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Man-Cave Moments

TV network builds WSJ guy his special space.

MARCH 8, 2011, 5:28 PM ET

I Have a Man Cave

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By Robert Passarella

It has taken me a while to digest the whole Man-Cave experience. Now that the project is complete and I've had a chance to decompress, I can now tell the whole story.

Being a part of a television show that films a week of your life while building the ultimate guy hangout is pretty cool. The non-linear nature of shooting gets a little wacky, especially when you are filming the opening of the show on the last day of shooting. My Doc Brown, Marty McFly senses where tingling in my own personal "Back to the Future" saga sans the [flux capacitor](#).

I can't show pictures of the cave until the show airs. Which is a shame, because it is amazing. I'll do my best radio description for you and try to paint a picture in words. The cave is a mix of leather, stone and wood. The floors have deep rich hues of browns and slight reds and, even though they are new, they have an old world feel thanks to their handscraped texture.

The stone on both the entry arch and wall are killer. They gray color of the stone wall is contrasted by small flecks of copper and red. The highlights of the room are the three [hidden televisions](#). Each TV is placed behind special mirrored glass which hides the TV when the power is off. The one behind the custom bar is the coolest thing I have ever seen. And of course the bar has a kegerator.

Lastly, the wine room is the crown jewel of the cave. It is glass enclosed and houses custom riddling style racks that I made with host Jason Cameron. They are one of a kind, and the labor was crazy. We drilled over 234 holes to make three racks. You'll never see them again in Man Caves, or so Jason says.

So what did I think of Tony Siragusa and Jason Cameron? I liked them both. Tony is just what you would expect, a larger than life (and most people) figure. He was great with my family and friends. I didn't spend a lot of time with Siragusa, so I can't give you the full picture.

Host Jason Cameron, on the other hand, is aces. I spent most of the three days on the shoot with Jason working in the garage. If Tony is the marquee player of the show, Jason is its soul. He actually does work in building the Man Cave — a lot of it. The best part of working with him is that he taught me so much in a short span. I now feel confident doing household repairs. My wife and I thank you, buddy.



The wine racks while they were being constructed in my garage.

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About Man-Cave Moments

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Robert Passarella documents his experience as the DIY network builds him a man cave.



http://blogs.wsj.com/mancave/2011/03/08/i-have-a-man-cave/[4/4/2011 2:11:21 PM]

So my project is nearing its end as I close out last-minute additions. As my cave is ending another one is beginning. Just down the road from me, a lovely young couple is getting a Man Cave built out of an old bomb shelter in their basement. The theme is called "Spy Cave." Last night, I dropped by to say hello and see what the crew was up to.

UPDATE: Here's a souvenir shirt I've created. This is a screen shot. They should be coming in within the next week.



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Setting the Stage for Siragusa

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3:12 pm March 29, 2011

Tom wrote:

I have a man cave too; it's called the bathroom.

9:06 am March 22, 2011

Rich S wrote:

Cool cave, Rob. Enjoy – I am envious! You better restock that Noble Pils – soon it will be all gone till next year!

3:15 pm March 17, 2011

cb wrote:

Great stuff. When does it air?

Hope Tony also built you that all-important hiding spot for man-food, etc.. .items that no one else is able to find. That's equally as vital. Wait.. don't answer that.

And what's gonna be the very first man-flick shown?? Gotta run a contest!

5:38 pm March 10, 2011

Mike wrote:

So when is this going to be on TV? No news on the Man Caves Site.

12:14 pm March 10, 2011

Mike Currier wrote:

Awesome write up! I had a blast helping with this project, happy to hear you love the TV's (how could you not!)

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