



The (happily ever) After Party

August 17, 2013. After a year of renovation This Odd House is again open for inspection.

Much has happened in that year, even beyond the physical changes to the house. Torr was joined by Portia in bringing TOH into the present century. He invited, and she accepted the proposition to live harmoniously together, in the newly remodeled home. We make that commitment a centerpiece of today's event.

And as if that is not enough, we also acknowledge our 60th trip around the sun. It never gets old.

We are happy you are here. Have some refreshments, tour the house, watch the slide shows, and then join us for our public celebration of renovation and renewal, loving and aging.

Schedule:

4:00 House Tours. Explore and find out what has happened in the last year. Tell Thor what he *should* have done, and make recommendations for what remains.

You will find artifacts of the renovation, as well as artifacts of our lives, on various display tables throughout the house.

4:30 Food and Refreshments. Help yourself to summer picnic food, lemonade, beer, and other refreshments. (Food on the main floor, drinks in the back yard).

5:30 Ceremony. Meet in This Odd Backyard, find a place at a table, witness our commitment and share in an unconventional celebration of love.

6:00 Champagne, toasts, and cake.

6:30 Continued music, dancing, and celebratory activities.

Partial list of renovation/remodeling

Entry room/first floor kitchen

- removed corrugated steel wall surface
- removed hanging industrial steel and glass shelves
- removed cow motif window and bench coverings
- cleaned 15 years of dust from vertical blinds
- replaced track spotlights with hanging diffuse pendant lights
- combined kitchen lights onto single light switch
- painted over battleship gray with warm white
- Wall unit A/C replaced by high efficiency mini-split head.

Office

- painted over navy blue walls with warm white
- installed wire shelves in closet

Back hall

- removed "cat perch," tunnel to bedroom, and marquee light post
- smoothed over deep-textured walls and ceiling
- removed and combined excess light switches (5 down to 2)

Bathroom

- removed black wallpaper
- replaced track spot lights with diffuse vanity lights
- replaced old 5-gallon toilet with modern fixture
- failing ceramic tiles around bath replaced
- walls smoothed and painted

Linen closet

- chimney removed
- converted to laundry room with stacked washer/dryer (gas)
- bare bulb replaced with diffused circular fluorescent lighting
- new flooring
- new bifold doors

Bedroom/Jacuzzi/bathroom

- entry tunnel removed
- second closet installed (doors to shared closet with office)
- LED lighting installed in closets
- bench seat under window removed, unused radiator pipes removed
- mirror from former upstairs bathroom re-mounted as wall mirror
- shelves installed in corner nook
- code-violation light over tub removed
- light fixture installed on bedroom side of wall
- Jacuzzi slow drip leak repaired, roman tub faucets installed
- Gold accented lighting over sink replaced
- Additional lighting over mirror added
- Light switches simplified
- Gold faucets replaced with brushed nickel
- Gold door knob replaced with brushed nickel handle
- Bathroom light switch moved from behind door to in front of door
- Exhaust fan replaced
- Shower head replaced
- Toilet replaced
- (bathroom cabinet to be installed under sink)
- A/C mini-split head installed

Roof

- chimney removed
- non-functioning vents removed
- skylight hatch built
- new roof (rock ballast removed, adhesive EPDM installed)
- solar tube installed to bathroom
- AC power, ventilation fan installed in hatch for rooftop power

Basement

- asbestos abatement on heating pipes
- rotting support beam and post replaced
- furnace, water heater replaced by single high efficiency boiler and heat exchanger
- bad plumbing drain pipes replaced
- floor painted
- stairway incandescent light (code violation) replaced by LED light
- T8 lighting installed for archives and storage area
- High efficiency mini-split air conditioning installed
- Video, cat-5, dc-power routed from roof (for security cameras)

Stairway

- simplify 10-switch lighting control panel at top of stairs
- replace flood lights with ceiling fan/light (fan helps manage air temperatures between upstairs and downstairs).
- (carpeting, TBD)

Kitchen

- "pantry closet" demolished, opened and added to kitchen.
- skylight hatch window installed where chimney was removed.
- kitchen gutted to studs, crazy wiring removed, vinyl tile floor removed.
- Radiator removed
- Vinyl tiles, subfloor, and two layers of linoleum removed.
- Ceiling removed, leveled, replaced.
- Window replaced, rotted framing replaced.
- Sink replaced and moved from corner to central window
- Kitchen opened to living room (instead of to bathroom)
- New cabinets, countertops, electrical, plumbing, lighting.
- New vinyl/stone floor (not leveled, to avoid step transitions).
- Recessed, LED-ready lighting, LED moonlight strips at skylight
- 250cfm ventilation fan installed in skylight tunnel

Dining room

- black and white vinyl tile removed
- maple wood floor restored
- acoustic tile ceiling replaced by smooth ceiling, walls repaired.
- cove moulding removed, base moulding replaced
- ceiling fan replaced by lamp
- Nest thermostat installed.
- Fan and light installed on stairway

Living room

- wall unit A/C removed, window re-created
- all windows replaced, Marvin casement windows
- window frames, base moulding replaced
- cove moulding removed, walls and ceilings refinished, painted
- floor refinished
- A/C provided by mini-split heat-exchanger
- Curtains crafted from fractal fabric (Ghana)

Bathroom

- opened to living room instead of kitchen
- long, narrow room reduced to more natural dimensions
- code-violating constellation lights removed.
- walls and ceiling gutted, rewired, re-plumbed
- rotted floor joists replaced
- new door, walls, insulation, wiring
- new fan, lighting, toilet
- light tube installed.

Bedroom

- painted maple floor restored
- new window
- overhead light installed (replaces ceiling electrical outlet)
- light switches moved to inside bedroom instead of outside

Media room

- new windows
- green walls painted
- closet opened, converted to "media closet"
- window curtains converted to theater curtains.
- Maple wood floor refinished.
- Glass shelves installed.
- Opaque black-out curtains

Porch

- Green astroturf removed
- Plywood subfloor added (for stiffness and stability)
- (Modern) outdoor carpet flooring (recycled pop bottles)
- Candelabra light replaced by ceiling fan (formerly in dining room)
- Switches installed for fan and light (instead of outlet plug-in)
- screens repaired
- lighting switches moved from dining room to porch