



Nighttime is a great time to admire the Lobner's 180-degree view of San Diego Bay and the art glass pendant lights they bought in Italy. "When we were in Venice, we went over to Murano and somehow got talked into buying these ... turns out they're perfect," Pete Lobner said.

## Point Loma

CONTINUED FROM 23

thing just fell into place."

The team updated the couple with emails and digital photos throughout, and the couple visited four times during construction, including a "test run" of the home in May 2008, two months before it was finished and they moved in.

Their only shock came when they saw the demolition photos, which showed the old 2,170-square-foot home with front and side exterior walls stripped to the studs and the back exterior walls gone. Because they had concentrated on the completed design plans, not the one-page demo plan, their reaction was, "Oh, what did we do?" Pete joked.

The biggest design mystery was the elevator placement, Pete said. "The elevator was key to the design. This being a multilevel house and likely to



The main hallway doubles as a gallery space for the Lobner's growing art collection. Guests can head to the deck and family room on the third floor by the floating stairs. TONY GARCIA PHOTOS

be the last house we're ever going to buy or live in, we didn't want a health problem to move us out."

Garcia describes the elevator in the

center of the home as its spine, going from the bottom floor (which houses the original garage and new storage/utility rooms) to the main living space

on the reconfigured second floor and to the top-floor addition with an office, bathroom, kitchenette and family room.

The central-elevator placement also helped Garcia achieve one of the Lobners' design goals. "One of the things we talked about at the onset was not having large open spaces but having (separate) areas, giving (the home) intimacy."

This design ethos is especially evident on the main floor. Open the front door, and to left is the kitchen, with an island of verde tropical granite and a breakfast bar with a big bay view. To the right is the Asian-inspired dining room and small living room. Ahead is the "gallery," an ample hallway to display a growing collection of art from the couple's world travels.

The master suite is at the back of the house. Next to the master suite is a flexible sitting area that can sleep guests and houses the laundry area

SEE POINT LOMA • 25