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A Shore Shot

Check out the winners and finalists of our 11th Annual Images of Charleston photo contest *(See page 78)*

Find the fall **Charleston Weddings** *edition inside!* *(See page 141)*

A ghost crab strikes a pose on Sullivan's Island.

Water Warriors:

Meet the advocates, activists, and scientists working to protect against pollution and flooding

Building a Future: *The American College of the Building Arts turns 20*

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"It still has the power to knock your socks off. My office view looking out on Shem Creek reminds me how special this place is, how lucky we are to have this water access, and how critical it is to take care of it." *(See page 98)*

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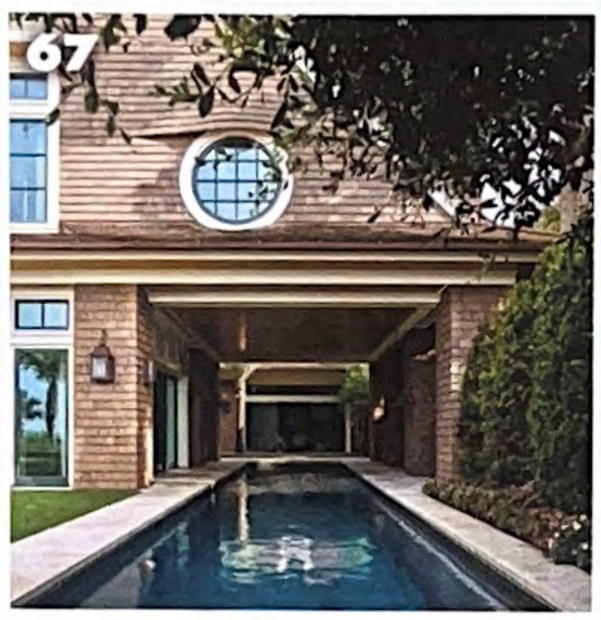

PHOTOGRAPHS BY (COUPLE) JESS HILL, (HOME) ERIC PIASECKI, (DERBY PARTY) LYNN COBB STUDIOS, & (WEDDINGS COVER) MARNI ROSCHILD DURLACH & COURTESY OF (FROZEN GIN & TONIC) LEON'S OYSTER SHOP

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SPECIAL INSERT! *CHARLESTON WEDDINGS* FALL 2024 EDITION

The fall issue of our sister publication is here with the latest bridal buzz, including lovely looks for bridesmaids and tips on incorporating autumnal florals. Plus, ideas from three real-life weddings

THE CHARLESTON HOME

Disappearing Act

A Pennsylvania couple's Kiawah Island escape emphasizes function, form, and a deep connection to nature

—written by JENNIFER PATTISON TUOHY /// *photographs by* ERIC PIASECKI /// *styled by* ANITA SARSIDI

Nestled behind an undulating dune, this traditional, shingle-style house peeks playfully at the beach on Kiawah Island. The house serves as a vacation home for the Pennsylvania-based owners, who were looking for a spot along the Southeast coast to relax, connect with nature, and unplug from their busy lives. The sizable mass of the 6,900-square-foot, three-story structure is artfully masked by the carefully curated natural landscape and clever architecture. "The elevation on the street side is six feet, but the top of the dune is 21 feet; this substantial difference gave us a fun opportunity to 'bury' the home into the dune," explains architect Jerry L. Hupy. Landscape architect Glen Gardner finished the effect with swaths of native plantings, including dwarf sabal palms and yaupon holly.

Hupy's architectural challenge was heightened by the homeowners' desire for a rooftop deck that afforded views over the island's maritime forest canopy as well as the Atlantic Ocean. Before breaking ground, Hupy, whose Connecticut-based firm Sophe Reno Wharton has a long history on Kiawah, and local contractor Nick Grossman of Grossman Building Group went above the treeline to determine how high the home would need to be. To achieve the required height, they incorporated 12-foot ceilings and topped the home with a walk-around deck that offers 360-degree views over the tips of the lush magnolia and oak trees and down the island's wide, sandy beach. "It's an incredible view," Hupy says.

Despite its size, the home's single eave line with various whimsical elements—such as an "eyebrow" over a porthole window and

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC PIASECKI/OTTO

PEEKABOO: Clad in western red cedar shingles, the beach house was designed to blend in with the landscape. A towering dune allowed architect Jerry L. Hupy to conceal much of the home's bulk, leaving just the second and third floors visible from the beach. A rooftop deck juxtaposed by two white dormer windows and some eyebrow detailing in the shingles add a touch of whimsy to the aesthetic.

