

For Immediate Release:

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Great Rooms Designers & Builders Win Five HBAGC Key Awards

Libertyville, Ill., November 12, 2008 – Great Rooms Designers & Builders, Inc., a Libertyville-based remodeling and custom home design/build company has won a gold, three silver and a bronze in five categories of the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago's (HBAGC) 2008 Key Awards. According to the HBAGC, the Key Awards, announced last month, recognize excellence in housing design, architecture, interior merchandising, landscaping, landscape architecture and remodeling.

"It's a true honor to be recognized among the best in the Chicago area for our work by our peers and the HBAGC. We pride ourselves in the dedication and craftsmanship we put into each project. It's encouraging to see that it shows," said Craig Wolski, president, Great Rooms Designers & Builders, Inc.

The Gold Key Award was won for the category of custom home with square footage of 3,501 – 4,200. The Great Rooms "Art of a Craftsman" home in Libertyville is a Craftsman style house reflective of the owners' simple, unassuming lifestyle. The exterior was detailed with a low-pitch roof, oversized brick water table, and covered front and rear porches to reduce the visual bulk of the two-story elevations. The home consists of a total of 3,682 square feet on the first and second floors and a 1,300-square-foot finished basement. Custom woodwork and details prevail throughout.

One of three Silver Key Awards was for the category of room additions, \$100,001 – \$250,000. The project consisted of a two-level addition and complete exterior renovation of the Libertyville home. The objective was to give the owners more space to accommodate their growing family, and update the look of their 1970s split-level. Great Rooms designed a fourth level that consisted of a master suite (bedroom, bath and walk-in closet) and nursery for the owners' newborn, along with a fifth-level bonus/playroom. To accommodate the need for more storage, Great Rooms included a full attic above the garage. The exterior renovation transformed the obvious split-level facade to a Cape Cod style.

The second Silver Key Award was won in the category of whole house remodel, \$200,001 – \$500,000. Great Rooms took an older home in Riverwoods and gave it an updated, open floor plan. The original woodwork and timbers were maintained and accentuated by the vaulted, exposed ceilings. All appliances and low-voltage were updated to state-of-the art standards, giving the home a contemporary, yet rustic appeal.

The third Silver Key Award was for the category of kitchens under \$75,000. The kitchen in this Wilmette home was redesigned to accommodate a more usable workspace that included semi-custom cabinetry. A brick archway with breakfast bar was constructed to separate the kitchen from the adjoining living space, giving the project a unique, "European" look and style.

The Bronze Key Award was won for the category of kitchens under \$75,000. Basically working within the same confines, this is a fine example of how Great Room's expertise can make the most of space and budget. With semi-custom cabinetry, the owners were able to gain more open work space as well as a desk and organizational area. A barrier wall was removed and replaced with an island that serves as a breakfast bar and includes a built-in beverage cooler. New hardwood floors help to finish the updated, classic look of this Glenview kitchen.

High-resolution photos of the projects are available upon request.

Based in Libertyville, Ill., Great Rooms is a design/build firm specializing in remodeling and custom home construction. For more information, please visit www.greatrms.com or call 847-549-9960.

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