



February 2007

GREEN Bytes

Save the Date CALENDAR

February

13

(Click on calendar text for more information)

Green Drinks

Jefferson Tap, 5.30 pm

The mission of the USGBC-Chicago Chapter is to lead the regional transformation of the built environment to ecologically sustainable, profitable, healthy places through education.

Chicago group extends green greetings to China

– Lois Vitt Sale, Principal, Phoenix Architects, Chair Emeritus, Chicago Chapter

Thirty percent of the activity in the construction market on our planet is happening in China. Annually, 250 million Chinese are moving from rural areas into China's cities. It is hard to grasp the scale of that migration until you imagine 83% of the population of the United States moving every year! China has experienced double digit growth in

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (IDCEO) traveled to make a presentation. IDCEO has a commitment to building the export of its products and services, and trade experts within the department saw an alignment of Illinois expertise with a developing need in China. IDCEO arranged a two-week trip in which the companies in attendance traveled to Beijing, Shanghai, Chongqing and Guanzhou and met with government liaisons, industry regulators, professional companies and product manufacturers to learn of the issues facing them in their sector and to diagnose the potential for developing business in China.



Greywater recycling in China

their GDP for the past several years. Certainly, all the indicators point to economic opportunity and to an improving standard of living for the Chinese. Currently, the average annual salary of the Chinese is equivalent to \$1,500. But, while that kind of economic growth is what we are taught to celebrate, there is a deeply embedded environmental toll underlying the expansion.

Last fall, five Illinois companies traveled to China on a Green Building Trade Mission at the invitation of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Those companies were BRIC Partnership, General Energy, GreenMaker Supply, Phoenix Architects and US Way. All of these companies are members of the US Green Building Council and have a commitment to participating in the sustainable transformation of the building industry. This trade mission was spurred by the occurrence of the Great Wall Renewable Energy Forum, a conference held in Beijing in October where Hans Detweiler from

While the forces of growth in China are populating its city's skylines with cranes and the new power plants are being added to the grid like traffic lights to a city street, there is a growing awareness of the negative impacts of this expansion by the Chinese. The Chinese have recently released the Eleventh Five-Year Plan with an ambitious goal of improving the energy efficiency of their existing building stock by 65% by 2010. When asked who pays for this improvement, officials replied that the building owners would have to bear the burden of the necessary upgrades.

The Green Building Trade Mission arrived on the threshold of this announcement to meet with company after company who are gearing up to make these improvements with varying degrees of knowledge of how to accomplish the task at hand. Some representatives I met, said, "I don't have time to get to know you. How can we do business?" Another company said, "I have 40 buildings to upgrade next year, how can you help me?" And help is not as straightforward as you might think.

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Board Bulletin Get out and about in 2007

– Kimberly Ann Lombardozi, LEED AP, IIDA, Chapter Chair, Karastan Contract & Durkan Commercial



Hello, and welcome to the first Board Bulletin of 2007!

As you may remember, this is one method for the Chapter Board and Executive Director, Doug Widener, to tell you about upcoming events or items being considered by the Chapter Board. I'm starting off this year with a

short message about a couple of exciting additions to our Chapter that will help us serve our membership – YOU.

We recently teamed with cvent.com – an on-line event management company, which will help us organize, register guests and evaluate our events. Registration for events will be seamless for members (and non-members), will allow the Chapter to build an email database, send event notifications/reminders prior to upcoming events, and will allow us to conduct pre-survey and post-surveys of event attendees and much more. This particular feature will allow our guest speakers the chance to tailor their presentations and will enable the Chapter committees to follow up: *Did the presentation meet your expectations? Was location a factor in your decision to attend?* This exciting new process is available NOW!

One goal already identified for 2007 is suburban outreach. Our name may be the Chicago Chapter – but our reach is much greater than just the city limits. Each committee will be asked to hold one event in the suburbs to capture our loyal suburban members and give the city dwellers a chance to get out, move around. Join us in Glenview for our March business meeting at the Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center. If you know of an interesting location or your company would be willing to host an event at their office, let us know.

