

# BATC Fall Award Winners

BATC 2013 Associate of the Year:

## Lyman Lumber Co.

Little did Albert Lyman realize when he launched his small Excelsior lumberyard in 1897 that the company would still be going strong 116 years later. And going strong it is. Even after a short-lived Chapter 11 during the worst of the downturn, the firm restructured and rescaled, and has come back stronger than ever. Lyman's core operations consist of full-service lumberyards located in Chanhassen and Eau Claire, carpentry services offered through its Carpentry Contractors division, and engineered components sold through Automated Building Components (ABC).

"Our customers are the lifeblood of our company," says John Zirbes, Lyman Lumber branch manager. "The loyalty shown by our customers has been incredible, and the vote of confidence they put in our company has been inspiring."



Mary Jo and John Zirbes

Which is exactly why Lyman Lumber Co. deserves to be our Associate of the Year.

BATC 2013 Builder of the Year:

## John Kraemer & Sons

Our 2013 Builder of the Year is no stranger to this, our most coveted builder award. This fall John Kraemer & Sons walked off with the gold (or should we say the trophy that's almost as heavy as gold) for the third time. They first earned the honor in 1999 when it was still the HAP (Homebuilders and Associates in Partnership) Award. They won again in 2009 after coming in as one of three runners up in 2008. And now they are three-time winners (and ineligible again until 2017).

Why are they always winning?

According to Gary Kraemer and sons, John and Jeff, it's because they continue to live by the business philosophy that Gary and his late dad, John, started the company with in 1978. Which is staying personally involved with every project. They continue to employ their own project managers, job



Gary, John and Jeff Kraemer

superintendents and finish carpenters, and promise superior craftsmanship, attention to detail, and an intense focus on customer satisfaction. For 35 years, John Kraemer & Sons has been building new homes and remodeling existing homes for a wide variety of satisfied clients, and promising excellence. It's clear that they are succeeding.