

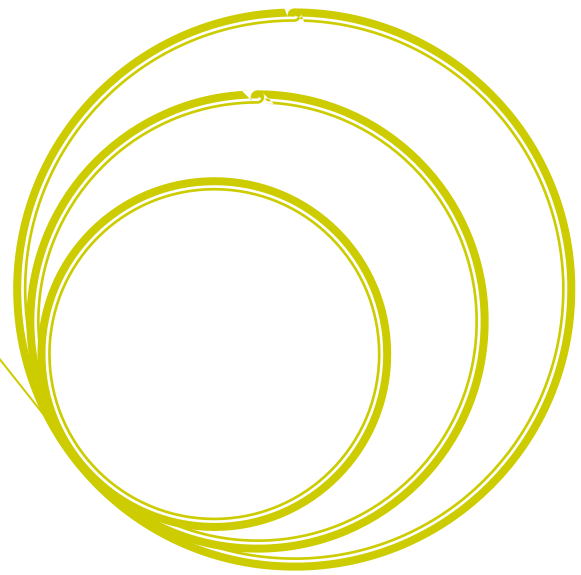


**COLORADO**

**Newsletter**

**January/February 2011**

Indoor Environmental Quality



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### Calling all Authors

The deadline to submit articles for the March/April 2011 Newsletter is March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please submit articles in a Microsoft Word Document to **Cyndy Snow** at [csnow@wausauwindow.com](mailto:csnow@wausauwindow.com)

Questions, comments or suggestions? Please contact **Chris Kerlin** at [ckerlin@tmcxsolutions.com](mailto:ckerlin@tmcxsolutions.com)

### Upcoming Newsletter Themes

March/April | **Sustainable Sites**

May/June | **Water Efficiency**

July/August | **Materials + Resources**

September/October | **Innovation + Design**

# Sunshine Ridge: Summit County's First LEED™ Gold Home

Amy DePierre Tindle, Associates III



From the inception, this home was destined to be built responsibly by inclination of the owners. Having worked closely with the architect, Michael F. Gallagher and the builder, Arnie Surdyk, owner of Double Diamond Construction & Property Services, on several spec homes the homeowners were already well versed with conventional building practices. When it came time to build their own future retirement home in Breckenridge, Colorado they decided to raise the bar and looked to U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® for Homes™ as their guide.

Surdyk, a newcomer to the world of green building, promptly enrolled in Colorado State University's certification course to learn all he could about green home construction. Meanwhile, Gallagher, intent on having an integrated team assembled from the very beginning, went in search of an

interior design firm for the project and met Associates III during an open house showing of their first LEED for Homes project in Cordillera, Colorado.

"This project was successful because we had a good team that was active from the beginning of the project. As the architect, I'm the first person involved and it was great to have the other team members available to help with decisions and provide guidance as soon as I began designing the home," Gallagher states. The original goal for Sunshine Ridge (aka Silver Hawk for Gallagher's design inspiration) was to reach LEED for Homes Silver certification, but with the full team gathered around the table to explore achievable credits in relation to the homeowner's objectives the home easily earned Gold certification.

"The design of any sustainable home," Gallagher claims, "begins with site design." Fortunately, he had a great piece of land with some unique attributes to work with. Concerned the view was not to the south, which usually provides for a large bank of windows and optimum passive solar gain, he instead chose to orient the main gable toward the western view and by doing so was able to utilize the large south-facing roof for a 6.3 kW Photovoltaic (PV) system and eight solar thermal panels to provide approximately 95% of the home's electrical energy, nearly all domestic hot water and a portion of the energy required for space heating.

The five bedroom 5,000 sq ft family retreat has a super-insulated building envelope. With R-34 spray foam insulation in each exterior wall and R-58 for the roof, the home only experiences 0.15 natural air changes per hour. In addition, it scored a HERS index of 29. Megan Gilman, President of Active Energies, completed site testing and confirmation as the green rater and helped ensure the entire team understood the LEED for Homes process and points items to stay on track. "The project team stayed focused on every detail of the home, from our original design charrette that included all team members, even the homeowners, through to the very end. The result was an outstandingly well-built home with quality and beauty throughout, setting an excellent example within the community," describes Gilman.

Inside, the home's fixed interior finishes were thoughtfully designed and selected with reuse, recyclability, and durability in mind. Flooring is 100% hardscape, a combination of natural pigment colored concrete and reclaimed 100 year old barn wood from Missouri. Colorado beetle-kill pine trees were cleared from the site, exchanged at the mill for processed beetle-kill lumber and used for most of the home's cabinetry, all interior doors, base and casing as well as interior railings and shelving and finished with formaldehyde free, non-toxic, low-VOC soy stain or water-based paint. Nearly all the walls were finished with a natural earthen clay plaster. Paying attention to every small detail, even the door hardware was 90% recycled (with at least 50% coming from post-consumer content) as well as recyclable.