Finally, in early March the Board, Doug, and all the committee chairs will be attending the Board Retreat. This day-long session will identify 2007 goals for the board and committees. During the February committee meetings, please let your committee chair know about your goals for the year.

Thank you again for your continued support and dedication to the Chapter. I'm looking forward to a productive, fun year with each of you.

SPONSORS

Sponsorship is not expensive and your business will be seen by nearly 350 subscribers. Refer to the sponsorship program on the chapter website or contact Sarah Kooiker.

CALENDAR - February *(Click on calendar text for more information)*

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Rain Gardens

Everything you need to know about rain gardens for commercial and residential projects.
Center for Green Technology, 10 am – 12 pm

25

Sierra Club Energy Film Festival

The festival is an opportunity to learn more about the problems of global warming, air pollution and how to solve these problems through innovative technologies and proactive policies. Various locations, dates through early March.

27

The One-Watt House®

The One-Watt-House® is a revolutionary concept that can save homeowners money, increase inhabitant comfort, reduce energy consumption by 85% and eliminate the need for HVAC. CCGT, 6 – 8 pm

New marketplace will bring green companies together

– Joanna Salmen, Baum Realty

Chicagoans will soon be able make one convenient stop for all their sustainable needs. Baum Development LLC, a comprehensive commercial real estate development firm, announced it will soon begin construction on Green Exchange, the first business community committed to environmental sustainability, profit and positive social impact.

“Green Exchange is a way to help make the decision to be environmentally responsible easy,” said David Baum, lead developer of Green Exchange. “Green Exchange will encourage the exploration of sustainability, which will benefit both the visitors and our tenants.”



Green Exchange will include an eclectic mix of tenants offering sustainable products and services including an organic restaurant and café, a sustainable furniture store, a green building supply

company, an eco-friendly printer, architects and designers focused on sustainability, an environmentally-friendly clothing company, a car sharing service, a bike shop and many more. Space will be leased exclusively to tenants offering sustainable products or services and actively working to expand the green marketplace and environmental initiatives.

Located at 2545 West Diversey Avenue in Chicago, the four-story 250,000 square foot concrete loft building will be renovated according to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified standards. Initial occupancy of the building is slated for the beginning of 2008.



energy use and day-to-day management of government and the private sector,” said Mayor Richard M. Daley. “Green Exchange is a great example of the public/private partnerships that are working together to help make Chicago one of the most environmentally friendly cities in the nation.”

After the Frederick Cooper Lamp Company closed its doors in 2005, Baum Development acquired the vacant property. The familiar landmark along the Kennedy Expressway will be transformed by project architects Hartshorne and Plunkard. Green Exchange will be an innovative adaptive reuse development by preserving existing historically significant features and complying with LEED

standards. The building will boast advantages such as an energy efficient environment, a green roof, clean air quality, a landscaped courtyard, bike rooms, meeting and event space, priority hybrid parking and on-site parking.

Green Exchange has also launched a new web site, which emulates the business community of the building. Most notably, the site features a forum where future Green Exchange tenants, leaders in the green industry and writers reporting on sustainable products and services will regularly post topics of discussion. Any one can sign up to take part in the discussions and find out information by asking questions and exchanging ideas with other site users. Visit www.greenexchange.com to join the forum and get updates on tenants, construction and new Green Exchange initiatives.

Baum Realty Group provides comprehensive Tenant Representation, Third-Party Landlord Leasing and Investment Sales services. The company represents a diversified clientele of top property owners as well as prestigious national, regional and local tenants. Baum Realty is located in Chicago and has served the Chicago retail community since 1991.

“We want Chicago to be a shining example of how a major urban area can live in harmony with its environment – and we want our city to be an advocate for green practices in city planning, construction,

SUBMISSIONS & SPONSORS

Bolster your resume! Write for Green Bytes. We're always looking for interesting ideas about sustainable design, construction and living – project case studies, innovative technologies, green products, LEED knowledge – our members want to learn from you. Articles are due the third Wednesday of the month. Contact Sarah Kooiker, Editor, for more information.