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Great Lakes Design Line

The Newsletter of



American Institute of Building Design, Michigan Society
www.aibdmi.com

Summer, 2005

President's Message

By David Velderman, PBD

I want to talk about holding excellence as a Designer and for our organization in Michigan and nationally. Our organization's purpose is to hold an excellence of design--a founding principal--particularly in a market that often doesn't. Becoming a Professional Member is only the FIRST step, not the last for being an AIBD member.

Having received a few comments about some members' design quality from customers and other designers, I am concerned about being a "sufficed skill level" organization. It is time to take stock of what we are individually doing if: our skill level is just adequate; we have a lack of continual improvement; or if our focus is on doing a volume of designs through outsourcing critical details without direct supervision to unknown help--foreign or domestic--for financial gains.

I believe the way to be a true AIBD Member (people who do complete home and building designs) is to be:

- 1) An NCBDC certified member and live that excellence of detail that is displayed in taking the exam, and by following through on every single design we do--not only with the quality of style but also the details with the builder and during construction.
- 2) Not only revenue focused. Revenue is important but should not be the blinding focus of what we demonstrate. Outsourcing without exacting supervision is risky, potentially liable legally and may not be demonstrating the integrity that is this organization.
- 3) Satisfying your customer. Has all of your focus and all of your efforts been towards the satisfaction of your customer? You are the only one that can. This definitely doesn't mean that your customer is always right or always honest, but assume so and do contracts and actions that keep everyone honest. Do everything you possibly can to see an outcome that is a win-win situation for all parties involved.
- 4) Have fun with your designs, your business, and your life blood-- Architectural Design. After all, most of us are in this because we love doing it. Let it show! Or as Ghilal Gibran said, "Work is love made visible."

I believe that NCBDC certification and its enactments in our Michigan organization is the way of our future. I, therefore, keep pushing for all of us in our organization to become certified. I also believe that ICC (International Code Council), and thus Michigan, will adopt recognition of NCBDC certification. I will actively campaign to local and state organizations that it be recognized, and this may be requiring NCBDC certification to do unlimited residential design. It is the way of the future and is also about the only way you and I have (of course we need to demonstrate it on all of our drawings) to have the parity and licensed recognition in Michigan and in the design community as a whole. I encourage you to join the "wave" now so you won't get left behind 5 years from now!

I want to encourage all members to attend the upcoming Fall Conference. Lynne Coulter and Glen Lahti are doing a fantastic job for this very affordable conference (see details in this newsletter). There is also a surprise National influence at this event. I look forward to seeing many of you at our group study preparations and continuing education events.

Important this fall is our General Membership meeting, a very detailed discussion on our annual budget, targeted marketing, political awareness mailings, emailing targeted to specific groups, spending our budget effectively--achieving multiple objectives while living within our annual revenue. We need your input on how your money is being spent.

Great Lakes Design Line Newsletter
AIBD - Michigan Society
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THERMATRU TOUR IN APRIL

By David Velderman

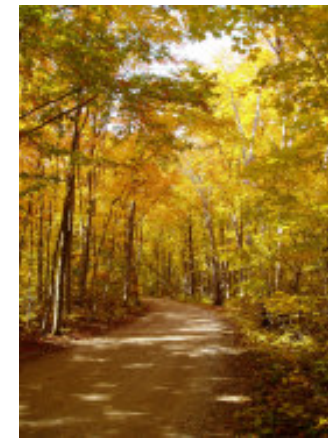
Thermatru Doors, out of Auburn, Indiana, sponsored a free (absolutely no cost to attend--just show up!) tour of their manufacturing facility on April 4 and 5, 2005 and was well worth the trip. A small number of our members attended, coordinated by Jesse Adler of Andersen Windows. Thank you, Jesse! Other builders and lumber company employees rounded out the tour group.

