



COLORADO

The Green Building Community.

SoCo Green News

Volume 2, Issue 1

January 2009 Newsletter

USGBC CO Southern Colorado Steering Committee

Bethany Trumble, LEED AP
bwtrumble@F-W.com
Chair

Katherine Wagenschutz, LEED AP
kw@ctgenergetics.com
Vice Chair

Christy Vider
Christy.Vider@mortenson.com
Chapter Adjutant

Ann Fetsch
aefetsch@comcast.net
Finance Chair

Whitney Calhoun, LEED AP
whitneycalhoun@lkapartners.com
Advocacy Co-Chair

Mark Tremmel, AIA, LEED AP
mark@tremmeldesign.com
Advocacy Co-Chair

Rhonda Boger-Linder, AIA
rhondalinder@lkapartners.com
Communications Co-Chair

Lauren Howie,
Allied Member ASID
lhowie@comcast.net
Communications Co-Chair

Zane Mitchell
Zane.Mitchell@usafa.edu
Education Co-Chair

Sam Stanchfield
sstanchfield@cambridgecarpet.com
Education Co-Chair

Amy Umiamaka, LEED AP
Amy.umiamaka@hbaa.com
Membership Chair

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Emergency Economic Stabilization Act (AKA “The Bailout Bill”) & You

Weary of All the Talk?

It's a new beginning—a new year—it's time for a fresh perspective on the “Bailout Bill” from the Governor's Energy Office, and how it may effect you and your projects.

Presentation Details

On October 3, 2008, President Bush signed into law the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act (AKA “The Bailout Bill”). While the financial markets were the primary focus of this bill, Congress also included a broad range of energy-related tax incentives. In addition, the 2008 US Farm Bill also expanded and created new programs supporting local fuels and renewable energy. This is terrific news for sustainability advocates! Come to a Lunch & Learn about the exciting Federal tax incentives -- provisions relating to the built environment.

About the Presenter

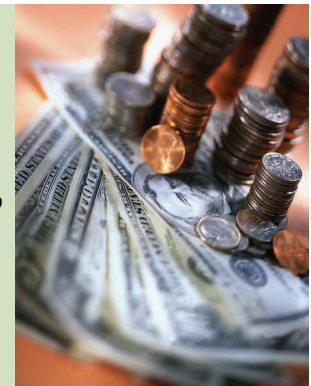
Mim Mirsky is a sustainability and energy consultant at the Governor's Energy Office (GEO). She supports the four Regional Representatives, who promote energy efficiency and renewable energy programs to communities throughout the state. She has also served as a Legislative Aide in the Colorado General Assembly for three sessions. In 2007, she received a Master in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. Her presentation is a summary report of the energy-related Federal tax incentives in two major bills. She would like to stress that she is a research analyst, not a financial expert, so her presentation will be from that perspective.

When — Tuesday—20 January 2009

Time — Noon (Bring your Own lunch)

**Location — Main Floor Reading Room
(Adult Reading Room)
Penrose Library
Colorado Springs, Colorado**

RSVP — socousgbc@gmail.org



Steering Committee Spot Light

Every month watch this Section of the Newsletter—and “meet” one of the Steering Committee members. This month - it's Mark Tremmel, AIA, LEED AP, Advocacy Co-Chair.

My name is Mark Tremmel and I've been passionate about architecture since seventh grade. Little did I know where that desire would take me in the next forty years!

Actually, life lessons in sustainability and self sufficiency that would impact my architecture career started even earlier as I worked summers on my grandparent's farm in Wisconsin.

I had no idea at the time that this combination of nature and building design could inspire me to get de-

grees in Environmental Design and Architecture at the University of Minnesota. That was something quite new at that time.

Unfortunately, I graduated as Reagan was sworn in so for the next two decades I was 'sneaking' environmental and energy efficient design into projects as a practical feature or added bonus for clients. This experience has made my design perspective more genuine as 'green' and 'sustainable' is being touted in everything from tote bags to funerals.

I have called Colorado and Colorado Springs home since 1981. Though I started my own firm last year, the

majority of my architecture career was as a partner in Colorado Architecture Partnership.

I have found design success in a wide variety of client-oriented buildings with a LEED Silver Water Lab for our city Utilities as a crowing USGBC achievement. I am also most proud of our mixed-use and residential work with the Lowell and Spring Creek Neighborhoods.

Along the way, I have raised a family with my wonderful wife, learned to ski and climbed all of Colorado's fourteen thousand foot peaks. My love of the mountains and practically being 'born an architect' inspires my desire to discover a true, sustainable Colorado style for our buildings and places. I believe the next forty years should be quite an adventure too.

