

# Connections

## Magazine

Since 1998

MONEY &amp; REAL ESTATE HOME REMODELING

Clemleddy Construction

## Giving Second Homes a Second Chance

By Krista Gromalski

**B**ack in the 1980s, the Pocono Mountains second-home market was almost bigger than Jon Bon Jovi's hair. Urbanites from New York and New Jersey, seeking secluded but not-so-far-away weekend get-aways, were building and buying those good old A-frames, mini-chalets, cabins, and saltboxes that are the original vacation homes in the Lake Wallenpaupack area.

Today, the same generation of Baby Boomers who established the Lake Region as a second-home haven has sworn off the mouse, grown out their mullets, and are settling into semi-retirement.

Right along with this shift in priorities comes a change in the way these folks are using their second homes. Suddenly, these rustic structures are becoming primary homes, but there's a lot of work required to turn a vacation shack into a year-round residence.

Here's where Craig Smyth of Clemleddy Construction found his niche.

Smyth moved to the Pocono Mountains in the mid-80s and set up shop as a framing contractor. There was plenty of work to go around, and when all was said and done, Smyth had framed out many of the salt boxes and mini-chalets now in need of upgrading.

"Back then most people were spending their leisure time around Lake Wallenpaupack, and these small cabins served their needs well," says Smyth.

As families have grown and these second-homeowners are now approaching retirement, many of them are spending more time in the Poconos and are feeling cramped in their seasonal digs.

Today, Clemleddy Construction specializes in converting what was once a tiny kitchen and living room with limited bedroom and closet space into a custom year-round residence featuring beautifully designed and spacious living areas, extra bedrooms and closets, upgraded heating and electric systems, and ample insulation.

"Our clients have worked hard to get to where they are today, and they want a luxurious retirement home in a scenic natural setting," adds Smyth. "We are equipped to handle the job, and we focus on personal service and attention to detail."

To Smyth, that's not an idle promise; it's a way of doing business. Clemleddy Construction is named in honor of Smyth's great grandfather, Clement Leddy. "A man with an unwavering sense of duty, honesty, and morality."

Clemleddy Construction is a proud proponent of the Green Building technique. "There is no sacrifice in quality when building green, and we strive to build and renovate homes with the best efficiencies available while keeping the environmental impact to a minimum," says Smyth.

Some benefits of the Green Building technique include lower operating costs, reduced maintenance issues, increased home value, and improved environmental quality.

The Clemleddy team of experienced and professional carpenters strives for perfection. Clients are consistently satisfied by the company's high standard of professionalism and dedication to excellence and integrity, which is proven by the growing number of referrals and return customers.

In addition to second-to-primary home conversions Clemleddy Construction handles luxury custom built homes, upscale modulars, and quality renovations.

Photos of Clemleddy's work and client testimonials can be found at [www.clemleddy.com](http://www.clemleddy.com).



Clemleddy Construction adds living and storage space to what was once a seasonal home and upgrades the structure's heating and electric systems and insulation.



What was once a rustic cabin-like structure is now a luxurious living space, thanks to Clemleddy Construction.



Clemleddy Construction's expertise and green building principles changed a simple seasonal A-frame into a custom year-round residence.