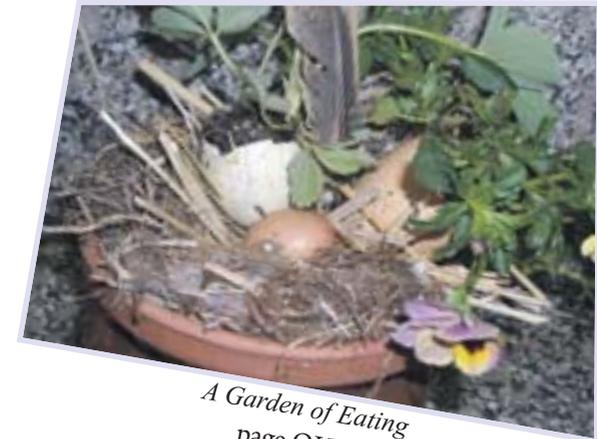


Lamorinda OUR HOMES



*A Garden of Eating
page OH10*

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It's All in the Details

By Andrea A. Firth



Architect Rick Kattenburg and his design assistant Laszlo Petrik take in the view from the backyard of Dan and Laura Wall's home, Winner of the Orinda Mayor's Award for Architectural Excellence in 2009.

Photo Doug Kohler

Perched at the top of Los Altos in Orinda, Dan and Laura Wall's home sits in a spectacular spot. The home faces eastward and has a panoramic view of the valley and hills beyond. The long, rectangular infinity spa and pool in back appear to gently cascade over the edge and vanish into the horizon. The adjacent Wi-Fi and stereo equipped open-air cabana provides a comfortable place to relax and take in the scenery. The beautiful outdoor setting distinguishes the property before one

even ventures inside, but the architectural and interior design details of the house are what really makes this home special.

The Walls' home was one of five Orinda homes recognized by the City for architectural excellence last year. Laura knew this home was a good fit for her family the first time she saw it about a year ago. "When we moved into this house, it was pretty much ready made," states Laura. She was pleasantly surprised to learn that the owners who had renovated the home

had worked with Orinda-based architect Rick Kattenburg. Coincidentally, Laura had worked with Kattenburg on two major renovations to the family's previous home in Lafayette.

The three-car garage with carriage doors and part of the kitchen footprint are all that remain of the original California ranch house that sat on the .9 acre property for forty plus years. The house has been transformed into a 6,000 square foot, two level, four-bedroom home.

... continued on page OH4