USGBC Membership — National, Colorado & Southern Colorado

Amy Umiamaka, LEED AP

U.S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL COLORADO Southern Colorado Branch Become a Member Today



**USGBC
National**

**Companies and Organizations
join USGBC National**

Your company's National Membership in USGBC does not qualify you as a member of the Colorado Chapter. If your company is a National Member you get a discount on your local Chapter Membership



**Colorado
Chapter**

**Individuals join the
local Chapters**

Join the local Colorado Chapter/Southern Colorado Branch to participate in and take advantage of local chapter discounts, benefits, and events



**Southern
Colorado
Branch**

**If there is a local branch, your
chapter membership includes
membership in the local branch**

Join today @ the USGBC Colorado Chapters Web Site



<http://www.usgbccolorado.org/membership/membership.html>



Additional program information

Repurposing & Recycling in 2009

Your neighborhood recycling center doesn't take what you want to recycle, but don't know where to turn? Here's a web site with where to recycle everything from A to Z. Visit www.realsimple.com

DreamCity in Colorado Springs!

Are you interested in making quality of life improvements to Colorado Springs? Believe it or not, there are others that feel the same way. DreamCity is the place to be involved.

Have questions? Need more information?

Please contact Stella Hodgkins at - shodgkins@ozarch.com

Renovation Nation Search

Hello! My name is Gwen Cassidy; I produce a green home renovation and new building show for Discovery Channel's Planet Green.

We're coming to your area mid to late March and I was wondering if you had any green projects under construction that we might feature on the show.

We'd love to hear about your great green projects, give me a call or send me an e-mail. See you in March!

Planet Green's "Renovation Nation"

Discovery Channel
87 N. Raymond Ave, ste 400 Pasadena, CA 91103
office: 626.535.0868 fax: 626.535.9066

gwen@mikemathisprods.com

Make a Difference in 2009



Want to make a difference in our community and our world?

VOLUNTEER!

Volunteers are passionate about the organizations they are involved with. It's not a mere monetary position — but the pay is even greater, as you make an impact with the organization you are involved with and more importantly, the cause you believe in!

With USGBC Southern Colorado we welcome individuals with a passion for the organization's mission. Here's a listing of our committee's.

Advocacy Committee builds public awareness of and demand for, high performance green buildings, as well as supports legislative initiatives that specify green building standards at the local, county and state levels.

Communications Committee strives to create and execute informative, compelling internal and external communications campaigns that educate, motivate and activate our green building community members.

Education Committee is committed to developing ongoing education programs and activities on sustainability and other related topics.

Emerging Green Builders Committee connects young professionals and recent graduates with influential members of the green building community. This Committee also coordinates the Natural Talent Design Competition, a national design competition.

Membership Committee hosts networking opportunities intended to increase and diversify the Chapter's membership.

Make a difference - Volunteer!

Contact Bethany Trumble, LEED AP at bwtrumble@F-W.com if you would like more information on volunteer opportunities with USGBC.

Colorado Chapter — Congress for the New Urbanism Update

John Olson, Congress for the New Urbanism

Two years ago, Katie Selby (one of the developers of South Main Traditional Neighborhood in Buena Vista) introduced me to Michelle Pyle (Planner with the City of Denver) and Sean O'Hara (Owner of EV Studio Architecture in Denver). Our desire was to create the Colorado Chapter and to get it moving before the 2009 Annual Congress (conference) in Denver. Since that time, we have grown to over seventy members with the goal of reaching one hundred before the June Congress. So far, the Chapter's Organizing Committee has organized three major events with tours of the Holiday Neighborhood in Boulder, South Main in Buena Vista as well as a bicycle tour of Boulder where we visited several neighborhoods in Boulder by bicycle.

The mission of the chapter is to promote and foster the use of smart growth strategies. The Congress for the New Urbanism is a diverse group of architects, landscape architects, planners, urban designers, civil engineers, traffic engineers, realtors and even a few mayors across the world. The popularity of the CNU has advanced to London where the Prince

of Wales has created our sister organization known as "The Prince's Foundation". The advances and forms of growth that have stemmed from the CNU include traditional neighborhood development, multi-way boulevard systems, sustainable building practices and form-based codes.

An example of one of the initiatives of the CNU that has become very popular in the past few years are form-based codes. Over one hundred form-based codes have been adopted across the country and in fact, Colorado Springs is in the process of adopting its own form-based code for the downtown area of Colorado Springs. Great places around the world could not be built today with the standard "Euclidian" zoning.

Locally, places like Manitou Springs or your typical small town Main Street are not possible without stacks of variances and several trips to City Council. Form-based codes create the avenue to create these cherished places by easily allowing vertical mixed-use, proper street frontage with minimal to no setbacks and other great features to the urban form that make places

interesting and vibrant to be in.

The following is the definition from the form-based codes institute (<http://www.formbasedcodes.org/>): "A method of regulating development to achieve a specific urban form. Form-based codes create a predictable public realm primarily by controlling physical form, with a lesser focus on land use, through city or county regulations."

Our Colorado Chapter is also working with the local host committee for the 2009 Annual Congress (or Conference) in Denver to publish a book with the neo-traditional neighborhoods in the state of Colorado along with other buildings and areas designed and constructed under the principles of the new urbanism in Colorado. The book will be available in June at the CNU Colorado website. For more information about the local chapter and the new urbanism as a whole, please see our website at <http://cnucolorado.wordpress.com/> or the national website at www.cnu.org.