This was a 24 hour trip to Indiana with a very action packed agenda. After approximately a 2 ½ hour trip, the agenda included a private showing (with cocktails) of the Auburn, Cord and Deussenburg Museum which had some spectacular cars. My guess is that there were probably 150 cars, some which were very rare and exotic and not available anywhere else, including: a Shelby Cobra (a one-of-a-kind car, below, left); Frank Lloyd Wright's personal vehicle (below, right); and many, many others. A great catered dinner was presented later that evening with wonderful elegance.

After watching a basketball NCAA game and a good night's rest, 8:00 am found us the next day touring the facilities, observing the manufacturing of fiberglass and metal door systems. There was a very good staining technique demonstrated later that day. To see composite products manufactured and to learn about their benefits was extremely informative and educational on this fast growing market. By mid-afternoon the tour was over and we headed home, making it back within a normal working day to our residences.



This was a great little tour that a few of us got to enjoy, getting 3 CE's (educational credits) and adding to our repertoire for our next design project. There are some very cost, noise and structural benefits in using these systems which are new to the building industry, technologically. I hope more of you take advantage in the future of these free tours, classes, etc. as part of your membership. There will be many more to come.



COME TO THE FALL CONFERENCE at Boyne Highlands!

Autumn is the best time of the year to visit the Petoskey-Harbor Springs-Boyne Country area!

(located a little north of Harbor Springs and just a short drive to Petoskey and the Bay Harbor areas)

Coordinated by Lynne Coulter and Glen Lahti

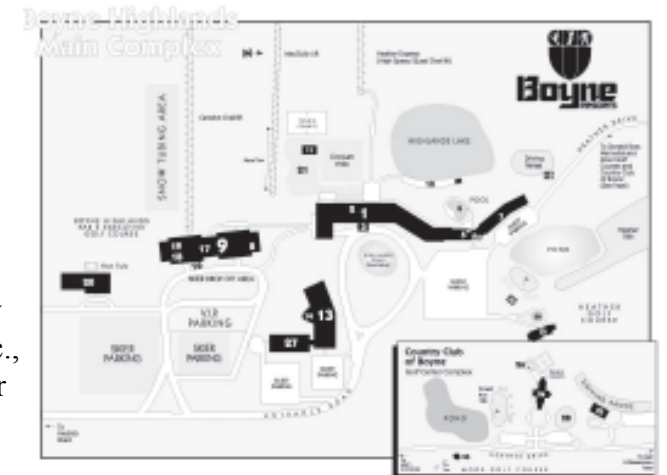
WHEN: September 23 and 24, 2005
Registration 8:00 - 8:45 am. Conference starts at 9:00 am.

WHERE: Heather Highland Conference Center (#13 on map), Boyne Highlands Resort. **\$69 per night--** Thursday thru Saturday. This rate held **until 8/22/05**; mention AIBD-MI. Group rate at the Bartley House (#20 on map). **Room Reservations 1-800-462-6963** (#1 on map) www.boynehighlands.com

COST: \$100 members, \$50 spouses,
\$150 non-members or members at the door

CE's: Guaranteed minimum of 4 CE's

TOUR: The Architectural Tour will be Saturday afternoon and will include several homes designed by Jerry Carter, CPBD, Custom Home Designs, Inc., as well as other magnificent homes in the Harbor Springs area.



REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ Company: _____
GUEST: _____ Company: _____
PHONE: _____

CONFERENCE FEES: Includes conference materials, continental breakfast and lunch on Friday/Saturday and architectural tour on Saturday.