*Continued on next page*

# Sunshine Ridge: Summit County's First LEED Gold Home *Continued*

Amy DePierre Tindle, Associates III

The homeowners emphasized their desire for a comfortable family oasis; unfussy, welcoming and warm. With an extensive library of responsible sources, Associates III assisted with the selection of sustainable furnishings, accessories and linens. Highlights include natural wool area rugs, sustainably constructed upholstered furniture with feather down wrapped soy based foam cushions, case pieces made from reclaimed wood with natural protective finishes, and 100% organic latex mattresses with organic cotton linens.

"This home was a real treat to work on. The homeowners are dream clients and truly wanted to do a very responsible design, inside and out," Jill Bosshart, of Associates III, recounts. "They saw the logic behind using green interior finishes and furnishings that go well beyond the requirements of LEED for Homes. We felt we were really able to provide them with a healthy environment to live in and share with their family."

Moving outside, landscape designer Megan Testin, Neils Lunceford, Inc., notes "careful site planning, passive use of storm water and responsible irrigation design allowed us to reduce water use by 77% and helped achieve sustainability objectives for the project." The overall goal of the landscape was to promote species and plant diversity. The landscape design intended to create outdoor spaces for the family to enjoy, while respecting the existing topography. Challenges included balancing cut and fill, the mitigation of storm water, and steep existing topography. Designing at an elevation of nearly 10,000' dictated a limited plant palette which was further restricted when paired with an emphasis on fire mitigation and low water use plants. Utilizing microclimates and planting material in small groups to create natural firebreaks worked to satisfy both fire mitigation and low water use requirements.

"From beginning to end, this project has been super exciting on so many levels," Surdyk says. "A big part of successful implementation was having a solid, consistent team of subcontractors, affiliates and partners who were committed to the core. Considering that we not only achieved LEED benchmarks but surpassed much of the criteria demanded of us, the powerful combination of excellent materials, practices and people paid off."

## Contact Information:

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## GPRO Training: A Closer Look

Chris Anjesky

Deb Kleinman is the Executive Director of the [USGBC Colorado Chapter](#), which is one of the first Green Professional Building Skills (GPRO) Delivery Partners outside of New York City. Deb talks to Urban Green Council Executive Director Russell Unger about the genesis and potential impact of [GPRO](#):

### **Deb Kleinman: How did GPRO come to be?**

**Russell Unger:** A few years back, when we scanned green building education, we saw a glaring lack of attention to the people who actually construct and operate buildings. The green building movement didn't seem to be thinking past getting developers on board and having architects and engineers design green buildings. We reached out to the Building Trades Employers' Association and the Building Construction Trades Council, the umbrella organizations representing contractors and trades here in New York, and after a few months of discussion GPRO was conceived.

### **DK: Why is GPRO so important?**

**RU:** To create higher-performing buildings, the teams that build them need to adjust to the cultural shifts taking place in the construction industry. This evolution towards green building requires not only that technology and building systems be well-integrated, but also that construction teams work more closely with each other than in a conventional job. Construction roles are changing and GPRO will help workers navigate this transformation. For example, in green buildings contractors are now regularly being asked for their input during the design phase, building operators are now considered an extension of the construction team, and the various building trades on green sites are more aware of what the other trades are doing. GPRO is a critical step towards making all buildings in this country greener.

### **DK: How does this play out on smaller jobs?**

**RU:** The further you move away from the highest-end buildings, the more input contractors, building trades, and operators have in what happens on a construction site or in a boiler room. The neighborhood plumber in Brooklyn that a homeowner might hire to swap out their toilet will probably have a lot to say about what toilet their client purchases. We want them to recommend a low-flush or dual-flush toilet – as a service to their client so their bills are lower, as a marketing advantage for themselves (as professionals on the cutting edge), and because using less water is good for the city and country.

### **DK: How will GPRO courses be delivered?**

**RU:** GPRO courses are not being offered directly by Urban Green Council. Instead, we are engaging GPRO Delivery Partners to offer GPRO training in specified geographic areas. In addition to Colorado, GPRO is launching in Illinois, Upstate New York and New Jersey, with more major markets anticipated soon.

