

# CABIN FERVOR



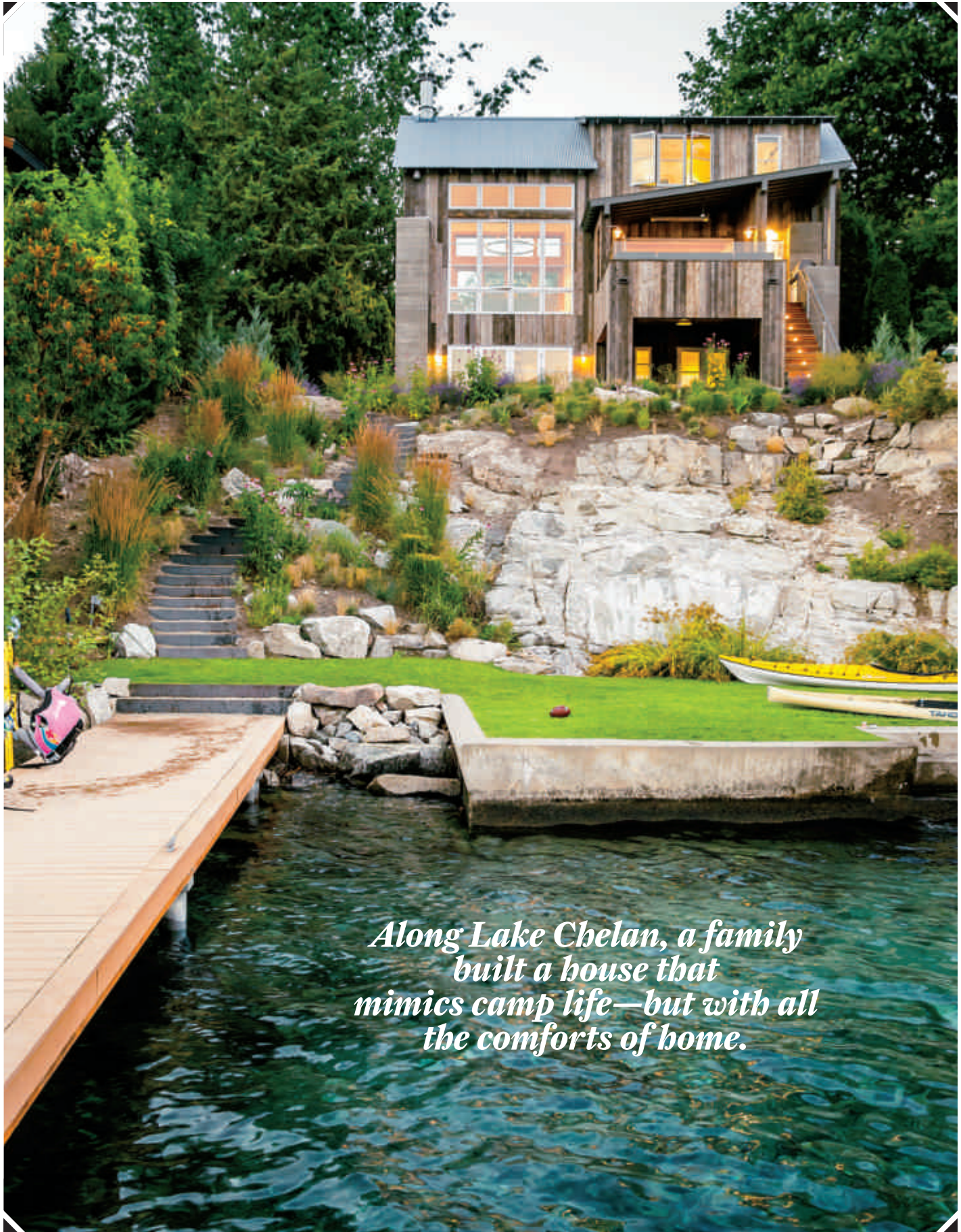
*by*

**SARAH LATTA**

*photographs by*

**THOMAS J. STORY**

STYLING: JANNA LUFKIN



*Along Lake Chelan, a family built a house that mimics camp life—but with all the comforts of home.*



W

What's an empty, overgrown lot without a house on it? The perfect vacation spot for Seattleites Aaron and Hilary Richmond. After snatching up a narrow piece of land on Lake Chelan, Washington, in an estate sale—but knowing they couldn't yet afford to build—they mowed the weeds, bought a 32-foot Airstream, and camped there

on weekends for eight years while they piggy-banked funds. "Here we were, camping with our three kids in this residential community with close neighbors on either side. I think people wondered if we were ever going to build a house," Hilary says, laughing.

When camping went from cute (Sam, 11; Adie, 9; and Mac, 7, all sleeping on one pullout) to cramped (unrolling sleeping bags on the floor), the couple decided it was time to break ground.

Living on the land, through 90° summers and a few freezing winter days, had given them the opportunity to envision how they'd want to live

year-round in their future home. "We'd already spent so much time on the property that we knew we'd want to live and dine outside as much as possible," says Aaron. The couple sought the same indoor-outdoor living their temporary digs provided, but on a grander and more accommodating scale for visiting friends and family. So they challenged Seattle architecture firm Bosworth Hoedemaker to conceive a light-filled structure that did just that while minimizing views of neighboring houses.

