

Relocated Arizonans love lakeside living on Logan Martin

Steven and Mary Pomroy love the views and friends they've found on the Cropwell shore

Written by **LOYD MCINTOSH**

Photographed by **TUCKER WEBB**

When Arizona residents Steven and Mary Pomroy were considering retirement, they knew two things. They wanted a house on a lake and, due to onerous regulations, they knew they would have to leave The Grand Canyon State.

They looked all over the South for the right place with lake property, including Arkansas, Mary's home state, and several lakes in Alabama:

Smith Lake,
Weiss







Mary and Steven Pomroy, with a snapshot of what their Logan Martin Lake home looked like in its original incarnation



Lake, etc. However, Realtor Nicole Anderson of The Anderson Group with Lake Homes Realty got the Pomroys' attention with a little 1960s-era house in Cropwell a little more than a year ago.

Now, as they look through an entire wall of windows with a stunning view of Logan Martin Lake that's 1,700 miles away from the agitation of living in overcrowded Phoenix, the Pomroys wholeheartedly agree their place on the St. Clair County shoreline was home at first sight.

"When we got to Logan Martin, I don't know why, but I just fell in love with it," says Steve. "Nicole probably had some influence on me because she was able to tell us about the amenities that this lake had that the other lakes do not have."

The house itself wasn't much to look at after falling into disrepair over the years. The home began life as a small one-level, mid-century bungalow with a breezeway between the main house and the garage.

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It had been added onto several times over the years without much thought to any existing construction codes.

The natural beauty of the neighborhood struck Mary, and although the house had some problems, she could see its potential. On the other hand, she was convinced - erroneously - that her husband hated it. "Steve just stayed out in the driveway," Mary explains.

"It was just Nicole and I in here and we're looking around and I'm talking to her. I said we'll need to change some things, but this is pretty good, and I said, 'I think we have a problem. He hasn't even come in the house,'" she adds. "So we walked back outside to see what was going on. He said 'I'll take it.' He never came inside."

Steve explains that while the ladies were inside, he took a walk around the property and

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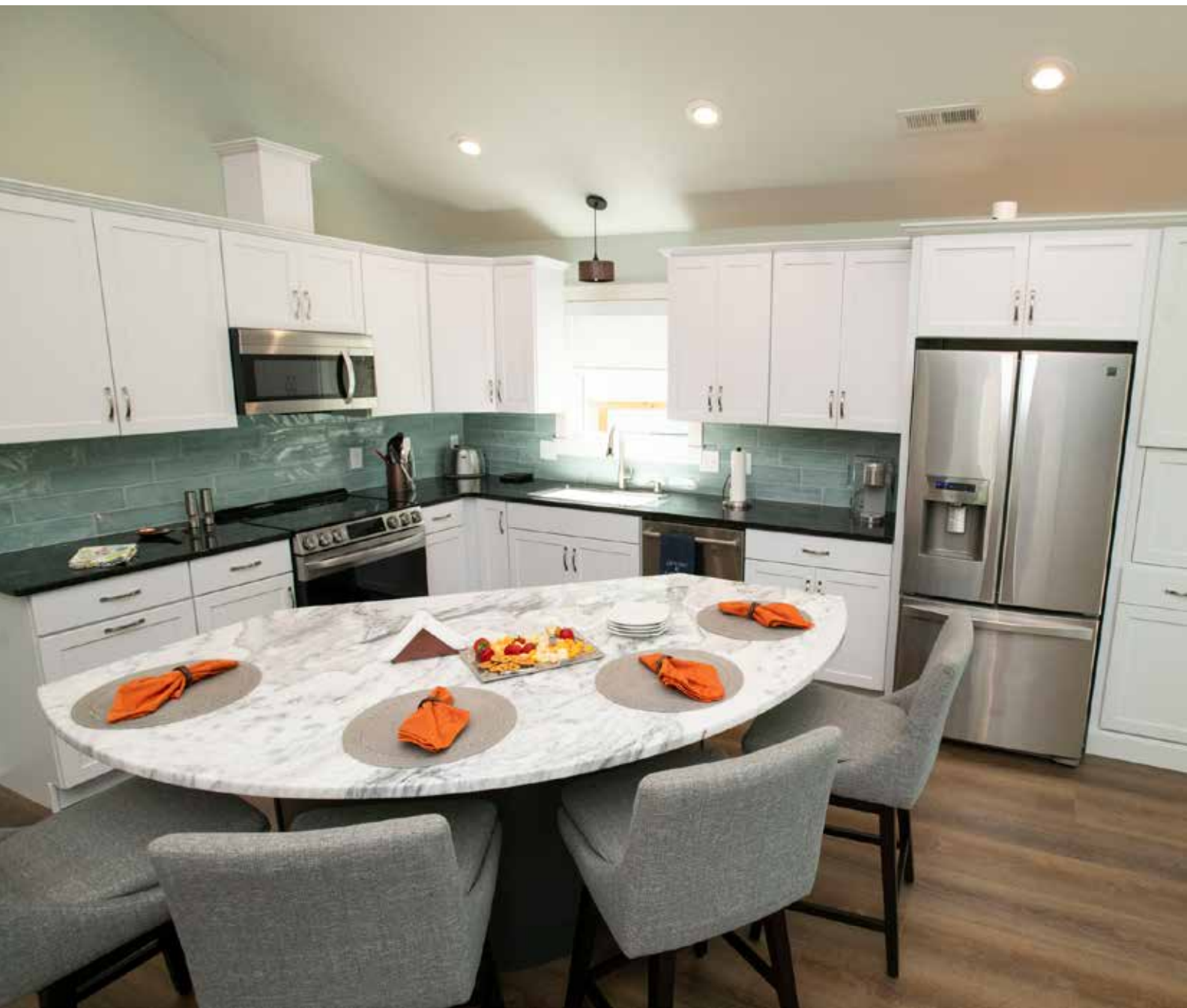
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on the peninsula on which the house sits and quickly realized the property and neighborhood had everything he was looking for, including easy access to the water and well-maintained homes owned by friendly neighbors.

"While they were inside, I walked and looked at these homes and how well they were taken care of and it was like check mark, check mark, check mark, check mark," says Steve. "Everything was a check mark."

In order to accomplish their dream home, the Pomroys demolished the house mostly themselves, leaving only an L-shaped portion of the wall. They

turned to Jason Jones Construction and Kristina Alexander of Olive Tree Renovations & Design to bring their concept to life. The result is a modern take on a lake house borrowing heavily from beach bungalows one might see dotted along the Gulf Coast, with an exterior color scheme dominated by seafoam green and white and a wide-open floor plan emphasizing breathtaking views of Logan Martin.

The two-bedroom house's main room features a crescent-moon shaped bar, kitchen, dining area, and living area all facing a large bank of windows looking out onto the lake. The master bedroom

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lies just off the main room also situated so that the water is the last thing the Pomroys see before going to sleep and the first thing they see in the morning.

Additionally, the Pomroys designed the house with plenty of outdoor living space. They are on the water in their pontoon boat at least three days a week, spending the remainder of those evenings either on the large covered patio just off the main room or the screened-in porch accessible from the bedroom.

But what really makes their lakehouse feel like home are the people they have gotten to know since relocating from Arizona to Cropwell in February. "I have better friends here – and when I say friends, I mean friends, that if you needed something they're there for you," explains Steve, "I have more friends on this peninsula in five months than I had in 32 years in my old house."