*Continued on next page*

## GPRO Training: A Closer Look *Continued*

Chris Anjesky

And I also have to mention the tremendous support we've gotten here at home. So many New York entities were intimately involved in the creation of GPRO—[BTEA](#), [BCTC](#), [CUNY](#), [CWE](#), [AEA](#), and a number of major contractors like [Bovis](#) and [Skanska](#). We received a tremendous amount of input in the design and content of GPRO, and have also done significant field testing of the program with these Partners.

### **DK: How will you measure GPRO's impact?**

**RU:** We'll know that GPRO is a success when the best designed green buildings get built and operated according to the design, and when individual contractors and trades are making decisions that will further green building on job sites big and small. And we want GPRO to be taught all over the country, not just New York.

### **DK: Can you say a little more about how you see GPRO playing out beyond New York City?**

**RU:** We're offering GPRO all over the country, not just in New York, so we've designed the program to account for regional differences in construction. Soon, we hope jobsites across the nation will have a critical mass of GPRO Certificate Holders among the GCs, CMs, construction workers and tradespeople that will foster a common understanding about green building among everyone on the site. When we start seeing jobsites that are greener, run more smoothly and the work among trades more integrated, we will know that GPRO is making a difference.

### **DK: Who developed the material for GPRO?**

**RU:** This is part of what makes GPRO so interesting. GPRO is not a program designed by architects and environmentalists for builders. Instead, it was developed with trades, contractors, and operators from the outset. For each course, we created a [curriculum working group](#) to guide the content. The members of each group included the whole range of building professionals – union training directors, contractors, subcontractors, operators, architects, engineers, experts in retrofits, and experts in adult education. We also called in help from other environmental organizations, including the [Natural Resources Defense Council](#) who helped us write the introduction to sustainability that makes up the first part of the *Fundamentals of Building Green*. The materials are continually updated as new technology or information emerges.



## 1800 Larimer Achieves 3.5 GWh Energy Savings Goal Though Xcel Energy's Energy Design Assistance Program

Jennifer Elling, Xcel Energy



1800 Larimer—Denver's newest high-rise office building, developed by Westfield Development Company—achieved over 3.5 GWh of energy savings, with an annual energy cost savings of \$211,928 by participating in a full energy optimization building modeling process, offered by Xcel Energy's New Construction Energy Design Assistance (EDA) Program. Recently verified through the EDA Program, these savings represent 100% of the original, ambitious goal as established by Westfield, who recently received a rebate check of \$147,645 for these savings.

In addition, 1800 Larimer achieved LEED® Platinum certification, which is one of the first high-rise buildings in America to achieve this top certification status awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council. To reach the energy goals and certification status, Westfield and team worked through the EDA Program to incorporate multiple energy efficiency strategies into their 977,536 square foot high-rise building.

LEED Core and Shell building that uses 21% less energy than a typical building by employing efficiency elements into the structure, space envelope, and the heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems.

- Under floor air distribution system allowing for individual employee control, and a reduction of chiller use of up to 29%.
- High performance glazing and upgraded insulation.
- Efficient lighting, occupancy sensors, daylight controls plus emphasis on increased natural daylight to help reduce the need for electric lighting by 35%.
- Green power with the use of the Windsource® program for 35% of energy needs.
- ENERGY STAR® rated refrigerators, microwaves and computer monitors.

The Energy Design Assistance program offers FREE design assistance to Xcel Energy business customers building a new building, adding an addition and/or completing a major renovation. Projects that are 50,000 square feet or more, and in the early design stage are eligible to apply. For projects less than 50,000 square feet, Xcel Energy offers an Energy Efficient Buildings Program.

For more information on our Energy Design Assistance Program or Energy Efficient Buildings Program, please contact Jennifer Elling at (303) 294-2396 or [Jennifer.A.Elling@xcelenergy.com](mailto:Jennifer.A.Elling@xcelenergy.com)

Looking back it is hard to believe this incarnation of the Communications Committee is celebrating its first birthday. It all started last January, David Gross and I attended our first Rocky Mountain Green 2010 meeting. Agenda item #3: Conference marketing and promotional plan. All eyes turn toward the 'new guys'.

"Can you take that one?"

We replied, "Sure, we can do that".

We had only three months until the conference, so there was no time to hesitate. The plan was created and launched in a few short weeks. The conference brand and logo, a conference web page, promotional materials, advertisements for print publications and websites, and for the big one, the attendee conference guide were all developed and delivered.

Well that was fun!

Once the Rocky Mountain Green was rolling along, we set out to get the membership newsletter up to speed. The publication was in need of new content sources and project management. The committee jumped in and created a content strategy and article management process. The publication is now working toward a regular schedule and continues to improve with every issue.

