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http://www.usgbcnf.org

North Florida Chapter
U.S. Green Building Council

In This Issue:

Upcoming Events:

November Master Speaker Luncheon
Carbon Offsets and Greenhouse Gas Inventories.
Date: Nov. 19, 2009
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Speaker: Mark van Soetstbergen, President, International Carbon Bank Exchange (ICBE)

Green Building Tour
City of Jacksonville Animal Care & Protective Services
Date: Dec. 1, 2009
4:00 PM
2020 Forest Street
Jacksonville, FL 32204

Green Interior Design and Construction: The LEED Implementation Process
Date: December 4, 2009
8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Breakfast Program
The Green Economy: Growing the Right Way
Date: Dec. 8, 2009
7:30 – 9:00 a.m.
Southpoint Marriott

For more events & details, check out our website! www.usgbcnf.org

A Message from Our President

"One generation plants the tree, another gets the shade."

-Chinese Proverb

It is clear that the work we do today to further green building and sustainability in North Florida will have a significant impact on those who will live beyond us. Our vision of a sustainable community inspired by green building within a generation is achievable as long as we are all actively working on making a difference today.

Beyond that realization though, it is often less clear HOW we can make a difference. The American Psychological Association released a report by their Task Force on the Interface between Psychology and Global Climate Change. According to the report, there are numerous psychological barriers to environmental responsibility at play including Uncertainty, Mistrust, Denial and Undervaluing the Risks. Those barriers aside, the most common reasons why people choose inaction regarding environmental issues is Lack of Control and Habit. People believe their actions will be too small to make a difference and they have years of ingrained behaviors encouraging that thought.

Even when our friends, family and colleagues believe they should be better stewards of our environment, they believe it's too hard and too inconsequential.

As members of USGBC, we have a different perception, though. We know two things that we must share with those friends, family and colleagues: We know that it doesn't have to be that hard. We also know that there is power in numbers and that, together, we make a great impact.

Consider North Florida five years ago. How many LEED buildings did we have? Did we have a Sustainable Building Ordinance? How many vendors and suppliers were selling the environmental impact of their product? How many contractors were separating their construction debris? How many solar companies did we have? How many organizations had a corporate social responsibility program?

Our region, and specifically Jacksonville, has come a long way. Take a moment today to thank your fellow USGBC members for their commitment to green building and environmental stewardship. You've done a great job.

But, to quote one of the greats, we have miles to go before we sleep.

One of our chapter's goals this year is to increase membership by 10%, 3% of which should come from surrounding counties. To be truly successful, we must reach out to other communities to promote green building and grow the number of environmental stewards in North Florida. Do you know our chapter covers eleven surrounding counties? As we meet people from these areas, please encourage them to learn more about USGBC and find out how our chapter can support their sustainable activities. Let's use the psychological power of large groups with great ideas to overcome the barriers of Lack of Control and Habit. Reach out today to a colleague and invite them to our next event.

Plant the seed and watch it grow. Future generations will thank you for it.

Ellen Leroy-Reed, LEED® AP
President, USGBC North Florida

Recent Chapter Events

September Master Speakers Luncheon

The September Master Speakers luncheon was held at JU and featured Dr. Jonathan Todd of John Todd Ecological Design. He amazed everyone with his explanation of ecological wastewater systems for use in commercial and residential systems.

Dr. Jonathan Todd, Speaker

A delicious organic, vegetarian buffet was served.

October Master Speakers Luncheon

The October Master Speakers luncheon featured the City of Jacksonville's new Animal Care and Protective Services project which recently received LEED Gold certification. Ebeneezer Gujjarlapudi spoke on behalf of the City and the contractor and designer presented highlights of the project.

Ellen LeRoy-Reed, Ebenezer Gujjarlapudi, Tom Norman, David Mantia, Brian Franco

Ellen LeRoy-Reed, Susan Cleveland

Building Tour
Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church

The USGBCNF October Building Tour of Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church was attended by over 20 visitors interested in sustainable building. The sanctuary for Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church tragically burned down on December 23, 2007. During the process of designing and building the new sanctuary, it was decided by the rebuilding task force and pastor to pursue LEED certification.