Architects Steve Hoedemaker and Kelly Jimenez delivered, starting with a spacious deck that's a vital vein to the great room. In warm months, the axis of living runs from the open kitchen and dining space through glass bifold doors to the deck. With a fire table, electric heating, and outdoor speakers, the deck is the family's living room from May to September. In the colder months, the axis rotates to the indoor living space (to the right of the kitchen), where everyone camps out in front of the fireplace to read or play with Legos. Big south-facing windows end at floor level, creating the sensation that the room is hovering above the lake.

## EXTERIOR

Silvery gray reclaimed wood, previous page, helps the tall house stay unobtrusive. Bonus: It's basically maintenance-free. Board-formed concrete accents the barn-like façade.

## KITCHEN

The open kitchen, above, was a big upgrade from the one in the Airstream. A reclaimed-wood bar fits a lineup of kids, and a fir dining table on casters can be rolled onto the deck. Stainless steel counters with a raised marine edge prevent spills from reaching the end-grain wood floor. *Lighting, Schoolhouse Electric.*

## LIVING ROOM

"The furnishings are deceptively low-maintenance," says interior designer Amy Baker. Outdoor-fabric cushions soften the two fireplace benches, opposite. A patchwork rug is made of worn rugs that were cut and sewn together. "You can't ruin it," Baker says. *Cushion fabric, Perennials.*





 **DIGITAL BONUS** See more of this home at [sunset.com/lakehouse](http://sunset.com/lakehouse).



## BATHROOM

Sandwiched between the bunkroom and a guest bedroom on the main level, the communal guest bath, opposite, “has a camplike feel but still maintains privacy,” says Jimenez. A trough sink invites multiple people to brush their teeth at once. The shower and toilet rooms close when in use to keep the rest of the space accessible. *Sink, Kohler.*

## MASTER BEDROOM

“Hilary and Aaron wanted flow and a connection throughout the house,” says Hoedemaker. To that end, he and Jimenez added a peekaboo door to the bedroom, left, like you’d see in a hayloft, above the living room. The couple can look down from the bedroom but also slide the pocket door closed. *Bed, Crate and Barrel.*

## BUNKROOM

The designers thought of the bunkroom, below, “as a 3-D world for kids, with a combination of ladders and beds and storage,” says Hoedemaker. But Hilary confesses: “Adults like to sleep there too.” Each guest gets a cubby, night-light, and plaid camp blanket.

Despite the home’s openness to the outdoors, the family can’t see their next-door neighbors—thanks, in part, to two board-formed concrete walls that run down the long sides of the house. “We placed windows up high to look into the trees instead of into a neighbor’s house,” explains Hoedemaker.

Though external privacy was a priority, the interior is all about togetherness: A six-person bunkroom, a communal main-level bathroom, and a media room in the basement host frequent weekend guests. For nighttime privacy, the three adult bedrooms are spread out on each level with the master loft perched above the kitchen to give it a sweeping view of the lake.

With so many places to put people, it’s easy to go into hosting overdrive, but Hilary and Aaron try to preserve one weekend a month for just their immediate family. In warm months, the Richmonds hit the water to paddleboard or boat



almost as soon as they get through the door, or they'll hike or mountain bike before coming back for the night. Skiing and beach bonfires keep them as busy as they want to be in the winter. "Here we have open, unscheduled days for us to wander, enjoy the outdoors, and do creative things," says Aaron.

Even though they now have a house, rather than an Airstream, the family hasn't lost their camping grit. But it's the kids who lead the way these days: They often pitch a tent on the lower lawn for no other reason than wanting to sleep outside under the stars.

**ARCHITECTURE:** Steve Hoedemaker and Kelly Jimenez, Bosworth Hoedemaker, Seattle; [bosworthhoedemaker.com](http://bosworthhoedemaker.com).

**INTERIOR DESIGN:** Amy Baker, Seattle; [amybakerdesign.com](http://amybakerdesign.com).

**LANDSCAPE DESIGN:** Randy Allworth, Seattle; [allworthdesign.com](http://allworthdesign.com).



## HALLWAY

A long hallway on the main level, above, runs from an exterior entry past a guest bedroom, bathroom, and bunkroom to the kitchen, where a stairwell (behind the paneled screen shown on page 68) leads to the master loft and basement. Cabinets and cubbies for coats, food, and sheets turn the walkway into a mudroom, pantry, and linen closet all in one.

## DECK

A barely visible frameless glass rail, right, makes deck dwellers feel as though they're perched on the prow of a ship. Baker outfitted the space with a sofa, fire table, and rockers. "The fireplace has a wide lip that doubles as a table for drinks and small plates," she says. Floor-level speakers cast music toward the house instead of toward neighbors. 🌊

*"Here we have open, unscheduled days for us to wander, enjoy the outdoors, and do creative things."*

—AARON RICHMOND



