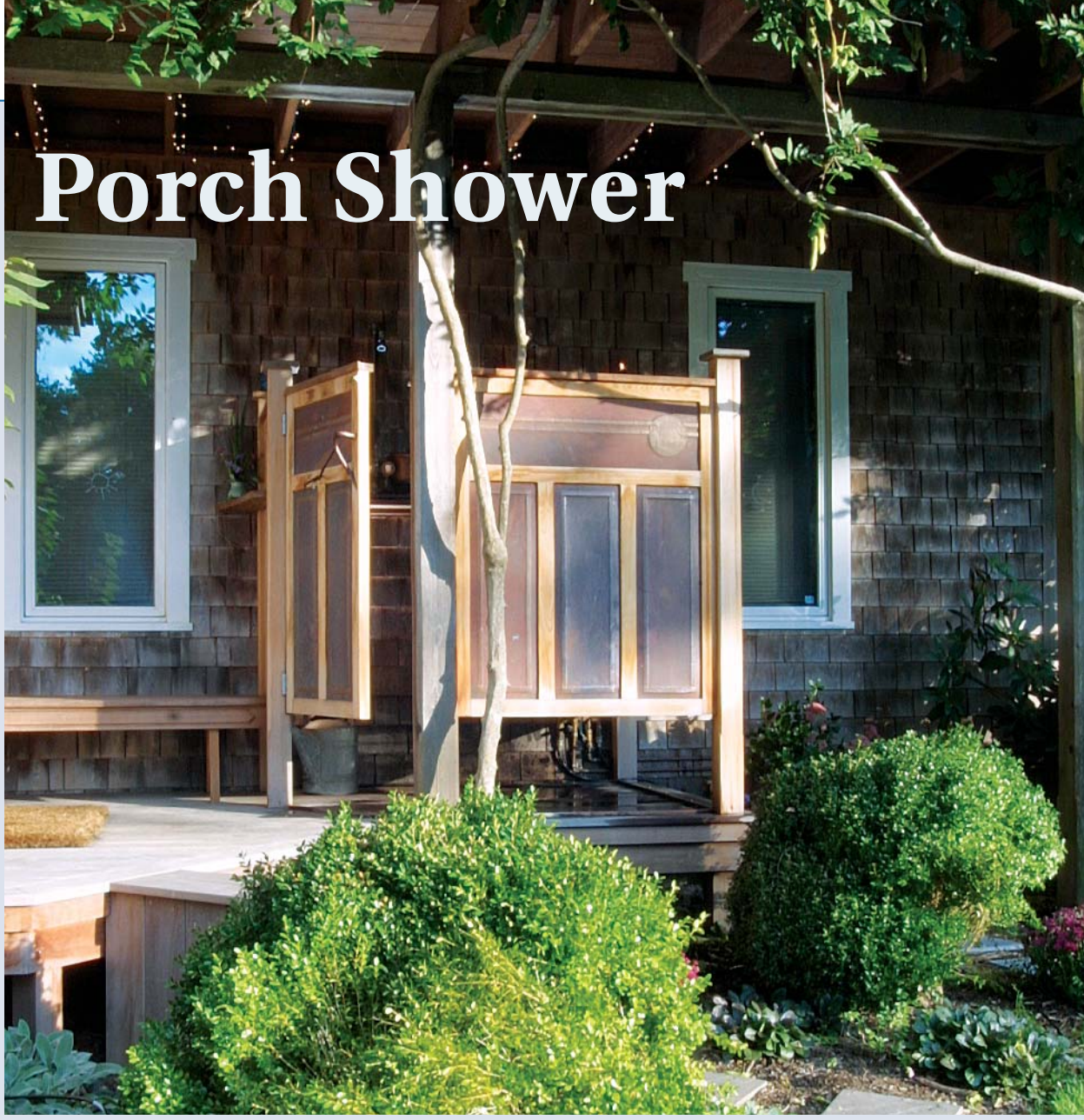
Back Porch Shower

A private alcove for the joy of outdoor bathing

BY RON CASCIO



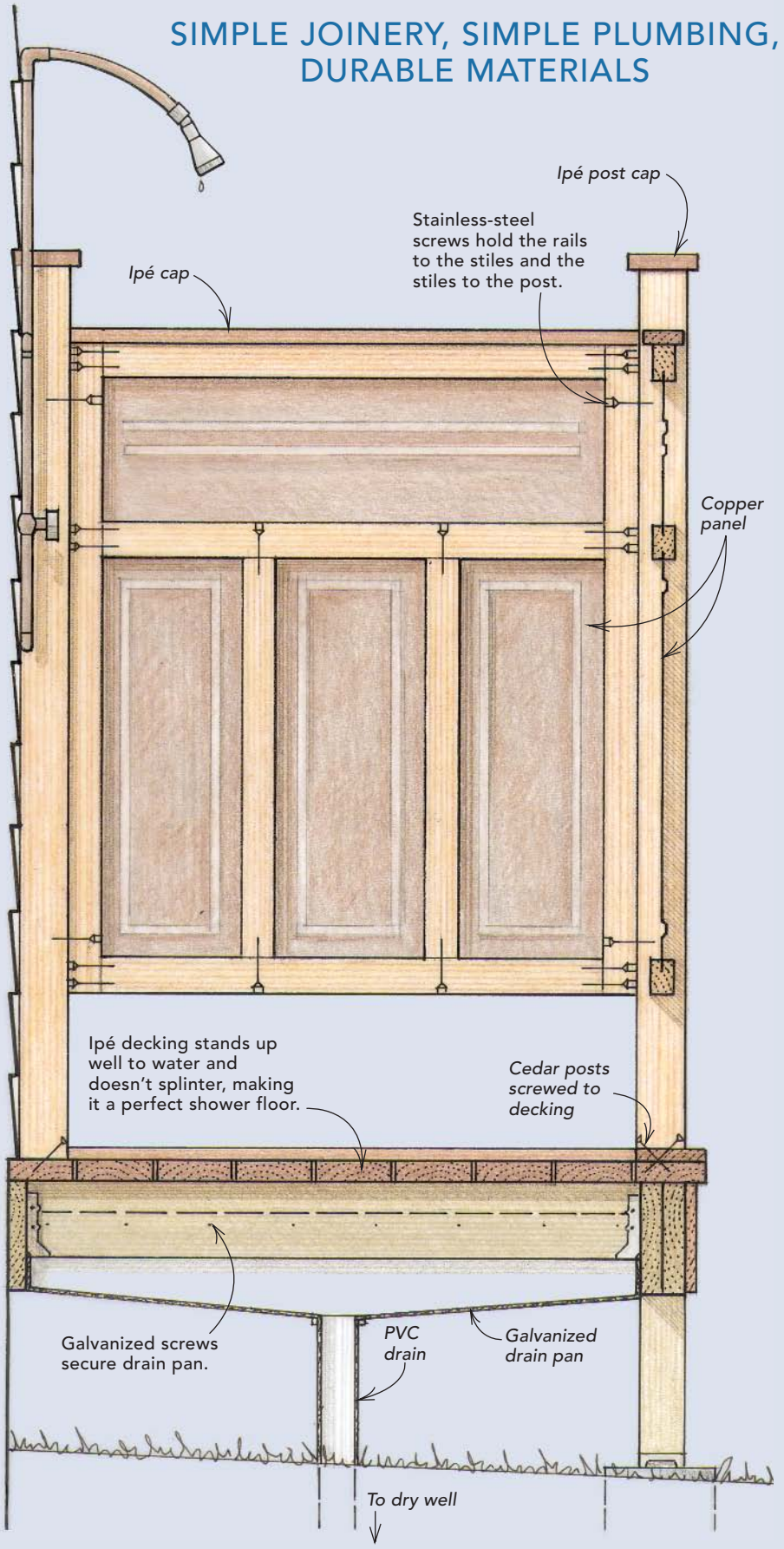


Having spent the latter part of my youth in a small beach town and my adult life traveling to tropical hideaways, I've learned the simple pleasures of an outdoor shower. For the past 20 years, I've had an outdoor shower at each of my homes, and I try to include one with every house I build. Often, they become the most-enjoyed feature of the house.

I recently designed and built an outdoor shower for a good friend, Mary Gunion, who also grew up with one. Mary's flair for design made the process a natural one. □

Ron Cascio is a designer/builder in Berlin, Md. Photos by Andy Engel.

SIMPLE JOINERY, SIMPLE PLUMBING, DURABLE MATERIALS

