

OUTSIDE

KATHY & KEITH WILKES
3614 SHINNECOCK LANE



Is your backyard the go-to space for your entertaining?

We are always outside whether it is competing in ping pong, having dinner or floating in the pool. Even the front yard is used. One of our favorite memories is having a Italian dinner with the Dapras in the front yard. It was impromptu and we pulled out the wine, checkered tablecloth, candles and music. The spot was perfect at that moment.

The seasons obviously can affect your use, how might you adapt to them?

That's a good question! I think we use the yard equally year round.



How long have you lived at Magnolia Point?

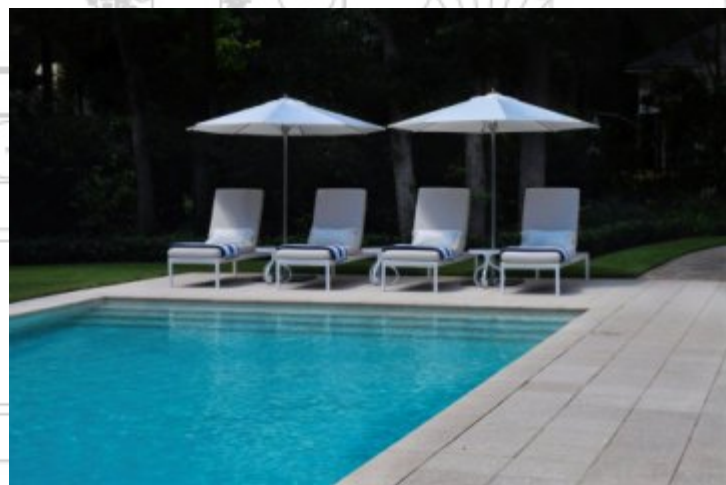
We built our home 18 years ago.

You've got both the front patio/entrance and ad a terraced patio the backyard with a pool; which of these were remodels or additions, and if so, what did you do?

Four years ago we decided to give the house a total exterior facelift. It started with painting the house Alabaster white. Painting the trim and walls all the same color really allowed the French style to pop. Then it was time to completely redesign the landscape. We dug up everything and started over in the front and back yard.

What do you like best about these spaces?

There are different rooms in the yard with a variety of plants and birds. There is something blooming in every season and it's a hobby we can enjoy together.



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Were there any drainage, logistics, permitting, issues, etc., that challenged these projects?

The hardest part was actually finding a contractor that was willing to do both the pool and upper patios with retaining wall. We wanted a single entity responsible so there would be no finger pointing if something went wrong. There were certainly lessons learned along the way.



Tell us about the materials, and features that went into these spaces.

The pool and surrounding patios are Shellock by Artistic Pavers in tan. We chose that product for the clean lines and variety of shapes and sizes. It was important to have everything match from the decking to the stairs and wall caps. It was one of the only products that offered the wide range of coping and specialty pieces required for the project. The sidewalks in the front and backyard entryways are Old Town pavers by Tremron in sand dune. The walls of the grill and retaining walls are stucco and painted to match the house.



Photos: Editor

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JAPANESE MAPLE 'BLOODGOOD'



Did you work from formal plans, or work the design as you went?

We had so many ideas! We knew we wanted to start with a garden design that incorporated a pool versus a pool with landscaping around it. We had a landscape design company draw up the plans for the backyard and we loved it so much we asked them to draw the front yard. They did the creative design and selected the variety of plants that would be hardy for our area. We took it from there with shovels in hand dug up the old plants, cut the new beds and planted all the new plants. We worked every weekend for months with help along the way from friends and our grandson. It was a labor of love!



Night Photo:K. Wilkes

