

The Newsletter for Earth Friendly Living
WARMSTONE

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A CURRENT TREND:

Introducing **RAIS**[®] ART OF FIRE

WarmStone is pleased to announce that we are now a new dealer for the RAIS line of wood burning stoves and fireplace tools. The RAIS units are uniquely designed with a flair for the modern. Most of the RAIS stoves have a sleek metallic finish, while others have a combination of soapstone and metal. The RAIS 'PINA' model swivels offering greater flexibility for fire viewing. The Gabo Gas II stove is a gas burning unit which is a great addition to our line.

RAIS is a worldwide company based out of Denmark. They introduced their first wood burning stove in the 1970's when the oil crisis hit Denmark. "The Original" RAIS 1, for its day, was an entirely new, ground-breaking design. It had 3 compartments: one at the bottom for wood storage, the firebox in the middle, and a small oven for baking on the top. The design proved to be both pioneering and trendsetting, and became the benchmark for stove design for many years to come.

The RAIS factory, in Frederikshavn, Denmark, has the capacity to produce 20,000 stoves a year, with a range of more than 20 products, largely due to the investment in high tech production equipment including industrial robots and CNC controlled machines.

At RAIS, the vision is to breathe new life into the concept of wood burning stoves by combining aesthetic design with functionality and cutting-edge technology. RAIS builds their stoves out of 8mm, naval grade Swedish steel, rather than

cast iron, as it is lighter and more malleable than iron. Because steel can be cold bent and stamped, stoves can be designed with cleaner lines, thereby adding a new dimension to their styling. Craftsmanship, care and quality are key concepts in the manufacturing of these stoves. RAIS strives constantly to improve their stoves so that they live up to ever-increasing expectations for improved combustion and better use of the heat source. RAIS, stoves have a reputation for their:

- Cool handles
- Specially shaped panes to provide better fire-viewing
- 5 year guarantee
- EPA approved

We have several of their units on our showroom floor, one of which is set up for burning. Stop in and take a look! *Ws*



BAKING DEMOS

**Dec 5th
& Jan 16th**

Enjoy warmth, great food
and Holiday Cheer!

PLEASE RSVP

CUSTOMER FOCUS

Lounsbury Home Reflects Warmth and History

The blustery, snow-squally mid-October day was, in a word, cold. High, wind-driven clouds hugged the peaks of the mountains that surrounded Montana's Madison Valley, dropping promised snow on their shoulders. I drove through sagebrush country, ranchlands that were still raising cows and adjacent lands that had given way to smaller-acreage residences.

When I arrived at the John and Lois Lounsbury residence near the foothills of the Tobacco Root Mountains, the two-seater swing was rocking back and forth in the wind. Soft snow drifts curled around yard objects.

On my drive along North Meadow Creek west of McAllister, I thought about the meaning of "home" and how a home reflects the personalities and histories of the people who live there. I've always enjoyed experiencing the myriad of ways that people create comfort and a sense of home.

When I walked in the front door, the Tulikivi was center stage, flames flickering through the stove's glass door. It defined, as well as blended, with the things that made their house a "home." It was an inviting oasis of warmth.

I've known John and Lois since 1991, first meeting him in his office in Yellowstone National Park's historic Lake Ranger Station. History surrounded him then, as it does



John Lounsbury enjoying the radiant heat

today. John has long been a history buff, so I knew their home would reflect that passion.

The Lounsbury home did not disappoint. It is a lovely blend of old and new—giving a nod to both of their families. The living room floor gleamed and caught my eye. It had a story. Harvested from Lois's grandfather's farm in northern Wisconsin, the narrow, old-growth hardwood planks had been stacked in a shed since 1947. Dark, hand-adzed maple beams spanned the full height and breadth of the wall between living room and kitchen. They, too, had a story, and were lovingly salvaged from a barn that his great-grandfather built in John's home state of Michigan.