To date, the project stands at 30 points, well above the 26 required for LEED certification. When certified, this will be one of few churches in the nation to achieve LEED certification. Some of the sustainable features are low VOC finishes, over 40% savings on water usage, 14% savings on energy usage and stormwater quantity control.

Mark Murphy of TLC Engineering led the tour.

USGBC NF Featured Committee
The Marketing, Advertising & Communications (MAC) Committee

Julie Hargrove, Sheryl Vaughn, Lauren Lue, Kim Jowers, Emily Crews Carrier, Hap Almy, Rob Riva. Not pictured: Tom Gentry, Nihal Abdulahad, Jerry Friley

By: Kim Jowers, TLC Engineering for Architecture

This committee provides expertise and resources to assist the USGBC North Florida Chapter with branding, public relations and marketing initiatives in support of the organization's goals. As with the other USGBCNF Committees, the MAC Committee is made up of volunteers. The committee is lead by Chair, Emily Crews Carrier with TLC Engineering for Architecture. The teams of the committee and their responsibilities are:

- *Tom Gentry*, TTV Architects, Website Team Leader: Website content and maintenance, program registrations and online forms
- *Hap Almy*, Wesnic, Inc., Team Leader: Community events and trade shows
- *Lauren Lue*, Newsletter Team Leader: The USGBCNF bi-monthly newsletter
- *Kim Jowers*, TLC Engineering for Architecture, Marketing Materials Team Leader: Marketing materials including flyers, annual calendar, certificates, posters and all other branding for the chapter
- *Emily Crews Carrier*: Weekly email announcements, announcements online
- *Julie Hargrove*, Sponsorship: (formerly Sponsorship Team Leader, now Sponsorship Chair)
- Additional Team Members include:
  - *Nihal Abdulahad*, Liaison to the Awards Committee
  - *Sheryl Vaughn*, Auld & White Constructors, LLC, Silent PowerPoint and Newsletter team
  - *Rob Riva*, Holland + Knight, Newsletter team
  - *Jerry Friley*, Website Team
  - *Sarah Boren*, USGBCNF Executive Director

"We have an amazing group of volunteers in this committee. I'm genuinely impressed with the amount of work they do and the initiative they take to help promote our chapter," said Carrier.

The MAC Committee touches almost every aspect of USGBCNF. Coordination between committees is the key to the Chapter's success. This year, team members worked together to successfully launch the chapter's website. This was a tremendous accomplishment and is an excellent resource for the chapter.

Read about the many other USGBCNF Committees in future newsletters and find out how you can become more involved. If you're interested in joining the MAC Committee, please contact Emily at Emily.carrier@tlc-eng.com.

Member NEWS

Green Building Case Study

A new green building case study has been released by Auld & White Constructors. It compares two nearly identical credit union branches: one is LEED Silver certified and the other conventionally built. A comparison of the operating costs of the branches is available by clicking here: www.auld-white.com, then Green Building, then Community First Credit Union.

Employment Directory

An employment directory is available on the usgbcnf.org website. If you would like to post an available position in the sustainable building industry, please email your ad to either Emily Crews Carrier at emily.carrier@tlc-eng.com or Tom Gentry at tomg@ttvarch.com.

New Arrival

Congratulations to USGBC NF member Lauren Lue, who gave birth to a beautiful baby boy on October 15. Jun Antonio weighed 8 lb. 12 oz. Mother and son are doing well.

Historic Green Renovations - An Overview

Corie Baker, AIA, LEED AP
c squared Design, LLC

The continued use and reuse of historic buildings is, at its core, a sustainable building practice. Simply by reusing as much of an original structure as possible, we are limiting the amount of new resources that will need to be tapped, reducing the amount of demolition material that would end up in a land fill, and, in a lot of cases, focusing on areas with existing infrastructure, including roads, transportation alternatives and utilities.

What does a historic building bring to the table as it relates to sustainability?

A preservationist will most likely say that historic buildings are important because they help to build up local economies, stabilize property values, promote civic beauty and community pride, and cultivate an appreciation of local and national history. While all of these are important considerations, from a sustainability perspective, there are many more reasons to restore these buildings for continued use over time.

