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President's Message



Hi Everyone,

We had quite a celebration at our Annual Awards Night and Installation of Officers Ceremony at the Mystic Hilton on December 11. For those who could not attend, there's a listing of our 2009 award winners, 2010 board members and some great

pictures taken by photographer Craig Woody in our centerfold.

In spite of the challenges so many have been facing this year, the BAEC membership has rallied together and had a very productive year for the BAEC as a whole, its membership and our community! We began this year with a very successful Home and Better Living Show, showcasing member products and services.

With support from the National Housing Endowment we embarked on a Green Building for Consumers program, which centered on the BAEC 2009 Green Showcase Home by member Jim Pepitone of Ark Ventures. We took out paid advertisements, 100 radio announcements and issued numerous press releases about the home, the National Green Building Standard, and our members who had achieved the status of certified green building professional. We held a green expo on the site for BAEC members in June and on September 26 and 27 we held an open house for the public to benefit the American Lung Association's Breath Express. The open house was attended by consumers, our Killingly High School Student Chapter, and many local and association dignitaries, among them Michael Luzier, President & Chief Executive Officer, NAHB Research Center. The house achieved the 2nd NAHB Emerald Green rating in the nation, ALA's Health House designation, became the Department of Energy's Build America prototype Home, and, of course, earned Energy Star certification.

The second aspect of our program was to remodel our old web site and to build a special section on green building. It contains important links to building green information and to date; we've posted 7 You-Tube videos on green building by our showcase home builder. We have 13 additional videos on the editor's table as I write this. I'm pleased to say our web site is averaging about 500 unique visits each week! A social networking campaign in 2010 will allow us to broaden our audience and boost our website and our member websites on the Google ratings. I understand a Facebook page is in our future.

Reporters have learned to come to the BAEC staff, members and website as a premier source

of housing news and information for their stories, so be sure to link up!

We've entered into a partnership with Three Rivers Community College to offer construction industry educational classes. This allows us to outreach to over 2100 registered new home construction and remodeling companies in New London and Windham counties about the benefits of industry education and of becoming a member of BAEC.

We'll be offering Certified Green Professional Training in January, and Project Management and Advanced Green Building Sciences in February. We will be the first in the state with this offering, taught by John Barrows who assisted in developing the curriculum and delivered the pilot offering of this course in November.

Most recently we've been able to keep on top of the new EPA lead paint renovation requirements and booked one certification class in 2009 with three additional classes scheduled for January and March 2010 to ensure our members have access to training to meet these requirements.

We had a very successful golf outing in September which raised over \$10,000 for the L&M Hospital infant intensive care unit. We donated an additional \$1,000 in support of members' charitable efforts.

We published a consumer membership directory, a member to member directory, and twelve issues of the Straight Edge and contributed to local papers, news stations and CT Builder Magazine.

We held monthly networking and educational meetings over the course of the year.

We participated in Building Industry Day at the Capital to inform legislators about the building industry.

We've offered our members numerous marketing and sponsorship opportunities, including a cooperative billboard advertising program in conjunction with the home show.

WOW! I am proud to be your BAEC President... Good Job to all! I know we'll do this and MORE in 2010. The BAEC continues to grow and prosper. On behalf of the BAEC Team I want to say THANK YOU, HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR to ALL of You for your contributions in making this amazing organization what it is today.

Denise Nott
Nutmeg Building & Remodeling LLC
BAEC President

Member News Bruno Leads Landa Family Reveal

Paul F. Piezzo of PFP Electric has completed Photovoltaic Fundamentals For Electricians and Photovoltaic Installation courses to obtain the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners Entry Level Certificate. In June 2009, he attended another weeklong course Solarfest * Intro to PV at the Forget-Me-Not Farm in Tinmouth, VT. He has also become an Authorized Winco Sales & Service, supplying and installing 5kw portable to well over 500kw stand by generators and recently became a Provisional Installer for the CCEF (CT Clean Energy Fund). This means that he can install a PV system as well as acquire rebate funding for CL&P customers.

Go Paul!



The Landa 615 crew proudly revealed the fruits of their labors on Friday December 4.

That was one very very happy family!

We're proud of member Bruno Hayn, and newest member Dino Tedesco for leading such a great team of volunteers and suppliers! Check out the project on their website, Landa615.com. Have a happy holiday, all!



THINKING ABOUT HIRING?



WE JUST MADE IT MORE AFFORDABLE!

Federal stimulus funds are available to help you hire a screened applicant with more than 50% wage reimbursement during training!