We hope you enjoy the articles. If not let us know. This is your publication. We are, also, always looking for new ideas and articles for future publications.

Branding guidelines, name and logo usage, color palate, approved fonts. Not the most exciting topics to bring up in casual conversation. In the marketing world, these items are used to develop just about any communication. As the committee progressed, it was apparent the chapter needed official branding guidelines. In October, the project was completed with the delivery of a Name Usage and Graphic Standards Guide and Communications Guidelines Quick Reference.

Now a new year begins. This is an exciting time for many marketing teams as the new 2011 plan is launched. Marketers from all over start to roll up their sleeves, it's time for business. Well just like those dedicated marketing professionals, the Communications Committee is ready for 2011. We have a plan and we know how to implement it. Be on the lookout, there is more to come!

For information about the committee or any of our projects, please contact me at [ggirard@evergreenrevenue.com](mailto:ggirard@evergreenrevenue.com) or 303-953-0525

## Advocacy Update

Patti Mason, Director of Advocacy, USGBC Colorado

Planning for **Chapter Advocacy Day** is underway but there is still time to get involved. Please email **Patti Mason** at [patti@usgbccolorado.org](mailto:patti@usgbccolorado.org) to learn more. The time commitment is minimal, approximately 5 hours including a one hour online constituent lobbying training, but the experience is one you will not soon forget. **Join us at the Colorado State Capitol on February 16!**

### LEED® Archive Project Underway

A recent and most welcomed addition to USGBC Colorado is intern Jessica Gabriel. Jessica is overseeing a LEED Case Study Archive Project that will help the Chapter improve and increase their stock of LEED case studies.

"The ever-growing list of LEED certified buildings throughout the state makes this a challenging but very necessary resource to maintain. We know visitors to our website want to see examples of LEED projects and I am excited to have Jessica working on a case study template and creating an easy to replicate process; it will help the Chapter recognize building owners, project team members, and communities." said Patti Mason, USGBC Colorado Director of Advocacy. "I also can't wait to increase our pool of project pictures!"

Jessica earned her Master's Degree in June, 2010. Her thesis, Green Building in the Mile High City: An Economic and Historical Analysis of the Sustainable Landscape in Denver, Colorado introduced the self-proclaimed history and geography nerd to LEED™. Jessica naturally gravitated towards historical building projects and focused her thesis on adaptive reuse of historic buildings that received the Gold Certification level, such as 4240 Architecture's office space, a LEED Commercial Interiors project.

If you would like a project to appear in the online archive or would like to help, please contact Jessica at [jessagabriel@gmail.com](mailto:jessagabriel@gmail.com) Jessica typically works from the Chapter's office on Thursday afternoons, please come by and meet her.

You can view the current Colorado LEED case studies at <http://www.usgbccolorado.org/resources/leed-project-archives.html>

*View a few of her project case studies on the next three pages.*

# Advocacy Update *Continued*

Patti Mason, Director of Advocacy, USGBC Colorado

## PROJECT NAME:

4240 Architecture, Inc.

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### AT A GLANCE

CERTIFICATION	Gold
LEED VERSION	Commercial Interiors v2.0
OWNER	Sprung Construction
ARCHITECT	4240 Architecture, Inc
CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED	1903
CERTIFICATION AWARDED	4 June 2008
AREA	142, 000 ft <sup>2</sup>
COST	\$1,349,000.00



### LEED FACTS

CATEGORY	POINTS EARNED/ POINTS POSSIBLE
SUSTAINABLE SITES	5/7
WATER EFFICIENCY	1/1
ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE	6/6
MATERIALS & RESOURCES	9/14
INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	10/17
INNOVATION & DESIGN	10/17
TOTAL POINTS	36/69

"The history is bit of a mystery...I suppose we gave life to a soon to be forgotten, undocumented structure..."

[MICHELE DECKER OF 4240 ARCHITECTURE]



## Advocacy Update *Continued*

Patti Mason, Director of Advocacy, USGBC Colorado

### CERTIFICATION HIGHLIGHTS

SUSTAINABLE SITES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• occupies a dense urban location experiencing renaissance</li><li>• alternative transportation (bike share, car pool, public transit)</li></ul>
WATER EFFICIENCY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• reduced water use by at least 20 percent through low-flow fixtures and toilets as well as automatic sensors on faucets</li></ul>
ENERGY & ATMOSPHERE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 28 existing historic skylights</li><li>• utilization of green power for 50 percent of electricity needs</li></ul>
MATERIALS & RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• maintained at least 40 percent of the non-structural interior</li><li>• 35 % of material manufactured locally</li><li>• 10 % of the materials being extracted within 500 miles</li></ul>
INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• low-emitting materials in adhesives and sealants, paints, carpets, and composite construction materials</li><li>• daylight penetrable to over 75 percent of the spaces</li><li>• operable windows</li></ul>
INNOVATION & DESIGN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• nontoxic, green cleansers in housekeeping</li></ul>