John Olson is an Urban Designer with Thomas & Thomas and the Treasurer of the (soon to-be) Colorado Chapter of the Congress for the New Urbanism.

"Your thoughts determine your actions;
your actions determine your habits;
your habits determine your character;
your character gives birth to your destiny."

- Anonymous

USGBC Southern Colorado Upcoming Events

USGBC Colorado Vision

Promote responsibility for Colorado's environmental legacy and built environment.

USGBC Colorado Mission Statement

Advance and promote sustainable planning, design, construction and operation of the built environment through education, improving industry guidelines, policy advocacy, and information and resource

Visit us on the Web!

www.usgbccolorado.com

Sustainably, the USGBC SoCo Monthly Newsletter will only be circulated electronically.

We encourage you to forward this Newsletter to your sustainable colleagues, who may not have received this Newsletter.

Please e-mail the editor (rhondalinder@lkapartners.com) with comments, suggestions & ideas.

January

- 13 USGBC SoCo Steering Committee Meeting
7-8:30am LKA Partners, Inc. Offices
- 20 Governor's Energy Office Presentation
12 Noon - Penrose Library
Bring your Own Lunch!

February

- 10 USGBC SoCo Steering Committee Meeting
7-8:30am LKA Partners, Inc. Offices
- 17 Dream City Presentation & Workshop
12 Noon - Penrose Library
Bring your Own Lunch!
- TBD **WinterGreen Celebration**
USGBC SoCo Celebrate it's 1st Anniversary!
Details to follow—watch the website!

Every Month

- 2nd & 4th Thursday - "Green Drinks" @ Coffee Exchange from 3-5 pm

March

- 10 USGBC SoCo Steering Committee Meeting
7-8:30am LKA Partners, Inc. Offices
- 17 Green Cleaning Presentation
12 Noon - Penrose Library
Bring your Own Lunch!

April

- 14 USGBC SoCo Steering Committee Meeting
7-8:30am LKA Partners, Inc. Offices
- 21 LEED CI Overview & Materials Presentation
12 Noon - Penrose Library
Featuring life cycle analysis/Green Guard/Green Label Plus/Green Format/SMART Certification
Bring your Own Lunch!

Event Updates

Check-out the USGBC Southern Colorado Website for further details as well as additional events for Sustainable events throughout Colorado!

USGBC Southern Colorado Year in Review . . . Looking Back at 2008

Bethany Trumble, LEED AP

What an exciting year 2008 was. It's unbelievable to look back and see what we were able to accomplish as a group this year. It is a tremendous accomplishment to just get a group like this started, but then to also host a number of successful educational events in addition to that? It's amazing and all the credit goes to all the volunteers who have spent countless hours to make it happen.

It all started off with the Kick-Off Party at Jack Quinn's in January. When we (my thanks to Katherine Wagen-shutz & Whitney Calhoun - who, like me, had a deep passion for USGBC SoCo to get started) sat down to plan it, we thought if we got 75 people it would be a huge success. We ended up with nearly a hundred RSVPs. We had a total of 144 nametags made, and we literally ran out. In the end we have no idea how many people were there, but we learned two valuable lessons: Green is here to stay in Colorado Springs, and we need a bigger venue.

We had roughly 35 people sign up to be on the steering committee, and had a tough time getting the list down to 12. We ended up with a really strong team who has worked very hard throughout the year and is the reason we had such an incredible year.

Highlights from the year include touring and visiting the Xeriscape Demonstration Gardens at the Colorado Springs Utilities Mesa Road facility; a tour and presentation on Commissioning at the LEED Certified Pikes Peak Regional Building Department (thanks to Rhonda Boger-Linder and Jim Cook from LKA Partners for conducting the tour and to Ken Merola from Farnsworth Group for presenting); and a breakfast we were able to host of other like-minded organizations to discuss how we can work together to broaden sustainability in the Pikes Peak Region. Over 35 organizations were represented, and spent a couple of hours listing all of our goals. The group agreed that we need to continue to meet quarterly in order to have follow through and continue to build partnerships.

Looking ahead to 2009 we are also very excited. We spent a lot of time last year, both as our local group and in conjunction with the State Executive Board, evaluating our strategic plans and goals. On a local level, we were very pleased to find out that our goals directly aligned with those of both the State Board and USGBC national. Highlights of our strategic goals are:

- **Bring diverse groups together to work on common goals**
- **Build a speaker/resource database**
- **Increase the outreach and education of the organization**
- **Incorporate the Triple Bottom Line: People, Planet, Profit**

We have some exciting events coming up in early 2009, including a presentation by the Governor's Energy Office on new green building and energy efficiency incentives, a partnering event with DreamCity in February, and a party to celebrate our first Anniversary (more details to follow soon)! Near mid-year, we will be holding elections for several positions on the Steering Committee, so if you are interested in becoming involved, please let one of our SC members know ASAP!

We deeply appreciate all the support from our members and even non-members throughout the year. We are really looking forward to 2009, and hope to see you all at each event!