- **YOU interview & YOU make the hiring decisions**
- **EWIB will pay the employer 50% – 90% of the worker's wages during a set training period**

For more information, contact your
CTWorks Business Services Representative:

Danielson –	Mark Fillmore – 860-412-7021
Norwich & New London –	Kathleen Chartier – 860-859-5767
Willimantic –	Linda Riquier – 860-465-2120



Sponsored by the KHS BAEC Student Chapter

Scot Haney Luncheon

Date: Friday, January 8, 2010

Time: 1:00 PM

*Location: The Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox
Church
80 Water Street
Danielson, CT 06239*



Tickets are only
\$10 each!
Contact
Francine
Robinson
860-774-6081

Frobins6081
@charter.net

Come enjoy the antics of Mr. Scot Haney while you enjoy a pleasant buffet lunch. Always a crowd pleaser, Scot is sure to entertain.

All proceeds benefit the Killingly High School BAEC Student Chapter and will help them get to the National competition at the International Builders Show on January 16



Education Corner

Get Your EPA Lead Certification Training!

As of April 22, 2010, Firms **MUST** be Certified by the EPA and have one or more Certified Renovators when disturbing lead paint in pre-1978 homes or child-occupied facilities. Firms who knowingly or willingly violate the EPA regulation may also be fined up to an additional \$32,500 per violation and/or face imprisonment.



Tuesday, January 5, 2010
Chace Building Supply
90 Rte 171, Woodstock
8 am—5 pm

Payment and registration are due no later than December 24, 2009.

Each course is offered at \$200 for BAEC members and \$225 for non-members.

Please be advised there is a nation-wide shortage of EPA certified trainers. If you need this course and cannot attend the Chace offering, please call the BAEC office at 860.859.3518 so we can reserve another training date.

HBA Educational Offerings

From the HBAs of Hartford and New Haven:

Register today for one of the course offerings:

- Jan 7 University of Housing CAPS I: Marketing & Communication Strategies for Aging & Accessibility
HBA of Hartford
- Jan 8 University of Housing CAPS II: Design/Build Solutions for Aging & Accessibility
HBA of Hartford
- Jan 14 NAHB University of Housing Education Course: Building Codes, Standards & Guidelines.
HBA of New Haven
- Jan. 15 NAHB University of Housing Education Course: Estimating For Builders & Remodelers.
HBA of New Haven

For a full listing of all class offerings within the region and nationwide, visit www.nahb.org and click on education.



A NAHB Designation says a lot about you. Professional designations offer excellent opportunities to improve your skills, advance your career, and be recognized for your commitment to professional growth. NAHB has the most targeted curriculum, accomplished teachers and widely respected education opportunities in the business. Start getting a designation now so you'll be ahead of the competition in the future.

BAEC is partnering with Three Rivers Community College and NAHB to offer the following Green Building Professional Designation Courses in 2010:

Green Building for Building Professionals

(Two Days): January 28 and 29, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Implementing cost-effective green building into your construction practices begins with up-front planning that examines the whole house and the building science behind it. In this two-day course, you will learn how to apply the ANSI-approved National Green Building Standard™ in the construction of a new home, remodel, site development or multifamily project. With a focus on flexibility and a sound knowledge base, the course provides the tools for a successful green project.

Cost: \$345 NAHB Members
 \$395 Nonmembers
 Includes textbooks, test scoring

Business Management for Building

Professionals February 3, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Learn the management skills that give industry leaders the edge. This course will give you a solid foundation in those best business practices so valuable to smaller businesses: planning, organizing, staffing/directing, and controlling. By using case studies and sample forms, your instructors give you practical and applicable tools for management success.

Cost: \$175 NAHB Members
 \$225 Nonmembers
 Includes textbooks, test scoring



Advanced Green Building Science

(Two Days): February 11 and 12, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

This course instructs builders and remodelers on proper building science techniques for constructing and remodeling high-performance homes. The high performance ideal encompasses more than just energy efficiency, it's about potentially creating a more durable, environmentally responsible and sustainable living environment. By using case studies, NAHB and BuildingGreen, LLC have developed this course to provide builders and remodelers with the highest-level information available.

Cost: \$345 NAHB Members
 \$395 Nonmembers
 Includes textbooks, test scoring

Registration and Payment Due Two Weeks Prior to Class.
No Walk-ins. No refunds for No-shows



MEET YOUR BAEC 2010 SLATE OF OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Nutmeg Building & Remodeling

Associate VP
Dave Hammerstrom
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Kostin, Ruffkess & Company

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Bruno Hayn
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Vice President
Chad Whitcomb
The Greensulators

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Congratulations to BAEC 's 2009 Award Winners!



C.B. Housing Hall of Fame
Seymour Adelman
Adelman Sand & Gravel

As a BAEC member for over 37 years, Seymour was honored for his leadership and his numerous and generous contributions to the association, the building industry, and his community.



Associate of the Year
Matt Nick
Kostin, Ruffkess & Co, LLC

Matt received his award for his contributions as Treasurer to the board of directors during these tough economic times, and his active participation and sponsorship of association events and services.



