



The Refresher

Volume 1, May 2006

To promote and advocate for sustainable buildings, sites, practices, products, and lifestyles, through the education of professionals within the building and related industries, academia, public and private organizations, and the greater Charlotte, North Carolina community.

History of our Chapter

Green building advocates in the Charlotte, NC region began informally discussing the formation of a USGBC chapter in early February of 2005. The first interest group meeting was held March 9, 2005 with an attendance of 51. A letter of intent to form a chapter was sent to USGBC on April 13, 2005 and organizing group status was granted on April 18, 2005. The steering committee began meeting bi-weekly on May 4, 2005 and organizing group meetings, including sub-committee break-out sessions, have been held monthly since May 2005.

In the course of the organizing group's meetings, certain values were established. The membership agreed that the value of great places - interior and exterior - is in creating space that delights users and occupants. The resources of our planet are not unlimited and as builders, facility managers, architects, designers, engineers, civic leaders, and community advocates, it is our role to safeguard those resources. We have a responsibility - indeed, an obligation - to weigh the costs and benefits of our work to the environment, the economy, and the community, equally. Ultimately, we want the development of our community to appropriately represent the values of each of its institutions, while responsibly managing the resources shared by all.

Our Chapter Kick-Off event on March 16th, 2006, with keynote speaker Ray Anderson, was a huge success, with over 300 people attending from the region surrounding Charlotte.

Thanks to everyone who has participated in our efforts to organize and establish the Chapter!

USGBC & Chapter Websites

Patience is a virtue: The USGBC website was recently re-launched with a new appearance (and possibly a few quirks while the kinks are ironed out). You can join our Chapter online: visit <http://www.usgbc.org/chapters>, scroll down to Charlotte Region Chapter, and select Join This Chapter.

Our Chapter website will be re-launched and updated soon: <http://www.usgbc.org/chapters/charlotte>. If you haven't already explored this new green vessel of valuable info, you have an open invitation to do so regularly.

Blog, Not Smog

Soon you'll know this website address by heart: <http://www.carolinasusgbc.blogspot.com>. Hosted jointly by the South Carolina, North Carolina, Triangle, and Charlotte Region USGBC Chapters, our blog is a compilation of relevant commentary and links to sustainability information...it's fairly addictive.

The Mailing List

If you are having trouble receiving our e-mails via the ListServ, please note that Anne Jackson is aware of the problem and is working hard to find a resolution; in the interim, please visit our website for the latest news.

Chapter Contacts

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Southern Sustainability 2006

Upcoming LEED Workshops – the Charlotte & Southeast Regions

LEED-NC Technical Review - Charlotte, NC – May 18
LEED-NC Technical Review - Sarasota, FL – May 26
LEED-CI Technical Review - Arlington, VA – June 16
LEED-EB Technical Review - Arlington, VA – June 16
LEED for General Contractors - Arlington, VA – July 27

If you missed the sold-out May 18 LEED New Construction Technical Review Workshop in Charlotte, rest assured—a second workshop in Charlotte is being planned. Please express your interest by e-mail with your contact info to: Michael Entrekina (michaelentrekina@piedmontair.com) or Judy Baker (judyb@opda.com), so a workshop topic and date can be planned that will benefit most. If demand is popular, the workshop will occur before October.

Green Nation 2006

Upcoming Conferences Throughout the U.S.

3rd Renewable Energy Finance Forum - Wall St., New York - June 21-22 (<http://www.euromoneyenergy.com>)

Solar 2006 - American Solar Energy Society (ASES) Annual Conference - Denver - July 7-13 (<http://www.ases.org> -OR- <http://www.solar2006.org>)

StormCon, The North American Surface Water Quality Conference & Exposition - Denver - July 24-27 (<http://www.stormcon.com/sc.html>)

Engineering Green Building Conference - Austin - Sept. 18-19 (<http://www.egbregistration.com>)

WasteCon International Solid Waste Conference - Charlotte - Sept. 19-21 (<http://www.swana.org>)

Labs21 2006 Annual Conference - San Antonio - Oct. 17-19 (<http://www.labs21century.gov/conf>)

USGBC Greenbuild International Conference & Expo - Denver - Nov. 15-17 (<http://www.greenbuildexpo.org>)

Renewable Energy in America - Wash., D.C. - Nov. 29-30 (<http://www.acore.org/programs/policyforum.php>)



Quick Links

<http://www.usgbc.org>

USGBC website

<http://www.usgbc.org/chapters/charlotte>

USGBC Charlotte
Region Chapter website

To join the Chapter <http://www.usgbc.org/ShowFile.aspx?DocumentID=877>

Regional Blog

<http://www.carolinasusgbc.blogspot.com>