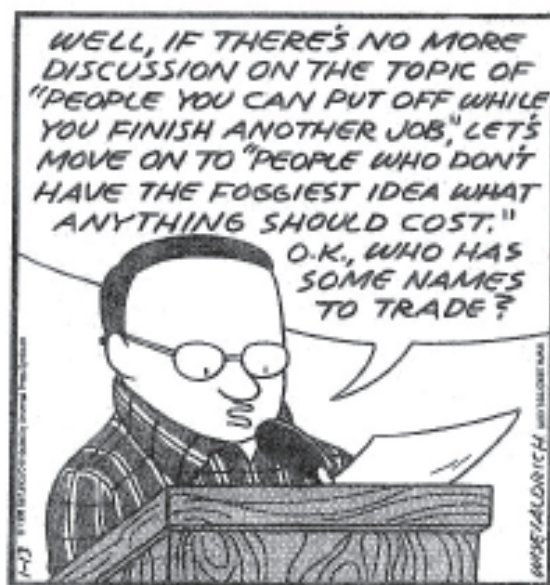
AIBD Member	\$100 x _____	=	\$ _____
Non-Member	\$150 x _____	=	\$ _____
Late Registration Fee: (Add \$50.00 after August 22nd)		=	\$ _____
Spouse Fees: (includes continental breakfast and lunch on Friday/Saturday and architectural tour on Saturday)	\$50 x _____	=	\$ _____

Total Fee: Make checks payable to AIBD-MI \$ _____

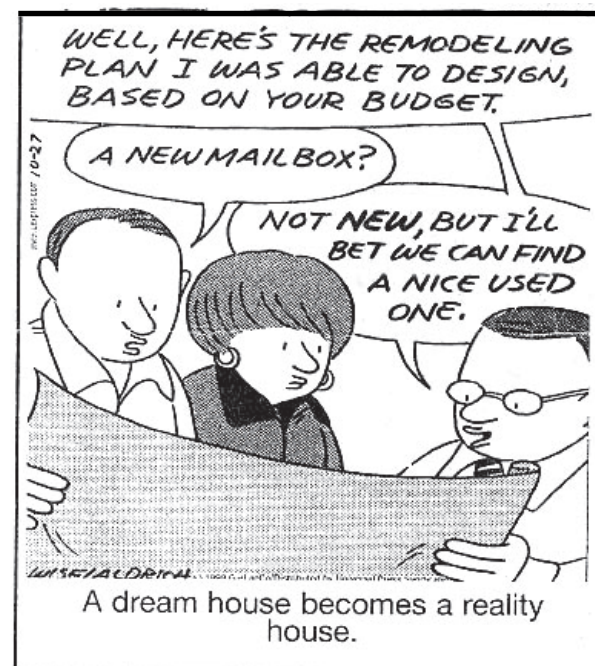
MAIL TO: AIBD Michigan Society, P.O. Box 763, Clarkston, MI 48346-0763

Real Life Adventures

By Gary Wise and Lance Aldrich



What really goes on at builders' trade shows.



FIRM PROFILE OF



Marshall Exterior

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e-mail: chrismdesign@chartermi.net

Established in 2001, Christopher S. Macklin Design, Incorporated (CMD) is a residential design firm that specializes in the design of new custom homes, renovations and additions. The firm is located on N. Fenton Road in the North Towne Professional Centre near Lake Fenton. CMD has been an AIBD Professional Member since 2004 and is also an adjunct faculty member of the Interior Design Department at Baker College. CMD's styles of home designs are American Traditional, Arts & Crafts, Cape Cod, Coastal, Colonial, Craftsman, English Cottage, French Country, Italianate, Mediterranean, Prairie, Rural, Shingle Style, Tudor, and Victorian (see examples of work throughout this article).



Kruse Exterior/Interior



CMD's focus is to provide each client with creative and personal solutions for their unique needs. Each client is distinct, therefore each project should reflect this by being one of a kind. During the design process, CMD works to polish its client's dreams and ambitions to arrive at a functional and aesthetically pleasing home. By "teaming" with the client and other consultants early in the design process, CMD can better understand and assist the client over the life of the project. This also allows CMD to confirm that its design philosophy matches that of the client.

