

# REMODELER SPOTLIGHT

Capital Region Builders Association (CRBA)

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## JOHN GUILLORY | CRBA Remodeler Member

*Custom Home Designs*

### **What company do you work for and what is your job description?**

I am the Owner of Custom Home Designs.

### **How long have you been a CRBA member and why did you choose to become one?**

I've been a member for at least 25 years and I saw it as an opportunity to grow my design business.

### **What makes CRBA important to you?**

The relationships with others in the residential building industry. These relationships have helped educate me, of course, but also gave me the ability to reach out when in doubt, especially when an unfamiliar situation arose that I could not solve.

### **How has CRBA aided in the way you do business?**

For a tiny business, such as Custom Home Designs, being able to get advice, support or guidance from others in the residential building industry kept me from having to learn lessons that others had already suffered through. Being in a group willing to share these hard learned and hard earned lessons is a blessing and I am proud to be involved with such a great group.

### **Why do you believe it is important for other businesses to join CRBA?**

The access to a like minded group in the residential building industry makes networking to promote, educate or sell your particular service or product "fishing in a bathtub easy."

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## **What is your most notable memory while being involved with CRBA?**

Building a car platform for the Capital Region Builders Foundation in 2016. It was a great spring morning of comradely. We worked as a team and had a terrific time.

## **While being a member, what has been one thing you have learned and been able to apply to your job?**

Earning the NAHB designation of Certified Aging In Place Specialist has given me a new found vocation and direction to my professional efforts. It's the difference between doing good work and doing work for a good purpose.

## **What is your favorite tip for someone working in the same industry?**

Do not be shy! Get involved and ask questions. You will be surprised how willing others are to help.

## **How have you been able to impact the community as a CRBA member?**

By being a part of the Remodeling 1-2-3 seminar series, the CRBA Remodelers have educated the general public the importance of working with a licensed, insured and qualified remodeling professional.

## **What has your CRBA membership meant to you both personally and professionally?**

Being awarded a NAHB Leadership Scholarship, I was sent to Washington DC to participate in the NAHB Mid-Year hearings. I was introduced to many successful builders from across the nation. They walked me through NAHB headquarters and allowed me to not only sit in on the meetings, but encouraged me to speak up and contribute. This access to information and NAHB's attention to a small town home designer was astonishing. It boosted my confidence and gave me the power to ask for and receive a seat on the CAPS III designation course writing team.

## **Have you received any awards or recognition? Tell us all about it!**

I was awarded as the Qualified Remodeler, September 2015 National Remodeler of the Month award. 2014 Remodelers Council of Greater Baton Rouge Member of the Year, Best of Houzz 2015 Design and Service, 2016 Design, 2017 Design and Service and 2018 Design.

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## **What is your favorite holiday and why?**

Thanksgiving. I have much to be thankful for and the idea that as Americans, we have set aside a day to give thanks and eat a feast with no associated gifts of hub-bub is awesome!

## **What are your hobbies outside of work?**

Bible study, hiking and backpacking.

## **What is a typical day like for you?**

I am up at 4 a.m. to pray, then head off to work for 10 to 12 hours. Of course I make time to eat during that time. After my work, I make time to read the Bible and fall asleep by 10 p.m.

## **What motivates you?**

The joy of design and bringing it all to fruition in the field.

## **Where are you originally from?**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana.