

THE SUNROOM CONFIGURATION INCLUDES CEILING TO FLOOR GLASS PANELS ON THE FRONT AND

SIDE THAT INCORPORATE SLIDERS WITH SCREENS. THE WEST WALL IS THE SITE OF A PATIO DOOR AND STEPS THAT GIVE ACCESS TO THE BACKYARD.



Long-range FORECAST

Sunny and mild in Glastar sunroom

BY MARGARET ANNE FEHR PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHAEL ROBERTS



Steven Sarens stands proudly in front of another successful project.

ENHANCING THEIR LIFESTYLE WHILE ADDING EQUITY to their four-level split home built in 1959 was the prime motivation for Robert and Kim to consider a three season sunroom overlooking their backyard.

Once the decision was made, the couple launched into some serious research to locate the best supplier to meet their needs and decided to entrust Glastar Sunrooms with their project.

Says Robert, "One of the reasons we chose Glastar was because their website stated they had been in business for 30 years. Part of my research showed that other sunroom companies tend to come and go, but Glastar has been around for quite a while, so I thought it was a solid company."

The couple agreed that they didn't want to alter the existing roof line of their home with the addition of the sunroom and they

also wanted a common entry level from the dining room to sunroom. Says Robert, "Some of them are built 4 or 5 inches below the house floor line, but we wanted to have it flush with the rest of the house. There was a picture window that faced our backyard from our dining room and that was cut out to accommodate a sliding glass door there."

The sunroom measures 240 square feet with 12' by 20' dimensions. A gabled roof rather than a flat style was an extra feature that appealed to Robert and Kim and also adds considerable volume to the space. A ceiling fan and lights provide the necessary circulation and illumination for the space.

"The sunroom is fabricated entirely of white aluminum with sharp clean lines that looks very nice. Glastar assured us that if we had any problems with maintenance

over the lifetime of the sunroom, that it would pretty much be covered free. No other company offered that."

The sunroom configuration includes ceiling to floor glass panels on the front and side that incorporate sliders with screens. The west wall is the site of a patio door and steps that give access to the backyard.

The couple has decided to use the sunroom as an alternative to their indoor living room and have included a wide-screen TV set within the space as well as rattan sofas, chairs, lamps, and a table-for-two with chairs. For extra comfort underfoot, the sunroom floor is carpeted.

"We have roller shades on the west wall that let in only 5 per cent of the light, when the sun is setting, so it's quite effective. We use them quite a bit, because it can be quite bright in there and it affects the TV screen."



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Steve Sarens of Glastar Sunrooms says that this sunroom project was something of a 'blank canvas.' Unlike newer homes that present features like jut-outs and jogs, this couple's house didn't present any structural anomalies to work around, making the job very straightforward. "It was just a matter of matching up the roof lines, so we would follow the same slope of the house roof. Relating to design, we went past the corner of the house line so they actually have a four-directional view, just enough to get a little peek onto the front street."

Since their sunroom was built in October of 2008, Kim and Robert will have full use of the newly-minted space this year. Looking back to the actual construction, Robert comments that he was very impressed with the relative ease of erecting the structure. "There was no major upheaval; the job was done in just 4 days with a high degree of professionalism from the Glastar Sunroom crew."

"All of our expectations have been fulfilled and we can honestly say we're looking forward to spending more of our time in the fresh air and we won't be affected by the mosquitoes once they finally make their appearance. We're set for a great summer!"