Services offered include: site evaluation and planning; existing home evaluation, observation and analysis; programming and feasibility studies; new custom home design; existing home renovation, remodeling and new addition design; conceptual renderings; preliminary design estimates available through local contractors; construction document preparation; interior architectural design; custom millwork design; owner representation; management of bidding of construction documents; and construction consulting and field observation.

The majority of CMD's projects are in the Southeastern Michigan area (Birmingham, Rochester, Rochester Hills, Livingston County, Fenton, Ferndale, Grand Blanc and Lake Fenton). CMD has also designed homes throughout the state including coastal areas on the Great Lakes, as either full time or vacation residences.

Favorite Architects/Designers:

Christopher Alexander, Centerbrook Architects, Jeremiah Eck, Fernau & Hartman, Greene & Greene, Mark Hutker Architects, Andrea Palladio, SALA Architects, David Salmela, Robert A.M. Stern, and Sarah Susan.



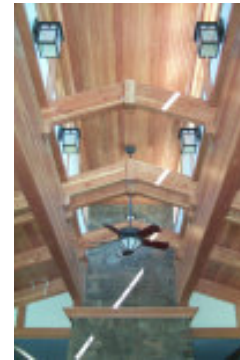
Aagessen Exterior



Dawson Rendering



Allor Exterior



Marshall Interior

DATES OF INTEREST FOR THE DESIGN PROFESSIONAL

- 7/20 – 7/24/05 2005 AIBD National Conference, Peabody Hotel, Memphis, TN www.aibd.com
- 7/20 – 7/24/05 MAHB State Convention, Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, MI www.mahb.com
- 7/27 – 7/30/05 AIA Florida Annual Convention, Marco Island, FL www.aia.org
- 8/14 – 8/15/05 Energy 2005 – The Solutions Network, U.S. Green Building Council, Long Beach, CA www.usgbc.org
- 9/14 – 9/15/05 28th World Energy Engineering Conference, Austin, TX www.usgbc.org
- 9/15 – 9/16/05 JLC Live Midwest – McCormick Place, Lakeside Ctr, Chicago, IL www.jlconline.com
- 9/16 - 9/18/05 New Towns, New Houses Sketching Tour (seaside homes), Seaside, FL (AIBD-Florida as sponsor, \$500 AIBD member), by the Institute of Classical Architecture & Classical America, www.classicist.org/edu_aibd.html
- 9/23 – 9/24/05 **AIBD-MS Fall Conference, Boyne Highlands Resort, Petoskey, MI**
www.aibdmi.com (\$100 members, \$50 spouses, \$150 non-members)
- 9/25 – 9/29/05 ICC Annual Conference, COBO Hall, Detroit, MI "State I Codes Adoption"
www.iccsafe.org/news
- 10/12 - 10/15/05 2005 Remodeling Show, Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD www.nahb.org
- 1/11 – 1/14/06 2006 NAHB International Builders Show, Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL www.buildersshow.com
- 4/20 – 4/23/06 2006 Kitchen & Bath National Expo, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL www.kbis.com

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ENERGY CODE UPDATE

Believe it or not, there has been a lot of activity and posturing on the change of the Energy Code in the court system. MAHB established their position to be that the Energy Code is unlawful because it does not meet state-required cost effectiveness (a payback period). Governor Granholm ordered the Attorney General to appeal the injunction on March 21. The State of Michigan lost this appeal. Listed on the denial was that harm would be done to out-of-state manufacturers bringing business into the state, for commonality of carried stock.

The last understanding is that MAHB had until 4/11/05 to respond. The Appellate court dismissed this appeal, leaving the injunction in place. The guns are now drawn for a showdown on October 31, 2005. The Attorney General is lining up heavy hitters from DOE, other states, industry, etc. to hopefully sway the outcome in their favor.

Until then life goes on under the current code. Expect that we will at least be entertained over a potentially serious issue financially, for all parties involved. Future e-mails will be sent about any interim information.

We would like to showcase your work with an interview and photos. YOU get 3 CE's.
Please submit any interest to cayv@tm.net.