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# Hearthwarming News

A Newsletter from the Masonry Heater Store  
By Fountainhead Natural Homes, LLC

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Winter  
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## New Designs From Tulikivi

Tulikivi is the world's single largest producer of heat-retaining fireplaces. Tulikivi has created more than 200,000 fireplaces and is gearing up for 2007 by introducing a whole new line of masonry heaters for an ever growing list of interested people. Of course, all the dependable favorites like the TTU2700 that heats the Masonry Heater Store are still available.

The idea behind the design of Tulikivi's new soapstone fireplaces is to combine fire and stone in a way never seen before. Modern design, unique energy efficiency, facility of use, and environmental friendliness have been combined to produce fireplaces that represent a completely new generation.

The clear-cut fireplaces were given large doors that sit beautifully with the new stone size. New doors include a square-shaped door and a tall vertical door as well as a large horizontal door which is a novelty in heat-retaining fireplaces. Fireplaces with horizontal doors have a completely horizontal design. Soot doors have been placed out of

sight, which in turn gives the fireplaces a more harmonious look.

Stylish benches and shelves with a modular design as well as other accessories can be added to the new models. Customers can personalize the composition of their fireplace, and accessories can be varied, replaced or added later. This means the fireplace can be made to match the interior of the house and suit its user's lifestyle for years on end.

The new-generation models are easy to use. The control system for combustion air in the new Tulikivi whirlbox has been designed to burn wood more cleanly, keeping emissions at a minimum and the glass panels in the fireplace door clean. Daily use of the new fireplaces is easy, thanks to the elegant service hatch and the ample ash box. The door handle has been placed so that it does not heat.

The new double-shell construction of the fireplaces guarantees a prolonged heat-release time, making the new models particularly well-suited for low-energy houses, since they store heat for a long time and release it slowly.

Come to the Masonry Heater Store and you can get a copy of the new 2007-08 Tulikivi catalog outlining the new product line. For a limited time, if you come in and mention this article, it will be our pleasure to give you a free soapstone candle holder/coffee warmer. Supplies are limited so don't hesitate! Come soon to see what new is shakin' on the masonry heater scene!

The Masonry Heater Store is located at 7416 Airport Highway, Holland, Ohio. It is 2 miles west of exit 8 off I-475/23 and 5 miles east of Ohio Turnpike exit 52. Please e-mail [Tulikivi@masonryheaterstore.com](mailto:Tulikivi@masonryheaterstore.com) or call 419-825-3031 for more detailed directions. **Open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturdays only or by chance or appointment. Closed 2-17-07.**

## Stone Oven Madness!

We are hearing from more and more people that they are spending more time in their kitchens. Both men and women are enjoying cooking and baking like never before.

Because of this, couples and families are more willing than ever to put their money where their mouths are. Kitchen remodeling and amenities for the kitchen are taking center stage in construction projects. Builders and remodelors alike are advising homeowners to invest in the kitchen to get the most bang for the buck and the most potential for high resale values.

Indeed, it makes perfect sense to concentrate your construction dollars in the areas of the home in which you expect to spend the most time. If cooking, baking, entertaining, and eating are high on your family's list of things to do, then outfit your kitchen with the best!

So consider the best appliances, solid wood cabinets, and real stone countertops. But above all, plan for a real stone oven. Tulikivi bakeoven/fireplace combinations are the perfect baking appliance, and here's why:

Baking in a stone oven is an experience unmatched by other methods of baking. A high mass hot oven cooks food in three distinct ways.

1. Convection heat - This is the way your conventional oven cooks, with hot air that circulates around inside the oven chamber.
2. Radiant Heat - The hot stones of the oven persistently radiate heat toward the food.
3. Conductive Heat – Food resting on the hot oven floor gets cooked with heat transferred directly from those hearth stones.

A brick oven is most notably superior for baking pizza, bread, and pastries. Imagine for a moment the crisp crust of a succulent pizza baked in just a few minutes on the hot hearth stones of a Tulikivi oven.

There is an indescribable luxurious and

mouth-watering taste to pizza baked in a true wood-fueled and wood-fired bakeoven. The crust is crisp and chewy and the toppings are sizzling hot.