Historic buildings have proven themselves to be durable and long lasting, therefore reducing the frequency of having to replace materials and utilize new resources and embodied energy. Materials like plaster walls and wood flooring have lasted more than a hundred years with proper maintenance and care.


Spray foam insulation in attic

Historic buildings took passive approaches to heating, cooling and ventilation that are still valid today. Many historic buildings are constructed of brick or masonry and have high thermal mass properties. For example, a masonry wall will absorb the heat from the sun during the day and release it during the evening when heat is needed. In addition, windows are typically arranged in a way that maximizes cross ventilation, bringing welcome breezes through the space. Overhangs, awnings and strategically located trees are also used to provide shade to south facing facades where the sun is most intense. These passive strategies can reduce heating and cooling loads, and therefore require a smaller HVAC system than other homes of a similar size. This can result in less material used, lower costs associated with the HVAC system and lower utility costs for the homeowner.


Green Restoration Project on 6th Street

What are some of the sustainability challenges inherent in historic buildings?

Older buildings often develop cracks over time and seals and joints break down, allowing the building to “leak.” The most common place for air infiltration to occur in old buildings is through and around doors and windows. However, in most instances, it is still more sustainable and more cost efficient to repair the original windows. Proper caulking and sealing of the window frames can greatly increase energy efficiency. In addition, with older single pane windows, a storm window with a proper seal can bring historic windows close to the efficiency of a new low-e double pane window. And by reusing the original windows, which are often one of the most important character defining elements of historic building, demolition waste is reduced and new resources are not needed to make new windows.

Often times historic buildings contain little or no insulation. A cost effective an efficient way to address this issue is to consider a soy based spray foam insulation in the attic. This is applied to the rafters of the attic, therefore including the attic space in the “conditioned” space of the house and reducing the heat gain. Additionally, spray foam insulation can be used in the walls. Small holes will need to be made at regular intervals in the walls, but the increased energy efficiency is worth the trade off in having to patch the walls.

Historic buildings often contain products that have since been shown to be bad for human health and indoor air quality. Two of the most prevalent of these are asbestos and lead paint. An expert should be consulted when confronted with removal of hazardous materials and care should always be taken to ensure that these materials are disposed of properly. HVAC vents should always be covered when removing hazardous materials and the indoor air quality should be tested prior to occupancy.

Summary

Historic buildings bring their own set of unique challenges, but the benefits of continuing to use these buildings from both a preservation and a sustainability perspective, far outweigh any challenges.

North Florida LEED® Certified Building Highlights

Currently 18 Certified LEED Buildings!
13 Commercial
5 Residential

Added since the last newsletter, 2 Gold Certified projects:
Butler Plaza III and City of Jacksonville Animal Care and Protective Services.

LEED Certifed Homes in Jacksonville

Jacksonville is now the home of five LEED-certified residences. Located on Jacksonville's east side, the homes were developed by a non-profit community development corporation, Operation New Hope. The organization is redeveloping Jacksonville's east side with the environment and the community in mind.

The first design charrette started in November 2007 and the first home was certified October 2, 2008. Robert Ownby, the Project Specialist for Operation New Hope said that these are the first LEED certified homes in North Florida, possibly the first affordable LEED certified homes in the State of Florida.

Water conservation features include dual flush toilets, high efficiency fixtures and water heaters, and drought tolerant landscaping with no irrigation system. Energy efficient features include low-e windows, Energy Star appliances, fluorescent light bulbs and SEER 14 HVAC with fresh air intakes. Total construction costs for LEED components were 2.6% more than conventional construction. The homes are already saving on utility costs. A recent JEA bill from one of the home owners was only $109 for electric, sewer and water for a 1,598 sf, three-bedroom home.

Thank you to our Sponsors!

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Silver Sponsor

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Call for Articles/Submissions: As we continue to expand the content of the chapter newsletter, we encourage chapter members to contribute original, unpublished material for publication. Please submit all material to Lauren Lue at Laurenlue@gmail.com.

U.S. Green Building Council Chapter

NORTH FLORIDA