### HISTORY, BACKGROUND, & PRE-DESIGN

- Original warehouse completed in 1903 as the Weigele Pipe Foundry running from 3001-3005 Larimer Street
- Because of 4240's commitment to green design, it was especially important to the company to create a Denver office that would showcase a strong dedication to "creating architectural, planning, and interior solutions that integrate social, technological, and esthetic concerns" (BuildingGreen 2009)
- 4240 was the first professional company to establish an office in the River North (RiNo) neighborhood; 4240 not only invested in its building, the firm invested in history and community as well
- The 4240 team wanted to maintain as many of the original architectural elements of the foundry as possible, incorporating beam, vents, skylights and cranes into the fabric of the office space.



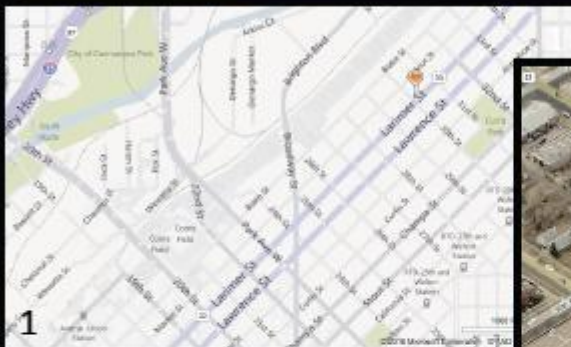
## Advocacy Update *Continued*

Patti Mason, Director of Advocacy, USGBC Colorado

### RESULTS & LESSONS LEARNED

- Distinctive in its attention to promoting social sustainability as well as environmental.
- The investment 4240 made in the emerging River North neighborhood will act as a testimonial to other businesses, the more flourishing this commercial district becomes, the more residents the community will attract, and as a result this neighborhood stands to experience an intense period of revitalization within the next decade if not years
- Acknowledges room for improvement in terms of certifying adaptive reuse projects
- With patience, persistence, and planning, the reuse of older buildings can be a viable economic option

### ADDITIONAL PHOTOS & LOCAL MAP



1. project location in River North (RiNo)
2. aerial view of project location
3. interior view of completed project
4. historic photo showing a similar warehouse in Colorado

1: courtesy [www.bing.com/maps](http://www.bing.com/maps), 2: courtesy [www.bing.com/maps](http://www.bing.com/maps), 3: courtesy [www.4240architecture.com](http://www.4240architecture.com), 4: courtesy Denver Public Library, Western History Collection, Denver Commercial Photo Co, X-60974

## Education Update

Julie Edwards, Education Committee Chair, USGBC Colorado

Please welcome the new Chapter Education Committee Co-Chair Stacy Smith. Stacy is with the conservation group at Denver Water. We are looking forward to the unique perspective she will bring to the Education Committee.

The Education Committee and Membership Committee are working closely together to bring you new member benefits and educational opportunities. Membership will also be increasing their presence at educational events to answer questions and better understand our member's needs.

### **Around the state:**

#### USGBC Colorado Metropolitan Education Committee-

The committee will be hosting the following educational programs during the months of January and February 2011:

- January 11<sup>th</sup>, LoDo Green & Grub at UCD School of Architecture. Topic: Building Performance Modeling, presented by Josh Radoff from YRG Sustainability.
- February 7<sup>th</sup>, First Monday Speaker Series. Title: Model, Measure, Manage: The Energy Story from Dream Time to Real Time, presented by Dana Kose and David Eijadi from the Weidt Group.
- February 8<sup>th</sup>, DTC Green & Grub at Greenwood Village City Hall. Topic: Water for Tomorrow, presented by Stacy Smith from Denver Water.

Please note that all USGBC Metropolitan Education programs are eligible for one hour of GBCI Continuing Education under the "Non-LEED® Specific, Live Presentations" category. For additional information and pre-registration, please visit [www.usgbccolorado.org](http://www.usgbccolorado.org) and click on "Register for an Event."