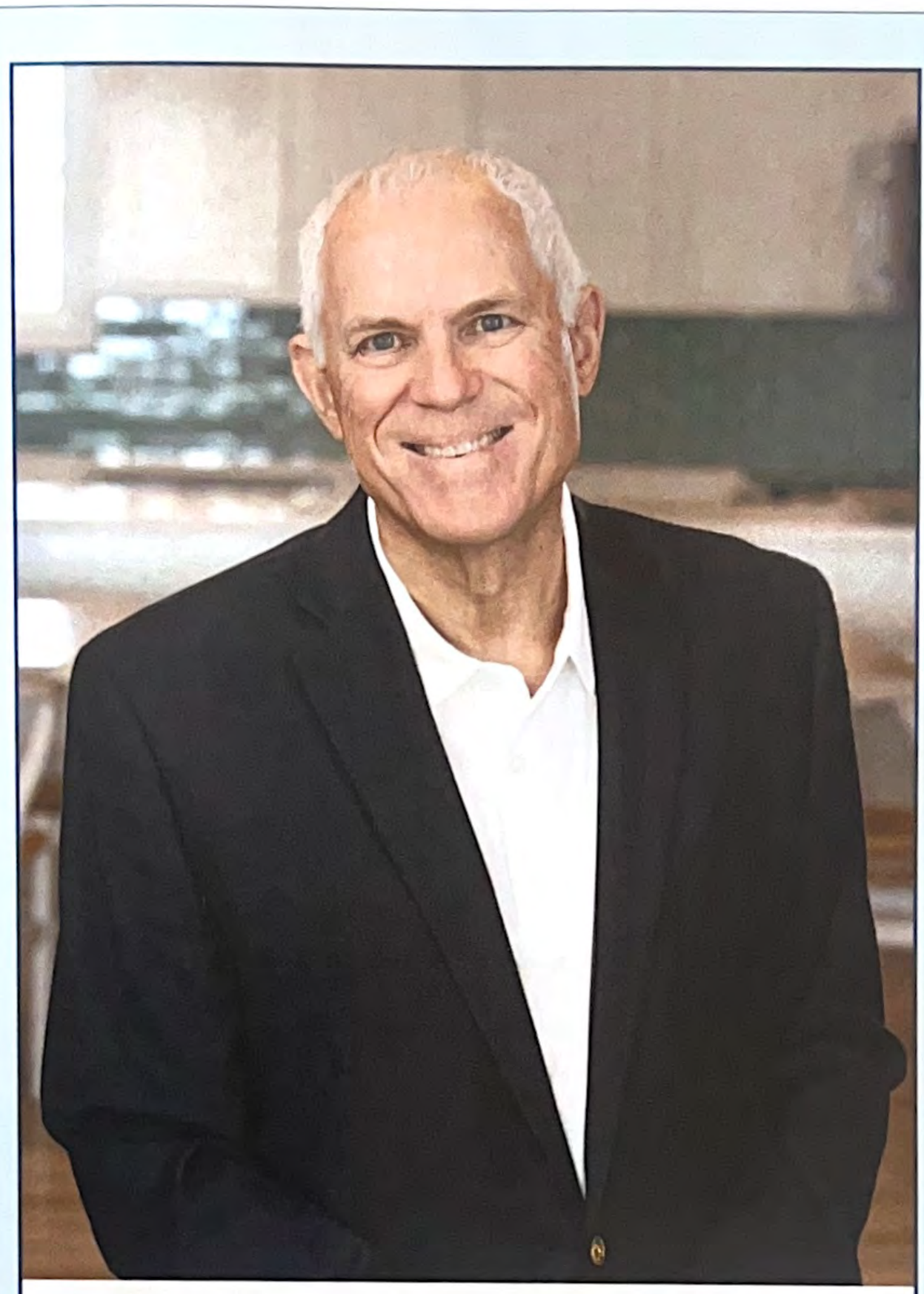
NATURAL BEAUTY: (Clockwise from above) The custom sofa clad in a herringbone linen, Formations limestone and iron coffee table, and soapstone fireplace surround combine natural materials with a muted color palette. White oak ceilings and flooring encapsulate the living space, extending to the pool beyond the accordion windows. An 18th-century, French walnut and ebonized wood commode from Balsamo Antiques adds a touch of drama to the serene space.

two dormers juxtaposed to the roof line—gives it a cozy feel. The exterior's traditional-with-a-twist style continues inside with a floor plan that is classic yet modern. On the first floor, the open main living area encompasses the living room, dining room, and kitchen, while the top floor offers a den, bar/kitchenette, and yoga studio. The second floor contains two primary bedroom suites

TEXTURED TURNS: (Clockwise from top left) A New Classics walnut dining table surrounded by silk and linen upholstered chairs from Dessin Fournir centers the dining room and is illuminated by an antique Italian chandelier. An adjoining cocktail nook with ocean views features a mid-century turtle shell chair upholstered with shearling, juxtaposed with the angular Tom Faulkner steel and stone table. Custom plaster walls surround the space and continue into the kitchen, where cabinets painted in Benjamin Moore "Gray Mist" showcase a Lacanche range and a large, wood-topped island.

