the hottest days. The landscaping by Karen Scarborough has created diverse exterior "rooms" all around the house

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