



# ABOVE & BEYOND

THE BERRY GROUP

By: David Price  
Photography: Accent Photography



You might say Ken Berry has sawdust in his veins. Both of Berry's parents were licensed builders, an unusual combination in the small town of Lexington, S.C., where he grew up just outside of Columbia. So naturally Berry went into the construction business, earning a degree in civil engineering from Clemson University.

He began his career as a professional engineer working mostly on large-scale projects such as hospitals. Some of these projects, including research labs and educational buildings, he built for his alma mater, Clemson.



But iron and concrete construction did not have the same allure as building with wood and stone, so Berry formed his own company to build upscale homes in some of the most beautiful locations in the U.S.—the piedmont and upstate area of South Carolina.

“My first love is custom residential,” Berry said. “I take great pride in performing high quality work and bringing the visions of the client and architects to reality.”

The Berry Group LLC, is located in Six Mile, S.C., population 553, about 12 miles north of Clemson, where Berry lives with his wife, Durema, and four children. “We love this area and are proud to be raising our family here,” he said.

In just a few years, the Berry



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innovative problem solving, and high customer satisfaction.

“To make each project a success, I have hand picked and assembled a team of highly qualified managers and craftsmen,” Berry said. “All of my staff have an excellent work ethic and are dedicated to delivering the highest quality workmanship to my clients. I am committed doing all that is necessary to make their work environment a positive one. This insures my team will be strong today and for many years to come.”

The Berry Group is one of very few builders that employ their own

In October, 2009, The Reserve at Lake Keowee announced a new Builder Showcase Program, a partnership with eight selected builders to offer some 20 new home plans available in the Lake Keowee area exclusively at The Reserve.

Berry said he “collaborated with several quality architects to ensure that the homes would be well designed and well-built. We are excited to make the home building process easier so that a client only has to pick out minor details and then can begin to enjoy the building process. The Reserve has been great for our company. We have a strong



Group became known as one of the premier builders of fine homes in the state, and they have the awards to prove it. Berry took home the 2007 and 2008 first-place Pinnacle Awards, presented by the South Carolina Home Builders Association, for homes in the \$2 million to \$5 million range. Both award-winning homes were built at The Reserve at Lake Keowee, home to some of the most breathtaking homes in the region.

The Pinnacle Awards don't just recognize good looks. They were created by the Association to honor builders who have achieved the highest standard of craftsmanship,



they design and the professional way they do business.”

“We develop a lasting relationship with the architect and the client that extends far after the home is complete,” Berry said. “We love our collaborative team approach of working with the client and architect/designer to create someone's dream home. We encourage potential clients to talk to our previous clients about our work,” he said. “They are our best advertising.”

A portfolio of projects by The Berry Group can be seen on their website: [www.theberrygroupllc.com](http://www.theberrygroupllc.com)



crew of carpenters, allowing them work together year after year as a well-oiled machine. “Having a staff of skilled carpenters allows our company to better control the quality that is our trademark and provide it at a competitive price,” Berry says.

With 15 people now in the Berry Group, the company builds homes typically in the \$1 million to \$4 million range. They take on five to seven projects a year, ensuring that they can maintain a personal, hands-on approach necessary to ensure top quality from start to finish.

connection to The Reserve and look forward to continuing the partnership with this new program.”

Working with nationally known architects is nothing new for Berry, who has a longtime working relationship with noted Atlanta architect Keith Summerour. Together they have completed several homes in the area. “They are one of the country's and the Southeast's premier architects for luxury homes,” Berry said. “Summerour Associates never fails to amaze us with the quality homes

