

Congratulations to Lisa Newsom for her Lifetime Achievement Award! Longtime Atlantan Lisa Newsom's great contribution to the magazine world is that she showed everybody that there was fine interior design in the South, first with Southern Accents in 1977 and then with her founding of Veranda in 1987.

She enlisted Architectural Digest art director Charles Ross to join her in launching the then-quarterly. Her ideas were validated for their universal appeal in the mid-1990s when California became the state with the third-largest circulation, even though the magazine had never featured a West Coast house. The Hearst Corporation purchased Veranda in 2002, and it joined the chain's other popular titles, such as Town & Country, Harper's Bazaar, and House Beautiful.

Veranda is both a national and international magazine of gracious living. Its circulation has now reached about 500,000. In 2010, the main office shifted from Buckhead to Manhattan under a new editor, but Lisa's vision continues to inspire the magazine's editorial direction. She is also the author of the new, lavishly illustrated book "The Houses of Veranda" (May 2012). As the magazine's original editor-in-chief, Lisa embodies Veranda's beloved spirit--warm, hospitable, and gracious as well as enduringly stylish.