

NARI METRO DC'S

# REMODELING TODAY

SPRING/SUMMER 2007

METRO DC'S PREMIER REMODELING RESOURCE GUIDE

[www.narimetrodc.org](http://www.narimetrodc.org)

METRO DC'S 2006  
CONTRACTOR  
OF THE YEAR  
AWARDS

**GREEN**  
REMODELING

AN ENTERTAINING  
**PROJECT**

THE LIST OF METRO DC'S  
BEST REMODELERS

**Michael Nash Custom Kitchens & Homes, Inc.,**  
2006 NARI National Contractor of the Year,  
Sweeps 10 NARI Metro DC CotY Awards!



REMODELING TODAY IS AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF THE REMODELING INDUSTRY METRO DC CHAPTER

**MICHAEL NASH SWEEPS 10 NARI METRO DC COTY AWARDS!**

**RESIDENTIAL KITCHEN \$30K-\$60K**

**MERIT AWARD**



*Photography by June Stanich*

**Michael Nash Custom Kitchens & Homes, Inc.**  
**703-641-9800**      [www.michaelnashkitchens.com](http://www.michaelnashkitchens.com)

**RESIDENTIAL KITCHEN \$30K-\$60K**

**FINALIST**



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**RESIDENTIAL ADDITION UNDER \$100K**

**GRAND AWARD**



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**RESIDENTIAL BATH UNDER \$30K**

**FINALIST**



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THE 2006 NARI METRO DC  
**CONTRACTOR  
 OF THE YEAR  
 AWARDS**

**A**s a professional architectural photographer, I have the pleasure of recording some of the dazzling remodeling work done by members of the Metro DC NARI Chapter. In my roll as the Chapter's Awards Committee Chairman, I get to review remodeling projects that are the best of the best. And now you can see them too. The following pages are dedicated to our 2006 Contractor of the Year (CoY) Awards.

CoY Awards recognize excellence in the remodeling industry in several remodeling categories, including whole-house renovations, kitchen & bath remodels, interiors, historical renovations and more. In addition, award categories are broken down by total project cost. For instance, there's an award for residential interior over \$100,000 and one for below \$100,000. So whatever your budget, you can see the possibilities.

Award winners have demonstrated superior workmanship, design innovation and materials selection. Their work is truly superior. Now, it's my pleasure to introduce the 2006 Metro DC NARI CoY Awards. Enjoy.

**Greg Hadley**

*Chairman, Awards Committee, Metro DC NARI*

**MICHAEL NASH RECOGNIZED BY  
 NARI NATIONAL WITH THE 2007 REGIONAL  
 CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD!**



**RESIDENTIAL KITCHEN UNDER \$30K GRAND AWARD**



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# BIG CHANGES FOR A SMALL HOME

**B**uilt in 1957, the Branche family's brick rambler has a certain quaintness about it. Originally a 22' x 44' starter home, it had been added onto several times over the years, but always managed to maintain its charm.

There was nothing charming, however, about the home's small kitchen. Positioned between the living room in front of the house and the dining room in the back, it was cramped, dark and marginally functional.

## THE DECISION TO REMODEL

"Our decision to remodel was based on being tired of the layout we had," says Mr. Branche. "We knew we wanted to swap the position of the kitchen and dining room and make them a little bigger, but that was the extent of our plan. So, we started looking for a remodeler to help us with the project," he says.

## FINDING A REMODELING PARTNER

To find the right remodeler, the Branches cast a wide net. The couple toured neighborhood projects and looked at the work being done by a variety of different area contractors. They got referrals from friends who had recently completed their own remodeling projects. And they perused advertisements and Websites of local remodeling firms. In fact, it was after reviewing one particular Website that they found the firm they would eventually hire.

"My wife saw an ad for Michael Nash Custom Kitchen & Homes," says Mr. Branche. "Because they're located right here in Fairfax, she decided to visit their website [[www.michaelnashkitchens.com](http://www.michaelnashkitchens.com)] and she just loved the work she saw."

By visiting the site, the Branches were able to view a wide variety of remodeling jobs, from custom kitchens to bathrooms to additions.

"Then, we called, they came over, and the project was underway," says Branche.

## THE PROJECT TAKES OFF

Sonny Nazemian, CEO of Michael Nash, made the initial visit to the Branche home to discuss their remodel. He quickly concluded that swapping the kitchen and the dining room was the right idea, but also recommended a nine foot addition off the back of the home.

"I looked to the right and I looked to the left and there was no place else to go," says Sonny. "It was very clear that the only way to open the kitchen up in a manner that would allow more natural lighting and more overall space for counters and cabinets was to create an addition."

The rest of the initial meeting involved Sonny listening to what Mr. and Mrs. Branche wanted and needed in their new kitchen and dining room. These included more natural light, more storage space and a nice-sized island to use as a breakfast area.

"Must have" design features Sonny developed with input from Mrs. Branche included a sink in the corner with two windows above set in the corner itself and a bay window in the casual dining area.

The second meeting between Sonny and the Branches took place at Michael Nash and provided a chance for the homeowners to review design drawings created from the input at the initial meeting.

"Sonny showed us drawings and said, 'I saw your house, here's what you told me you wanted, take a look at this design,'" says Mr. Branche. "We asked for a few minor changes, he made them and we had our final design."