The Lounsbury's first exposure to masonry fireplaces happened during a Scandinavian vacation in the fall of 1988. They discovered stunning masonry fireplaces in both Norway and Sweden—countries where Lois still has family. There, a homeowner had torn down an old house, and built a new house around the old house's beloved soapstone fireplace. While people's housing needs change over time, the masonry fireplace never goes out of style. It's functional art that is timeless. And a legacy worth saving.

According to John, "We planned the living room around the Tulikivi like they did in Norway." Warmstone Fireplaces & Designs installed the Tulikivi TTU2700 fireplace in 2004; two years later the Lounsbury's moved in. It has its own nook at the edge of the open living area, designed with a peaked ceiling that showcases both fireplace and mountain views beyond. When nestled into the warmth of the Lounsbury living room, Ward Peak—and a handful of other 10,000'

Lounsbury TTU 2700





RECOVERY.gov

Tulikivi Fireplaces qualify for the Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and up to **\$1,500 in tax credits.**

summits—are the Tulikivi's backdrop. Both mountain range and stove are rock solid, but on that October afternoon early winter raged unmercifully up and down the mountain, while the soapstone fireplace was the epitome of comfort, warmth, and the sense of home.

Continued on back page

Alternative Energy Revolving Loan Plan

The Alternative Energy Revolving Loan Program, by the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, was established to provide a financing option to Montanans to install alternative energy systems for their own use. Qualifying systems may be financed along with an alternative energy project. Tulikivi masonry heaters do qualify under this plan.

Loans can be made up to a maximum of \$40,000 (subject to available funds) and must be repaid within five to ten years. Interest rates are fixed for the term of the loan. These loans are available for 2009 and 2010 and are for existing homes only. The rate for 2009 is 3.5%. The DEQ will accept and process loan applications. If funds are available, loans can usually be processed in approximately 3 weeks.

In addition, MT state income tax credits of up to \$500 per individual taxpayer, are available to residents who invest in renewable energy and energy conservation measures installed in their homes or businesses. New or existing homes in Montana qualify for this tax credit. **Ws**

RAIS Fireplace Tools

RAIS offers two great fireplace tool sets. Measuring only 22" in height, and between 6 and 9 inches in width, the sets are compact thereby taking up a minimum of hearth space. The tools themselves measure a mere 19" in length making them the perfect size for the RAIS or TULIKIVI stoves. The sets cost \$200 each and include a brush, poker and shovel. **Ws**



NATIONAL FIREPLACE INSTITUTE®

WOOD BURNING SPECIALIST

NFI Certification

We are pleased to announce that Ron and Jerry are now NFI Certified Wood Burning Specialists!

The National Fireplace Institute, an independent non-profit certification agency, has created the standard for certification in the hearth industry. Only those who pass a rigorous examination covering the fundamentals of proper installation receive NFI Specialist Certification. Ron and Jerry put in many hours studying, attended an 8 hour seminar, then sat for the 4 hour exam. Topics covered included: planning and installing fireplace and stove venting systems; proper floor protection; appliance sizing and placement; and, venting system compatibility and height.

NFI Certification is an excellent indication of our commitment to professionalism and training. NFI is fast becoming the standard of choice for a growing number of states and municipalities as the premier requirement for hearth installations. **Ws**

Tulikivi Bakeoven Recipes

Mushroom Pillows

- 1 shallot, finely diced
- 1 garlic clove, finely diced
- 1 T olive oil
- ½ lb. mushrooms (I used 1 portobello and ¼ lb each of shitake and crimini)
- ¼ tsp oregano
- ¼ tsp basil
- salt & pepper to taste
- 1 pkg Boursin cheese
- 1 pkg crescent rolls
- 1 egg, beaten

Saute shallot and garlic in olive oil until softened. Add basil, oregano, salt, pepper and mushrooms. Saute 8-10 minutes. Turn off heat and add Boursin cheese. Mix until combined, and then cool slightly.