#### USGBC Colorado Southern Education Committee-

The committee is kicking off the New Year with some exciting events:

- Our January 18<sup>th</sup> Event will be a GreenBuild debrief by Jessica Pascoe and Katherine Wagenschutz. The presentation will include highlights from the opening plenary, new USGBC announcements, and the topic of Biomimicry.
- Our February 15<sup>th</sup> Event will feature a presentation on Green Mortgages & Sustainable Business Financing with local expert Ryan Riesterer.
- The highlight of the New Year is our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual WinterGreen Celebration that will feature keynote speaker Sean Smith, host of HGTV's Professional Grade to be held on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### USGBC Colorado Southern Education Committee-

Register for these new educational events coming up soon:

- The Green-n-Grub January 19, 2011 is Current & Future Water Resource Trends in Northeastern Colorado. Tom Cech is the Executive Director of the Central Colorado Water Conservancy District and has published several books while he was a Faculty Affiliate at CSU. Tom will discuss the historical context of water development, then move on to Colorado water law and its effects on our expanding communities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- Doug Swartz, Energy Services Engineer with Fort Collins Utilities will be presenting at the next Green-n-Grub on February 16, 2011. Doug is also leading the way for the Fort Collins Green Building Program. He will present on the group's goals to increasingly align Fort Collins' built environment with the community's energy efficiency, water conservation and carbon emission reduction goals in both commercial and residential areas.

# Green Schools: Two Small Town Champions Bring Green Building to Nebraska

Eric Wilson



The other night I attended the annual holiday party for the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) committee for which I volunteer. The Green Schools Initiative, out of the Colorado Chapter of the USGBC, brings together educators, architects, engineers, government employees, and other interested parties. Before the meeting kicked off I had the opportunity to speak with an engaging, energetic couple who had driven down from Gering, Nebraska to partake in the get together.

Having worked for more than thirty years in environmental and traditional education, Lois Herbel was a fountain of knowledge. Along with her husband, Al Herbel, Sustainability Consultant at [Great Plains Sustainability Consulting](#), we talked at length about how small towns can benefit from green building and implementing a sustainability plan. The monetary savings alone should be seen as the main reason for taking steps to improve energy efficiency. One of the measures that the Herbels mentioned from their town was the installation of light emitting diode (LED) bulbs in the walk/don't walk signs. Al stated that all of the lights in these signs were replaced. The energy consumed by one of the old signs exceeded the total amount of energy used by the LED replacements (for all the crosswalks in town).

Once the backbone of America, small towns have been hit hard by [urbanization](#), globalization, and the recent recession. As the infrastructure ages in small town America, there is a wonderful opportunity to renovate and reinvigorate. In addition, regional collaboratives can spring forth and help share knowledge gained through the process of restoring these cities to their former glory. One of the most important components of sustainable development is the creation of community, a major strength of many small towns.

Part of our discussion centered on Greensburg, Kansas, which was almost completely destroyed by a tornado a few years ago. (Read about the town's school [here](#)). Rebuilt to LEED® standards, the small town has become a beacon of best practices in green building.

However, there is a definite stumbling block that must be confronted. As Al and Lois talked about their efforts to create a sustainability plan, they became a bit frustrated. Having worked to develop a plan for their town, they shared how the implementation had been difficult under the previous mayoral administration. With a new mayor coming into office though, they had a champion for their cause. This demonstrates the need for buy-in from the top and bringing all stakeholders to the table. Furthermore, the importance of monitoring the outcomes and reporting their findings – two more essential components of sustainable development programs – became clear as they worked to inform the public of the strides that had been made.

It is people like Lois and Al working behind the scenes that makes this country great and inspires others to keep pushing for more sustainable approaches to our current system.

Read more: <http://2ndgreenrevolution.com/2010/12/18/two-small-town-champions-bring-green-building-to-nebraska/#ixzz1AHMWUGLc>

# Metropolitan Branch Update

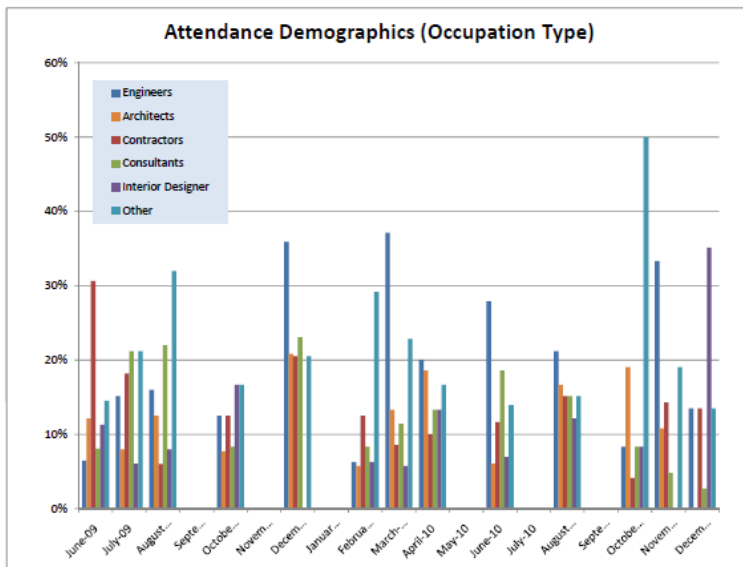
The Metropolitan Branch Education Committee is pleased to share the results of our survey analysis that we've conducted over the past 18 months in connection with our First Monday Speaker Series (FMSS) programs.

