

*President*  
**Alex Dean, CR, CGR**

*Construction Mgr.*  
**Michael Colman**

*Project Designer*  
**James Steele**

*Lead Carpenters*  
**Steve Mayberry**  
**Gregory Burdette**  
**Nick Gal**

*Carpenters*  
**Marvin Samoya**  
**Hernan Morales**

*Administration*  
**Kathy Poland**

*Members of:*  
**NARI DC Chapter**  
**Montgomery Co. Builders**  
**Association**

*Recent Awards:*  
**2002 NARI**  
**CotY Awards (2)**

**2002 Montgomery**  
**Co. Builders Assoc.**  
**Awards (4)**

**2001 Montgomery**  
**Co. Builders Assoc.**  
**Awards (4)**

**2001 NARI**  
**CotY Awards (2)**

**2000 NARI**  
**CotY Awards (4)**

**2000 Montgomery**  
**Co. Builders Awards (2)**

**1993 - 1999**  
**Multiple Awards**



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## Move or stay: A family decision

What do you do when you love the neighborhood, but have outgrown the house? For this Montgomery County family, the answer was simple: renovate—take what you have and make it fit the circumstance.

The homeowners' first step was to hire architect friend Jerry Briggs to help them through the design phase. He in turn recommended The Alexander Group as the contractor to build a quasi design-build project, which entailed adding approximately 3,500 square feet of additional space and the renovation of the existing 2,200 square feet.

A highly functional, yet pleasing two-story addition two-car garage and finished basement below were added to the right side of the existing house. This addition wrapped artistically around the rear of the home and connects with the original family room, while the existing living room, dining room and kitchen are reconfigured to become a new front foyer, closet, powder room and living room. Where once stood a screened porch on the left side of the structure, a new combination study-guest room now occupies that space on the original foundation.

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The kitchen, breakfast room-dining room, music room, mudroom, pantry and rear hall area are all part of the addition where the chef de jure enjoys a new spacious kitchen with custom cabinetry and Corian countertops coupled with gourmet appliances where magical feats from souffle and quiche to basic prime rib and baked potato can be prepared with flair and ease, all of which come together allowing the family to enjoy a unique space in a truly American way.

The second floor now contains bedrooms for four growing children, two children's baths, a master suite complete with a decidedly upscale bath, a functional second floor laundry, linen closet and a special retreat space.

The exterior walls are finished with cedar shingles and the eyebrow, a playful architectural feature over the front porch, shelters Mahogany treads and decking. The new front porch, an important element of the exterior transformation, is both visually pleasing with a flare in the second floor, broken by divided light windows and custom fabricated sills to enhance the effect.



Alex Dean, owner of The Alexander Group, is quick to point out, "The finished product is a testament to the teamwork of a wonderful client, talented architect and experienced remodeler. I love it when we can bring a project together like this and give our clients something very special that will last for many years to come."

## Favored vendor: Tom Gebhardt, Gebcon Corporation

Excavation cave-ins are a major source of fatalities within the construction industry, according to OSHA statistics. Trenching accidents on US construction sites account for an estimated 100 fatalities per year, with at least 11 times as many workers injured. Excavation fatalities account for nearly 1% of all work related deaths in the United States.

“These are serious statistics,” said Mike Colman, construction manager for The Alexander Group, “and are not to be overlooked when selecting an excavation trade contractor. The companies we use are the best at their craft.”

As Mike points out, excavation is critical to a well-executed project. “Excavation is literally the ‘foundation’ of the work that follows. A good excavation contractor must understand what is needed; he observes and makes recommendations on difficult conditions. His decisions control erosion, maximize drainage and establish the final grade on the land. He protects existing buildings and property as well as plants and trees.”

One of The Alexander Group’s preferred excavation contractors is Tom Gebhardt, owner of Gebcon Corporation in Germantown.

“Tom is meticulous and careful,” Mike said. “We’ve heard many horror stories about less-than-ideal excavators: the excavator cut down a prized possession of a homeowner—just because it was “in their way”; or the misreading of property lines and digging up half a neighbor’s yard. These are the nightmares that can happen if an excavator isn’t as good as he needs to be. Not the case with Tom—he’s one of the best.”

Gebcon Corporation, established in 1986, was founded on Tom Gebhardt’s many years in the excavation field. Having originally worked as an excavating subcontractor for new construction of tract homes, Tom migrated to work in the remodeling/renovation industry, lured by the challenges and variety such work entailed.

“Working with The Alexander Group has been a great experience for us. From the first project we did in 1997, it was clear that Alex Dean was very concerned about quality in the entire proj-

ect, not just the finishes that people see, but the invisible work such as foundation, drainage and structural details.

“We like doing projects for The Alexander Group because their jobs are on schedule, and if a problem arises, they take the time to evaluate, consult with any involved trade contractors, and as a group effort, find and implement the most cost effective solution without compromising the quality of the product and avoiding delay to the client,” Tom said.

“Working on The Alexander Group’s projects is always enjoyable for us because as the general contractor, they have the same values we do—integrity when doing business. They are concerned about neatness and cleanliness of the job site. All of our jobs are in established neighborhoods and we realize that a neat and clean site is much less disturbing to the neighbors.

“It’s hard to find people you can trust and The Alexander Group are people you can trust—we do. Their word is as good as any piece of paper. The Alexander Group goes beyond a general contractor—they represent a group of the area’s best trade contractors, aligned together, to deliver the best product possible under one leader. We are honored to be on The Alexander Group’s favored vendor list,” Tom said.

▲ Gebcon Corporation  
Germantown MD



## Meet Nick Gal, lead carpenter

The Alexander Group welcomes Nick Gal as lead carpenter. Nick has more than 20 years of carpentry experience, including seasonal work with The Alexander Group. He is an avid reader, fly fisherman and fly tier.

"We're very pleased that Nick has joined us," said Alex Dean, owner of The Alexander Group. "He brings a wide range of experience and skill sets that are valued by our team. Nick is knowledgeable in all aspects of residential construction and has a background in engineering. A master carpenter, he complements our other team members with his integrity, reliability, and creative problem solving."

**▲ A special thank you to Cindy Moses, Dieter Klinger and Jerry Levine-Wentworth for their recent referrals to three homeowners who are now valued Alexander Group clients. Thank you!**

## See your way clear

Today's bathroom trends, featuring high-powered, multi-steam shower heads, Jacuzzis, saunas and steam baths, certainly provide added pleasure and convenience. Those same trends also add even more moisture into bathrooms.

NewHome's Clear Mirror immediately defogs your bathroom mirror and keeps it that way. No more towel and hand streaks on the mirror; no more frustration peering through the steam to make sure your razor—or your makeup—is in the right place.

The engineering is simple: an ultra slim (1/16") silicone rubber heating pad adheres to the back of your bathroom mirror. Installed directly to a power supply, the Clear Mirror uses the same amount of electricity as a light bulb and comes with a 5-year warranty. Modestly priced, it's well worth the investment.

Visit [www.ClearMirror.com](http://www.ClearMirror.com) to learn more.

▼ Visit our Web site: [AlexanderGroup.net](http://AlexanderGroup.net)

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