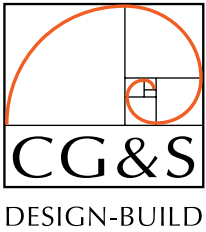


Additional NEWS

Summer Quarterly 2008

Photography by Greg Hursley.



CG&S Expands **Its Design Build Team**

CG&S Design-Build welcomes two new employees to our architecture and construction company.

We recently hired designer Karen Pittman who is pursuing a Master of Architecture degree at the University of Texas in Austin. Architecture is a second career for Karen, who holds an M.A. in Botany from UT and has worked for 19 years in software design. She brings a lifetime of experience as an artist and artisan to the design process, and is extremely excited to be applying her skills to clients' needs.

Max Hambly joins the sales team as an estimator. Before joining CG&S, Max was the owner and operator of an AIA recognized residential construction company. He possesses over 20 years of experience in construction encompassing all facets of the building process. Known for his collaborative working style, focus on details, and client-centric communications, Max brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to his work.

Welcome!



Photography by Ryan Davis.



Left to Right: Galvalume standing seam reflective metal roofs on two new green-built homes. Spray polyurethane foam insulation in Jay's attic.

Smart & **Beautiful Choices**

June's Cool House Tour, sponsored by the Texas Solar Energy Society and featuring eighteen green-built homes, was very successful - with over 300 tickets sold. CG&S Design-Build showcased two new homes on the Tour, one owned by CG&S estimator Jay Gammell and both designed by Mark Lind. The enthusiastic turnout for the home tour illustrates how Austin area homeowners are interested in creating healthy and comfortable environments while reducing their energy consumption and lowering their utility bills. The most commonly asked questions fielded by our docents in the homes concerned the building envelope: the roof, insulation, and window choices, and proper sizing of the HVAC system.

Metal Roofs: One question asked by many tour attendees was about the difference between metal and shingle roofs. CG&S architect Marsha Topham pointed out that "metal roofs last 50 years, 25 years longer than shingle roofs, they are a renewable resource, they reflect heat, and are cleaner for collecting rainwater." Metal roofs look good too, and are available in various colors and styles.

Insulation: Kurt DeRuiter of DeRuiter Insulation was on-site and answered many questions about the spray polyurethane foam insulation in the walls and attics of the two homes. Visitors wanted to know if older homes could be retrofitted with spray in foam insulation, if attic vents are needed in the soffits, and how much savings are realized. DeRuiter acknowledges that spray in foam doesn't work for all homes, especially the older homes with hollow walls. For those types of homes, the foam is most commonly



Photography by Greg Hursley, Tre Dunham, Jay Gammell, Ryan Davis.

Left to Right: The drafty windows in this Hyde Park cottage were replaced with double-insulated windows. Recycling center in the CG&S construction yard.

sprayed into the attic spaces, creating a thermal barrier and negating the need for attic venting. Energy savings are substantial in a newly built home with a complete envelope of spray in foam insulation. Jay Gammell's electric bill for his 2300sf home was \$67 last month, which included three weeks of record high temperatures.

Windows: Many home tour visitors were interested in the brand of windows in the two homes. While one of the homes featured aluminum clad wood windows and the other all aluminum windows, both types are energy efficient, with double-insulated, argon filled low-E glass. High performance windows can be purchased from a variety of sources and range in cost depending on their size and cladding. Many homeowners are choosing to replace their existing windows with more efficient ones for long-term energy savings.

HVAC: Proper sizing of the HVAC system is a basic requirement of Austin Energy's Green Building program. In the design stage, Manual J calculations determine the optimal size of the HVAC system based upon the home's size, orientation, insulation, windows, and the number of people living in the home. When the project is completed, specialists perform an energy audit to evaluate air leakage from the ductwork and air filtration from small gaps around doors and windows. Jay Gammell's home was given a 5-Star rating by the Green Building program - - its highest rating!

At CG&S Design-Build, we are committed to green building practices, lessening our impact on the environment, and reducing energy usage. We offer clients the opportunity to make green choices in site development, material selections, and waste management. As an ongoing service, CG&S has set up a recycling center in our construction yard, where we sort all construction waste such as glass, lumber, sheetrock, brick, concrete, and metal. The materials are either ground up for other uses or recycled. The Cool House Tour was a wonderful opportunity for CG&S to show off its green design/build practices by offering visitors a first-hand look at two of our recent projects.

Visit our web site to see more info on green building principals, projects, and links at www.cgsdb.com.

CG&S Design-Build Partners With Akins High School

Akins High senior Daniel Arroyo has been gaining valuable experience this summer working in the CG&S design department as an intern. As a student in Akins' ACES (Agriculture, Computers and Engineering Sciences) Academy, Daniel has experience with cad-based drafting and structural and mechanical engineering. After he graduates, Daniel is interested in studying either architecture or engineering at the University of Texas.



Akins High School Senior Daniel Arroyo

UPCOMING EVENTS

Green By Design Workshop

Saturday, August 16

8:30 am to 4:30 pm

CG&S Design-Build will be sponsoring one of the information tables at this workshop. Come visit with us and learn about our green building practices while also attending the workshops and learning how to improve energy efficiency and comfort in your home.

To register, call 482-5300 or visit www.austinenergy.com

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Comments, suggestions and ideas for future articles can be forwarded to db@cgsdb.com. If you would like to receive further newsletters by e-mail, send us your e-mail address.

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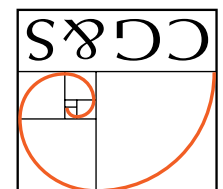
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