



Marvin Windows and Doors Yellow Rose Regional Recognition Program

Kirkwood, N.Y. Builder Recognized for his Dedication to the Community



Project Winner: Mike Rychlewski (left), owner of MDR Builders

Mike Rychlewski, owner of MDR Builders in Kirkwood, N.Y., was ready for a creative challenge. The owners of Conklin's Authentic Barnwood and Hand Hewn Beams wanted to build a home that had all the luxuries and amenities of new construction, with the old-time charm and character of a historic

barn. They also wanted to identify ways in which their product could be used in the homebuilding process.

To achieve his mission, Rychlewski worked with an architect to create the look of an old-fashioned, barn-like structure that had undergone multiple additions. Every aspect of the home, from the lightening rods to the stone walls surrounding the property, was reminiscent of historic barns that once dotted the American landscape. The historic theme was carried through to the interior of the house, which was primarily constructed out of aged wood.

In order to appeal to the homeowners' concern for the environment, the home was built using a variety of environmentally-friendly products. With



The Conklin residence in New Milford, PA features antique barnwood and beautiful hand hewn beams.



Great Room of Conklin Residence

the volume of new construction projects and inevitable use of lumber products, conserving natural resources was of utmost importance to these homeowners.

Rychlewski used various sizes and styles of windows to complement the all-natural look and feel of the home. The two-story great room is naturally lit with a wall of windows and doors both in the front and rear of the home. Windows are also used throughout the 8,000-square-foot house to bring out the character of the wood in which they are set.

As a 25-year veteran of the building industry, Rychlewski was a natural choice to help the Conklins realize their dream of creating this unique custom home. He began his career as a building foreman and home estimator before starting his own construction business, MDR Builders, in 1986. Today, the company primarily builds homes, but also does light commercial and remodeling work. Rychlewski is also an active member of the Southern Tier Homebuilders and Remodelers Association.

In recognition of his dedication to the community and accomplishments in the building industry, Rychlewski was recently named a finalist in the Yellow Rose Regional Recognition program, sponsored by Marvin Windows and Doors. The program recognizes



Mike Rychlewski poses to the left of Susan Marvin (center) President of Marvin Windows and Doors, and the other 2002 Marvin Windows and Doors Yellow Rose Regional Recognition winners and representatives.

building industry professionals in designated regions of the United States who pursue excellence in their work while promoting the advancement of their community.

During the program's inaugural year in 2002, nine winners from across the country were selected as distinguished recipients of the award. The craftsmanship, dedication and expertise of the 2002 Yellow Rose recipients has had a major impact on a variety of community projects including hospitals, animal shelters and city parks.

On behalf of Yellow Rose finalists, Marvin Windows and Doors will donate \$1,000 to each recipient's charity of choice. Rychlewski has designated the Kirkwood Senior Citizens as the beneficiary. All Yellow Rose recipients, including Rychlewski, were also honored during a dinner reception in Atlanta, Ga. during the 2002 International Builders Show last February.



Today, the Conklin's home remains a work-in-progress - and a work-of-art. It also provides a beautiful showcase for their hand hewn beams and re-claimed boards. Thanks to Mike Rychlewski's creative imagination and building expertise, these homeowners were able to fulfill their ultimate dream.

new 2003

If you would like to nominate a building industry professional for the 2003 Yellow Rose Regional Recognition program, please call 1-800-687-3666 to receive information about the nomination process and criteria. Nominations will be accepted from July-October 2002. Winners will be recognized at the 2003 International Builders Show in Las Vegas.

Contact your participating dealer for more information on the Marvin Windows and Doors Yellow Rose Regional Recognition Program or contact us at 1-800-687-3666



2002 Winner Michael Rychlewski, Builder