

To whom it may concern,

As a retired builder, I thought long and hard about the contractor I wanted to undertake the renovation of our dream house in South Hero. For me, it was not about getting bids, but finding people that I liked and trusted and could communicate with over the 6-12 months that this complicated project would take. I have found that, as a builder and consumer, you get what you pay for with a low bidder. While that may work for the government or strip mall builders, I wanted our hard earned dollars to find more sensitive hands.

Over the preceding year my wife, Laura, and I spent a lot of time looking at houses and found that most of our favorites had been built by 3 Seasons Builders - now Clearwater Builders. Through our architect, I was able to get a meeting with 3 Seasons and it became immediately clear that these were the guys we wanted to build our house. Over the next year our decision was to pay off in ways that I hadn't imagined. We got more than we had dreamed and the process was as painless as a major disruption to our lives could possibly be. We became lasting friends with the builders and I know that they are always there for any unforeseen problems or new work that may come up. An indication of the great relationship they have with their past clients was the number of old clients that showed up at our job site to see what "the boys" were working on. I have become one of those groupies and have visited a number of their jobs since our job was completed.

With the transition of 3 Seasons to Clearwater, Scott Hammond and Dave "Robee" Robison, the new owners (who have been the on-site lead builders for many years), have brought a great mix of talents and temperament to every job. The Clearwater crew is comprised of highly skilled, mature craftsmen who all have long and diverse building careers behind them. Beyond that they have a tremendous pool of talent they can call on when needed and a relationship with subcontractors that was amazing to me. This company is so well respected that when Scott or Robee call, whatever needs to happen, happens. Subs love to work with these guys and we got the best job possible from everyone.

Throughout my career I have seen major building projects end in lawsuits, divorce, and nervous breakdowns. Ours ended with the house we had always dreamed of and enjoy every day, new friends, great pictures and fond memories. This all happened with a handshake and no contract. Yes, we were lucky, but Clearwater's skill and professionalism had a tremendous amount to do with that luck. I would definitely recommend to anyone undertaking a high end, quality renovation or new residential construction that they talk to Robee and Scott.