Masonic Lodge Transformed into Ultimate MANtuary

By Linda Harrington

Two seasons were filmed by Life Productions, a film, television and digital media production company based in Toronto, Ontario. The first two seasons were filmed here in Nova Scotia, at the Buckle family cottage, where projects such as solar heated showers, water ski jumps, wood fired pizza ovens and floating hot tubs were featured.

Projects: In The House, a new 13-episode series featuring brothers Andrew & Kevin Buckles as they construct one of a kind projects. This is the third season for the Cottage Life series, projects, produced by Farm Life Productions, a film, television and digital media production company based in Edmonton, Alberta. The brothers are busy turning the Masonic Lodge into an ultimate “MANtuary”. With the vast open floor space of 2,000 square footage, to build projects set out to build a table and bar. “We didn’t have a table, so we decided to purchase the Lodge, but Andrew says they have been pleased by the hospitality shown since they moved into “Great Village is amazing, it could not be better. We have met some very interesting people, who often drop in for a visit. We enjoy watching the gorgeous sunrise and sunset from up here on the hill and have checked out the swimming hole and antique shops.”

The Buckle family was originally from New Glasgow, but Andrew and Kevin grew up in New Brunswick, with the family cottage located in Guysborough County. Andrew graduated from Dalhouse with a degree in Biology and then took different jobs around the world, doing everything from Bird Research to Construction. Kevin graduated from UNE, Fredericton with a BA, taking a job with a newspaper initially and he now works for Bell Aliant.

Kevin and Andrew wanted to show their appreciation to neighbours Cathy and Steve Mazur by building them the ultimate BBQ table.

First “project” at the Masonic Lodge was an impressive bar, built out of recycled wood products.

“Can’t you have a BBQ without a table, so we decided to build them one.” Of course, when the brothers set out to build a table of any sort, it is not just an ordinary table! Eleven people are working on the set in Great Village, including a cook, production assistant and film crew. Filming began on August 25th and will go through until March.

Projects: In The House will be featured on Cottage Life in the Spring of 2016. Secret webisodes will be available at http://brojects.tv/video-extras/. No Purchase Necessary, simply drop into our store at 94 Esplanade, Truro, NS B2N 2K3 and fill out a ballot. Names will be drawn commencing mid-September.

Masonic Lodge in Great Village ends up being the focal point of a television series? “This is one of the first questions we are always asked,” laughs Andrew Buckles. “The short answer is we needed lots of square footage, to build projects for multiple shows, and the Lodge is perfect. Great Village is a good hub for us, with Kevin living in Halifax, and being near the airport to fly in the crew.”

The brothers knew little about the community when they decided to purchase the Lodge, but Andrew says they have been pleased by the hospitality shown since they moved in. “Great Village is amazing, it could not be better. We have met some very interesting people, who often drop in for a visit. We enjoy watching the gorgeous sunrise and sunset from up here on the hill and have checked out the swimming hole and antique shops.”

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