Some visitors to the Masonry Heater Store think the stone oven looks small. But what they are noticing is that it simply is not tall. A real stone oven that is meant to be functional and produce high quality breads and pizzas must have a relatively low ceiling. Otherwise, the conductive heat from the floor of the oven cooks the bottom of a pizza before the top gets cooked properly.

If you have ever seen a real commercial bread oven, you will notice that same low ceiling. It's an important aspect of a real stone oven and is one of the primary reasons a stone oven produces such great results.

The reality is that the oven of our showroom model, the TTU2700/5, has a floor area that is 16 ½" X 17". This is the perfect size for a large pizza or 3 – 4 loaves of sandwich bread.

But the more important fact is that a heat-retaining stone oven stays hot enough for cooking for hours. So having a pizza party is fantastic because custom made pizzas can be assembled and shoveled into the oven, baked one after the other in a matter of minutes.

The bonus aspect of a Tulikivi bakeoven or fireplace/bakeoven combination is that it also radiates gentle heat into your living areas. Your family and friends can bask in the pleasant warmth of the Tulikivi while simultaneously sampling delicious, freshly baked, homemade delicacies!

Come to the Masonry Heater Store and you just might find us baking homemade sourdough bread or pizza in the hot oven of the Tulikivi. Better yet, let's talk about finding the best bakeoven for your kitchen, great room, and dining areas so you can start baking your own superior taste treats.

### Did You Know?

It has been a mild winter so far in Ohio and our fuel consumption is extremely low. We have heated the Masonry Heater Store with about 1/3 of a cord of wood costing of about \$50!

## Healthy Hearth

There is continuous debate around the world about the significance and substance behind the issue of global warming. And although most scientists around the world who study climate agree that global warming is occurring, I am not going to enter that debate here.

Rather, it is wise to look at the overall bigger picture. I can remember as a grade-school student learning about various kinds of pollution. We looked at everything from noise pollution (loud, disturbing sounds) to visual pollution (too many, or obnoxious blinking signs, etc.) to the more common air pollution and litter.

Pollution of any kind is a disturbance to most healthy people. Really, who wants to walk down a sidewalk and see trash lying around everywhere? Who would enjoy loud boisterous music when she is wanting a quiet stroll in the park? And who would think the smell and appearance of smog is one of the benefits of living in a big city?



A disturbance like excess noise or smog doesn't have to cause a specific illness in order to be unhealthy. The mere fact that it is a disturbance makes it unhealthy for a given individual. Indeed, loud, blasting music might be a pure pleasure for the one who turned on the radio, but it could raise the blood pressure of someone who was looking forward to a quiet day or who just doesn't like that kind of music.

Of course, it can again become debatable as to just how harmful blinking lights or loud noises can be. But there is

pretty uniform acceptance that air pollution is a threat to everyone's health. Recent elections resulted in widespread prohibitions on smoking in public places all over Ohio. It doesn't take a scientist to realize that breathing all kinds of chemicals and particles not normally part of the natural atmosphere is going to have unhealthy results.

Regardless of your overall feelings about the various kinds of pollution and their impact on health and well-being, you should be aware that a masonry heater is one of the lowest impact ways of heating in the world when it comes to any kind of pollution.

Consider sound. A masonry heater burns for a few hours a day at a time of your choosing. The resulting "noise" is the crackling of a real wood fire. There are no motors, fans, or blowers vibrating and running on and off all day long.

Consider the materials. A soapstone heater is just that – thousands of pounds of soapstone, an all-natural stone simply cut to the right shapes to make a heater. This means waste is an all-natural bunch of minerals. It also means that the product has low embodied energy – the amount of energy needed to produce the stove.

Consider air pollution and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Masonry heaters are the cleanest-burning woodburners in the world, burning its fuel at combustion efficiency approaching 100%. This means that the exhaust of a masonry heater is mainly CO<sub>2</sub> and water. What's more, the quantity of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted is no more than what results from wood rotting in the forest.

In short, masonry heaters are low-impact ways of heating that don't depend on foreign oil or expensive electricity. Masonry heaters are an intelligent choice for a cleaner, healthier, energy independent America.

-Ken Matesz

**Note: The Masonry Heater Store will be closed on February 17, 2007 but you can find us at the Toledo Home Show that day! Call us for details.**