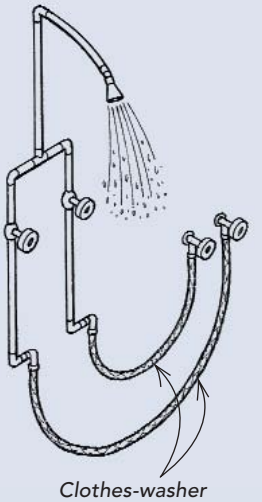




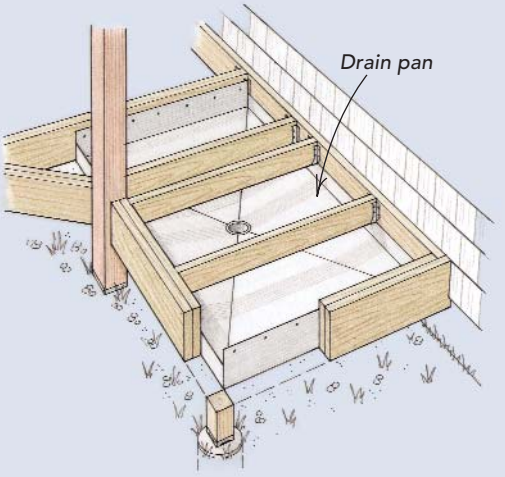
Simple joinery, yet elegant joints. *The ipé cap of the shower doors embraces a cedar post. Saw kerfs in the cedar frame hold the copper panels in place.*

Seasonal plumbing

Both hot and cold water come from frostproof hose bibs and are connected to the shower's copper plumbing by clothes-washer hoses. With the connection at the lowest end, draining the system for winter is a matter of turning off the hose bibs and then disconnecting the hoses.



Catching the wastewater. *Custom-made at a local sheet-metal fabricator for around $200, this drain pan hangs from the joists directly under the shower area of the deck. A 4-in. drain heads to a dry well in the woods.*



Drawings: Vince Babak