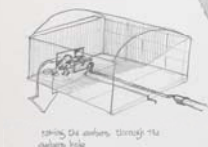
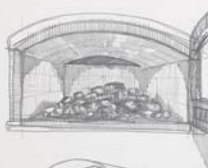
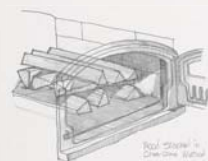
Unroll crescent dough and pinch together triangle perforations. Cut big squares into 2" squares. Place 1 tsp. mushroom mixture onto each square. Fold dough over to resemble a pillow, and press together the three edges.

Place pillows on crack-proof baking dish and brush with beaten egg. Bake in Tulikivi until browned.

Getting Your Bakeoven Ready for Cooking

It takes two to three hours to get the bakeoven to the ideal temperature

1. Fire your Tulikivi early in the day if the stove is cold; then do a double or triple firing directly in the bakeoven
2. If a fire was built the night before simply build the fires directly in the bakeoven
3. When the final firing has burned down, push the remaining ashes and coals down the ash chute with the coal rake
4. Brush the remaining ash down the chute with a horsehair brush (do not use synthetic as it will melt) or wrap a dishtowel over the end of your coal rake or broom handle and use as a "mop"
5. Let the oven "soak" for 30-45 minutes before proceeding
6. Use an oven thermometer or test the oven floor with a sprinkle of cornmeal. If it blackens quickly the oven is too hot and needs to soak longer
7. Once your bakeoven is ready for baking or roasting it will retain proper baking temperatures for hours
8. The temperature is not always critical for baking or cooking because of the even heat



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Single Block Soapstone Sinks

Sinks carved out of a single piece of soapstone are now available. These hand carved sinks are beautiful in that they have no seams. The interior corners are curved and they not only drain easily, but are very easy to clean. Current sizes available are 27" single sinks as well as 33" and 36" double sinks. **Ws**

Lounsbury cont.

In 1999, anticipating John's retirement, the Lounsburies purchased land near McCallister, Montana. John treasured his time on horseback in the park's backcountry during his career, and enjoyed quiet, beautiful, remote landscapes. The twenty-acre tract along North Meadow Creek, cradled between the Tobacco Root Mountains and the small Revenue Range, with the more distant Madison Range across the valley, matched their needs. It had spectacular views in relative isolation and was horse friendly. They built a shop with an apartment above in 2001, and moved into their temporary home after John's retirement from the National Park Service the next year. When he retired, he had served as a Yellowstone District Ranger for twenty-two years.

Another bonus to owning a piece of Montana is the wildlife that can be viewed from their property. Moose and deer wander the maze of willows flanking the creek bottom. Red-tailed hawks and eagles soar above. One spring, John and Lois had the pleasure of watching four baby red-tailed hawks outgrow their nest across the creek and learn how to fly.

Beyond ore extraction beginning in the 1860s, the land around the Lounsbury home has long supported ranching. According to John, Green Acre Ranch owners began raising cattle and large work horses in the 1890s. Some of the horses were sold to stagecoach companies who brought wealthy tourists into Yellowstone National Park. Today's cattle ranch is still called the Green Acre Ranch.

I asked John what he liked best about their Tulikivi stove. He said, "I like watching the fire, and knowing it's efficient at the same time." He added that the fireplace "pretty much heats the whole house. We have radiant floor heat but usually turn it off. It's been a joy."

Most of John's chores have to do with firewood. He gathers firewood from the nearby Beaverhead National Forest. For John, the pleasures of owning a Tulikivi far outweigh the tasks. It's a comfort worth striving for.

He especially enjoys the fireplace when the weather's cold, and cited the soft, even heat. In winter, John has a routine. He builds a fire in the morning, reads a book over two cups of coffee and listens to music. The Tulikivi is central to that ritual. **Ws**

Karen Reinhart works full time for the Jackson Hole Historical Society & Museum, alternating weeks between Jackson, WY and Gardiner, MT where her three children attend school. She also does freelance work; her most recent book is Yellowstone's Rebirth by Fire, chronicling the park's fire history.