As you may know, the FMSS programs are the signature educational event that is provided by the volunteers in our Metropolitan Branch steering committee. It takes place monthly and usually about nine times per year. We compile a panel of speakers for a particular topic and try to vary our offerings to cover the full spectrum of relevant education in Green Building/different LEED rating systems/target audiences/skill levels, etc. Our normal attendance ranges from 50 to 125 attendees and we are usually able to collect surveys from about 2/3 of the attendees. We use the surveys to gather information about who is attending, get feedback on the general approval of the programs and to solicit ideas for future presentations and ideas for improvement.

Emilie and I would like to thank one of our awesome volunteers, **Mr. Casey Peterson**, who is responsible for prepping, collecting, analyzing and packaging the results of our survey program. Casey has put in countless hours to pull this information together and to present it in a way that can be relevant and useful.

I wanted to highlight a few of the findings that we think are important.

- **Average "Satisfaction with the presentation" on a scale of 1 to 5 = 4.22**
- **Average "Effectiveness of the speakers" on a scale of 1 to 5 = 4.23**
- **Average "Relevancy to your Career" on a scale of 1 to 5 = 3.91**
- As far as the demographics of our audience, here are some of the stats:
  - o Career Types:
    - **20% Engineers**
    - **14% Contractors**
    - **13% Architects**
    - **13% Consultants**
    - **10% Interior Designers**
    - **5% Subcontractors**
    - **25% All other careers (Developers, students, FMs, etc)**
  - o **Colorado Chapter Members = 53%**
  - o **LEED AP's = 58%**
- In December of 2009, we started doing a Net Promoter Score (NPS) analysis with our surveys. Respondents were asked to comment on a scale of 1 to 10 how likely they would be to recommend the FMSS programs to their peers. The NPS value represents the difference between respondents who selected 9 or 10 (promoters) vs. those who selected 1 through 6 (detractors). In general, an NPS VALUE that is positive is good news and a score higher than 50+ is considered exceptional. **The average NPS for the FMSS programs in 2010 was 54%!!**



I hope that you will find this information useful for gaining an understanding of our membership, the growth and success of our chapter, and for the future planning of USGBC Colorado events. Please contact [Jason Coker](#) if you have any questions about the data or suggestions for improving our survey program.

## Northern Branch Update

Nate Weigel

Save the date! The monthly "Green -n- Grub" Lunch sponsored by Northern branch is happening **on Wednesday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, 12-1:30, City of Fort Collins, 215 Mason Street**. We are very excited to present Doug Swartz and Gary Schroeder from the City of Fort Collins to introduce "Fort Collins Green Building Program", "Building Code Green Amendments", and "What's Next" for Green Building in Fort Collins. This is a great chance to bring USGBC members up to date about progress to date and the proposed amendment package on its way to Council on March 1, become familiar with code-related steps for the remainder of 2011 (training, support materials) and discuss what's possible for other pieces of the more holistic Green Building Program.

Doug Swartz, Energy Services Engineer, with Fort Collins Utilities is also leading the way for the Fort Collins Green Building Program. He will present on the group's goal to increasingly align Fort Collins' built environment with the community's energy efficiency, water conservation, and carbon emission reduction goals in both commercial and residential areas. Visit [www.fcgov.com/gbp](http://www.fcgov.com/gbp) for more information.

In March, the Northern Branch will also have a "Subcontractors Breakfast"- offering a great chance to network and give thanks for the hard work USGBC members put into progressing sustainable building initiatives in Colorado.

