

# Designer Profile

HDA, Inc. is committed to making your home building journey an easy one. To assist in the process, we compiled questions to ask nationally renowned designers and architects who have designed homes featured in this magazine. This issue we feature our cover home designer, Michael E. Nelson, President of *Nelson Design Group, LLC*.

Michael E. Nelson has more than 25 years of experience in the home design and home building industry and has been selling and designing homes for the national market since 1995. He is a certified member of AIBD (American Institute of Building Design) and has been the recipient of many national design awards from Hanley Wood and AIBD.



Michael E. Nelson

**DA: What does the word “home” mean to you?**

MN: Home to me is a family retreat; a safe haven and secure environment.

**DA: What new concepts in home design are you seeing right now?**

MN: Beyond the demand for green building, open floor plans of many different styles of homes from European to Rustic. All with amenities that foster family interaction. These include everything from home theaters/media rooms to flex space as well as gathering areas such as hearth rooms, grilling porches and outdoor living spaces.

**DA: What is the most important thing for a pre-drawn home plan buyer to know?**

MN: Trust that the designer has taken every effort to create and provide the best possible design for the specific plan they chose.

**DA: What is the most common mistake home plan buyers make?**

MN: The most common mistake we see is home owners looking to build a new home want to translate their entire budget into square footage. They should first establish their priorities. What is important to them? Energy efficiency? Once they decide where certain dollars will be spent, they can then determine what square footage makes the most sense.



*Nelson Design Group, LLC designed the beautiful home plan featured on our front cover. To see more of this home design, please see page 45, or visit [www.houseplansandmore.com](http://www.houseplansandmore.com) and search for home plan #592-055S-0036.*

**DA: What are some of the benefits of building or living in a one-story home?**

MN: One story plans offer not only safety but ease of space and function. Ease meaning never having to climb a set of stairs to primary rooms while enjoying one level of open floor plans with spacious living areas which give an illusion of more square footage.

**DA: What can we expect from Nelson Design Group in the future?**

MN: NDG has over 25 different styles of home plans to choose from. In the near future our product lines will be expanded based on an ever changing market to include plans with a more conservative foot print featuring amenities offered by today's leading manufacturers.

**DA: Anything else you like us, and consumers to know?**

MN: Just know with an NDG plan, great care has been taken to create a functional design with style and smart amenities that help promote and enhance family interaction; a standard goal NDG seeks first when creating new designs.