

Kattenburg Architects Receives Orinda Mayor's Award for Excellence in Architecture

Rick Kattenburg has completed 100 remodeling projects in the Lamorinda area and his career high so far tops 500, but nothing has been quite as sweet as receiving the 2009 Orinda Mayor's Award for Excellence in Architecture, in the Major Projects category. Kattenburg is the son of an American diplomat, and spent a large part of his childhood in Germany. With his background and 33 years of experience, he is able to bring a high level of sophistication while incorporating modern elements to every project, leading to outstanding results.

With an emphasis on residential design, Kattenburg Architects also takes on commercial work. A recently completed project was the tenant improvement in Theatre Square for Republic of Cake, and the firm is currently providing a similar service for Loard's Ice Cream in the Moraga Shopping Center. "We are mostly green because we specialize in residential remodeling, and I go out of my way to take the old and make it new. Materials are updated in this process where we take 1950's tract style homes and make them special," explained Kattenburg, as we sat in his sunny Orinda office overlooking landmark Theatre Square at 11 Moraga Way.

Kattenburg is a member of the Orinda Environmental Sustainability Working Group, and with 35 years of experience creating sustainable architecture – with much work involving renovation – Kattenburg points out that his firm is the epitome of "recycling" experts. They add longer life to older structures while reducing carbon footprints. Green is just one of many elements that Kattenburg Architects incorporate into residential designs.

In addition to the 2009 Orinda Mayor's Award for Excellence in Architecture, the Town of Moraga recognized the firm with the Best Major Remodel Design Award in 2004. Sue Severson, Orinda Councilmember and former mayor, says, "Kattenburg Architects does an outstanding job in many projects in and around Orinda. This particular project, 51 Los Altos Road, is



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Rick Kattenburg has won numerous awards for his architectural designs.

a well-deserved architectural award. We appreciate Rick's longtime and ongoing contributions to the community, both as a volunteer and with his architectural designs." Kattenburg has been a strong business leader in Orinda. He has served on the board of directors of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce for the past 13 years and is currently the board's vice-president.

Kattenburg is married to Candy, who has served as the executive director of the Orinda Chamber of Commerce for the past four years. The couple resides in the Lamorinda area. "The Chamber is hosting a wonderful benefit, "Live at the Orinda" on Friday, March 5. This champagne comedy gala at the Orinda Theatre promises to be an entertaining evening, and we are encouraging everyone to come out to support local businesses," says Kattenburg, who also serves as the moderator of the design unit at Miramonte High School's annual career night.

For more information about Kattenburg Architects, you can visit the website at www.kattenburgarchitects.com or email Rick at rkarch@pacbell.net. The office number is 253-7828.