In July 2010, the steering committee for the Northern Branch of USGBC Colorado set a goal to actively recruit new members for FY2010/2011. At the time, there were about 90 active USGBC Colorado members in the Northern Colorado region. As a steering committee, we agreed to the goal of increasing membership by over 50% (roughly 150 total members) by July 2011. Our efforts to recruit new members have consisted of clearly communicating the value of being a USGBC Colorado member and reaching out to inactive members. We are happy to report that, as of January 2011, we have 133 active USGBC Colorado members in the Northern Colorado region. Our members keep us inspired and enthusiastic to promote and advocate for green buildings in the region and across the state.

Thank you to all those who have supported us in our growth and to those who are new to this community.

## Chapter Membership Update

### WELCOME NEW AND RENEWED COLORADO CHAPTER MEMBERS!

Gregg	Adams	Kimberly P.	Henry	Jason	Randall
Margi	Ammon	Caven	Hill	Mandie	Rangel
Kristin	Anderson	Stella	Hodgkins	Sonya	Rath
James	Ayers	Cheryl M.	Honigsberg	Lacey	Reckelhoff
Timothy	Baker	Mary	Howard	Mandy	Redfield
Jason	Becker	Cheryl	Humann	Michael	Riggs
Ankur	Behere	Bryan	James	Kimberly	Rodale
Dacia	Belisle Woodworth	Joyce	Jilek	Michael	Rodriguez
Lisa	Blackman	Allison	Johnson	Dorian	Ross
Megan	Bloomer	Bret	Johnson	Kiley	Rucker
Greg	Bly	Mike	Johnson	Terry	Rucker
Brendon	Bourke	Matthew	Joiner	Jesse	Russow
William	Boyce	James	Ketter	Barry	Schram
Matthew	Boyd	Deb	Kleinman	Caroline	Schwarz
James	Brew	Misty	Krawczyk	Kathleen	Seeyle
David	Caldera	Brian	Lamer	Joanne	Sender
Tony	Casey	Paul	Lander	Charles	Shifflett
Melissa	Chalona	Anne	Lang	Chris	Sibilia
Isabel	Chamberlin	Dan	Last	Marty	Skolnick
George F.	Chelwick, Jr.	Frank	Lindauer	Brianne	Smith
Russ	Chitwood	Jenna	Lipscomb	Michael	Smoot
Jill	Clancy-Moreno	Ryan	Lloyd	Dean	Stanberry
JUSTIN	CLARKE	Katie	London	David	Starnes
Graham	Coddington	Kate	Long	Tara	Steckly
Zachary B.	Collins	Kurt	Madrid	Richard	Steele
Kara	Copeland	Michael	Martens	Kevin	Steinke
Chris	Coulter	Kim	Martin	Annette	Stelmack
Lauren	Coyne	Patti	Mason	Michael	Sterrett
Alison M.	Culpen	Laurel	Mattrey	Hunter	Stoltz
Tina	Daily	Janet	McDaniel	Karen	Strawn
Jill	Dalglish	Ted	McDonald	Ambra	Sutherland
Pat	Davis	Paul	Means	Patricia	Swenson
Kelly	Deitman	Rochelle	Mellott	Michael	Tavel
Bryan	Dennis	Doug	Meyer	Ginny	Taylor
John	Diesslin	Rachael	Miller	Lou	Thackston
Debra	Domres	Chris	Morton	Jessica	Thomas
John	Drigot	Harriet	Moyer	David	Thorpe
Josh	Droege	Alan	Murray	Diane	Travis
Mark	D'Rosario	john	Musso	Dan	Tweeton
Brian	Dunbar	Jenny	Nelson	Renee	Verspoor
Lizabeth	Eaton	Yael	Nyholm	Christy	Vider
Fred	Ehlert	Ditsa	Ojha Sinha	Willem	Vijoen
Leslie	Ewy	Don	Orr	Stephen	Vrabel
David	Fetsch	Martin	Palmaz	David	Wagenfuhr
Tony	Fischels	Leslie	Parchman Olson	Stan	Wagner
Tim	Flanagan	Todd	Parker	Kristin	Walker
Alan	Ford	Jessica	Pascoe	Becca	Walkinshaw
Melissa	Ford	Michael	Payne	Matt	Weaver
Kathryn	Foster	Crystal	Peden	Chuck	Weiss
Sarah	Fox	David	Phillips	Thom	Westergren
David	Friedman	Douglas	Pierson	Ned K	White
Laura	Gosnell	Felipe	Pineiro	Greg	Woods
Roger	Graham	Randy	Piper	Theresa	Worsham
David	Gross	Christa	Plaza	Jason	Wulf
Dori	Hauser	Denise	Pozvek	Deborah	Young
Nick	Haws	James	Ptacek	Steven	Zander
Tom	Heald	Darin	Ramirez	David	Zilar
				Aaron	Zimmerman