## SELECTING PRODUCTS

One unique benefit to working with Michael Nash is the company's 10,000 square foot product showroom. Clients





PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF MICHAEL NASH CUSTOM KITCHENS & HOMES, INC. ; PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUNE STANICH

# BIG CHANGES FOR A SMALL HOME

can select flooring, wall coverings, window treatments, cabinets, lighting, countertops, faucets and more, all under one roof.

"We were able to walk through 12 or 15 full kitchen displays to get ideas for the types of products we wanted to use in our kitchen," Mr. Branche says. "One of the benefits of Michael Nash is that they have interior designers there to help us."

## A NEW KITCHEN AND DINING ROOM

Importantly, the remodel itself is stunning. The focal point of the new kitchen is the center island. A beautiful dark colored granite countertop sits on top of custom-made cherry wood cabinets. The outer side of the island—closest to the casual dining area—serves as a breakfast counter with two stools. A single-bowl, under-the-counter sink is installed on the working side of the island.

The kitchen itself forms a U around the island. Matching cherry wood cabinets flow around the room, providing the Branches with nearly three times more storage than they had in the original kitchen.

New GE Profile appliances, including a side-by-side refrigerator, a built-in oven, a slide-in range and a dishwasher are strategically placed around the work triangle. A beautifully crafted wooden range

hood cover highlights the back wall.

The corner sink is stainless steel and sits in the corner below two abutting windows which bathe the space in natural light. In fact, Sonny and his design team had to develop a special structure to allow the two windows to be so close together on the corner.

Ceramic tile is used on the floors and between the countertops and the bottom of the cabinets to complete this room's elegant look.

The casual dining area and dining room feature a blond hardwood floor. The highlight of this room is a large bay window that comes all the way down to a built-in bench seat.

Fabrics used on the bench seat cushion and for the window coverings were provided by the interior designers at Michael Nash with inspiration from Mrs. Branch.

## A TURNKEY JOB

The biggest challenge, according to Sonny, was relocating the plumbing, electric and gas for the new kitchen.

"Moving the utilities from the middle of the home all the way to the far end of the new addition required extensive work," he says.

From the swinging of the first hammer, the remodel took approximately four

months from start to finish, with Michael Nash handling all phases of construction.

"We employ the majority of the members of our project teams so we can control quality, schedule and cost," Sonny emphasizes. "We have our own skilled carpenters, electricians and plumbers so we can take responsibility for the entire project."

"The Michael Nash workers formed an impressive group," Mr. Branche comments. "They showed up on time each and every day. And they kept themselves and the jobsite neat and clean."

"The remodel is everything we hoped it would be," says Mr. Branche. "It's a great place to entertain or to just relax with a quiet meal or cup of coffee."

In fact, since completing this job, Michael Nash has renovated two small bathrooms for the Branches. And future plans call for an addition to be completed later this year that will include a master bath and a laundry room. In addition, whenever family or friends ask them for remodeling advice, the Branches refer them to Michael Nash.

## Source for this article:

**Michael Nash Custom Kitchens & Homes, Inc.**

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PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF: MICHAEL NASH CUSTOM KITCHENS & HOMES, INC. ; PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUNE STANICH

# company profile

## Michael Nash Custom Kitchens & Homes, Inc.

### SINGLE SOURCE RESPONSIBILITY

From wall to wall, floor to ceiling, Michael Nash Custom Kitchens & Homes can handle all your remodeling needs. Specialists in design, construction and interior decorating, they can handle your job from start to finish. Michael Nash offers:

- Total kitchen remodeling
- Total bathroom remodeling
- Additions & extensions
- Whole house renovations
- Two-story additions
- Complete Basement Remodeling
- Wine Cellars
- Home Theaters
- Full Design & Architectural Services
- Custom countertops
- Windows and doors
- Flooring & window treatments
- Design/Build

"We realize the design process is critical to a successful outcome," says Sonny Nazemian, CEO. "Our staff of experienced designers will work with you to design your new kitchen, bath or addition to fit your vision. We can help solve your space and function problems with ideas based on years of experience," he says. "We'll help you sort through all of the options to make your remodel work."

Michael Nash also handles all phases of construction. Because they employ the entire project team, they can better control quality, schedules and costs.

"The majority of our work is done by Michael Nash employees," Nazemian explains. "We have our own carpenters, licensed electricians, and plumbers, so we can take responsibility for the entire remodeling project," he says. "This way we can keep our promises to our customers."

Another service that sets Michael Nash apart from its competition is its interior design department. It is available to help you put the finishing touches on your remodel. Attention to details, colors and materials help you decorate your space so it fits your needs and lifestyle.

"More than 90 percent of the homeowners we work with come back to do finishing touches and use our interior design department," Nazemian says. Michael Nash offers flooring, wall coverings, window treatments, lighting, faucets and other fixtures, countertops, cabinets, tubs, showers and more. And it's all under one roof. The homeowner doesn't have to go to several places and drag samples around to get what they need.

From design to construction to interior decorating, one source does it all. Contact Michael Nash Custom Kitchens and Homes for more information. Come in and browse our showroom or call 703-641-9800 for an appointment. Evening appointments are available.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY JUNE STANICH

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# Take Care of the Luxuries and Necessities Will Take Care of Themselves

Frank Lloyd Wright



- Total kitchen remodeling
- Total bathroom remodeling
- Additions & extensions
- Whole house renovations
- Two-story additions
- Complete Basement Remodeling
- Wine Cellars
- Home Theaters
- Full Design & Architectural Services
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