LIGHT IT UP: A bright stairwell adorned by a gallery wall leads to the second floor, where a hallway and sitting room connect the two bedrooms. Sunshine flows in from a wall of windows above a built-in bench to the sitting room beyond. A row of glass bell jar lanterns hang over a Turkish kilim runner from Keivan Woven Arts.

(one for the homeowners and another for their close friends from college) but no guest rooms. Instead, motorized Murphy beds are built into the yoga studio and home office, ensuring no space is wasted. The homeowners' wish list filled out the square footage with useful amenities, including a wine



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ROOMS WITH VIEWS:
The homeowner's suite encompasses a small sitting area with forest views and a bedroom and en suite bath with vistas over the ocean. An iron four-poster bed and antique wooden chests ground the light, airy bedroom. A BainUltra tub, Made Goods "Conrad" desk, and upholstered vanity chair create a luxurious setting in the bathroom.

cellar, library, den, media room, and game room in the basement. "They wanted to use every space in a creative way," says Hupy.

A separate 850-square-foot pool house doubles as more formal guest quarters, with a kitchenette, loft bedroom, and another Murphy bed built into the living room. The living space opens directly onto a long lap pool that connects the pool house with the main residence. That pool, which Hupy designed to partially fit under the second floor, offers swimmers some respite from the blazing sun and acts as a water feature for the living room, where the 12-foot ceiling affords a wall of windows. These can open like an accordion to bring the pool into the interior living space, seamlessly blending indoors and out.

Key to the homeowners' vision was that the interior design embody that outside-in concept. "They wanted a clean design rooted in history and nature, lots of natural materials, and a natural color palette," explains interior designer Tammy Connor,

SPLASH PAD: The separate pool house features a more casual living room with custom sofas upholstered in a blue Mariaflora outdoor fabric. A French twisted-wood side table from Lucca Antiques adds interest. The room opens to the long, covered lap pool that connects the space to the main home. (Above)
A bar area features a Saarinen table from Knoll paired with Danish mid-century wooden chairs and a built-in bench, providing a comfortable perch to take in the scenery.

of Charleston-based Tammy Connor Interior Design. "The design of the house is very much about enjoying where you are and disconnecting," says Hupy, noting there are no televisions on the main floor. The home, with white oak-clad ceilings and hand-finished Venetian plaster walls in the living areas, is built just one room deep, providing almost every space with immersive views of the beach and the forest.

Complementing the structural elements, Connor crafted a coastal aesthetic focused on textures, clean lines, and earthy colors. She filled the home with a mix of antiques

ON THE VERANDA:
The outdoor dining and living areas are adjacent to their indoor counterparts, reinforcing the indoor-outdoor flow. Dedon settees with teak bases surround a custom fire pit, and an Amish teak table and chairs provide a place for alfresco dining. (Below) Two Sand Dollar lounge chairs from Link Outdoor Furniture are perfectly situated to soak up the ocean breezes.

and modern pieces, emphasizing natural materials such as sea grasses, glass, stone, and wood, with a palette of tans, blues, and greens. Muted hues such as Sherwin-Williams "Useful Gray" in the homeowners' bedroom, a deep blue Lacanche range in the kitchen, and a soapstone fireplace surround in the living room ground the color story.

"The design is more about individual pieces and them being collected, so it doesn't look like we installed it in two weeks, which we did. But it took two years to find all these things and put them together compositionally," says Connor. From a mid-century turtle-shell chair, sculptural Murano glass chandelier, and custom shagreen stools to antique English dressers paired with hand-forged iron beds, the design has a tactile sensibility inspired by the natural texture and color beyond the windows. The resulting feel is organic and atmospheric while drawing attention to the views of the ocean and forest that enticed the homeowners to this idyllic island in the first place.

"We love that our home feels so calm and inviting and has a timeless beauty," says the husband. "We are happy beyond words." C