Builder of the Year
Jim Pepitone
Ark Contractors, LLC

Jim built the BAEC 2009 Green Showcase Home, which earned the first in Connecticut, and second in the nation NAHB Emerald certification, Build America certification, Energy Star and ALA Health House certification.



Distinguished Service
Bruno Hayn
Home Designs by Bruno

Bruno has contributed his leadership to the association through service to the board and active participation in all association functions. He is *extremely* appreciated for his contributions to many needy families in several communities. Move that Bus Bruno!



Remodeler of the Year
Denise Nott
Nutmeg Building & Remodeling

For the third straight year, Denise was chosen for her business principles, positive leadership style, and unending contribution of time and energy to the association, the community, and numerous charitable causes.



Industry Appreciation
Kelly Whipple
Copies Plus...More

Although a relative newcomer to the association, and a relatively new business owner, Kelly lends the association assistance through printing our programs, directory, and newsletters. She is an active member of our membership committee and a fine ambassador for our association.



Thanks to our Annual Awards Night Sponsors!

Hors D'Oeuvres

Award Plaques

Party Favors

Photography

Printing

The Ron Murray Duo

Chelsea Groton Bank

Overhead Door Co.

Home Designs By Bruno

Craig Woody

Copies Plus...More

Sound Music



HBA of Connecticut News

New! Locals & Legislator Meetings

The Government Affairs Committee of the HBACT has started a new program: **Locals & Legislators Meetings**. At last spring's Building Industry Day at the Capitol, members were able to set up meetings and establish relationships with 34 legislators. The Locals & Legislators Meetings will build on that effort by hosting small group meetings across the state where members and their legislators can meet informally over coffee and talk about issues.

Meetings have already been held in Ellington and Middletown, and more will be scheduled. When the dates and locations are set, HBACT will invite

legislators from the area to attend. Members are invited to attend, **and** to contact their state representative or state senator to personally invite them to attend.

The HBACT Government Affairs issues list was used as the starting point for conversation at the first meetings, but over the 2-hour session, the discussions covered a wide range of topics. These meetings are an opportunity to get to know your legislators and tell them face-to-face how the decisions they make at the Capitol affect your business. Stay tuned for more information in coming months.

Are you on the HBACT's Honor Roll?

The HBACT posts an "Honor Roll of Certified Members" on its website. The Honor Roll lists all members who have earned professional designations and we refer consumers to the list when they call the office. To see the Honor Roll, visit the website: www.hbact.org, click on "Resources" at the top of the home page, then click "Honor Roll" on the pull down menu.

If you have a designation(s), please check the list to be sure your name is listed. When you earn a new designation from the NAHB, please e-mail Joanne Hoerrner, jhoerrner@hbact.org or call the office, 860-521-1905 to let us know. We do receive the information from NAHB, but notification can take several months, so call us to get your name on the list right away!

HBACT submits testimony on AD&C issues to the State Legislature's Banking and Commerce Committees

In August and September, HBACT set up meetings with U.S. Representatives Courtney, Himes and Larson to talk about the credit crunch and problems obtaining acquisition, development and construction (AD&C) loans. Now, **Senator Gary LeBeau**, co-chairman of the state legislature's Commerce Committee and **Senator Bob Duff**, co-chairman of the legislature's Banking Committee have invited HBACT to testify in front of their committees on the ongoing credit crunch, appraisal problems and FHA pre-sale requirements. Bill Ethier, CEO of the HBACT, provided written testimony to the committee and shared an NAHB Survey on the credit crunch across the country. The testimony and NAHB survey are posted at www.hbact.org. Addi-

tional meetings between HBACT members and Commerce and Banks committee leaders will be planned.

If you are having problems with these issues and would be willing to speak with legislators or let HBACT share your story along with other members, please contact the HBACT office, 860-521-1905, or send an e-mail to admin@hbact.org.

Watch your e-mail for Government Affairs Alerts for updates. If you don't currently receive Government Affairs Alerts and would like to be added to the distribution list, please contact Joanne Hoerrner, jhoerrner@hbact.org, or 860-521-1905.

Visit www.HBACT.org

for up-to-the minute Information on what's happening at the state and local level!

BUILDING BRIEFS

Senate Begins Floor Debate on Health Care

The Senate last week began floor debate on health care reform bill H.R. 3590. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the Senate package would cost \$849 billion over 10 years and would reduce the federal budget deficit by \$130 billion over the same period while expanding medical coverage to 94% of Americans.

The Senate plan contains several notable differences from the bill that was recently passed by the House by a narrow 220 to 215 margin.

The Senate legislation would impose a surtax on high-cost "Cadillac" insurance plans to help finance coverage of the uninsured, while the House bill seeks to raise revenue by charging a surtax on taxpayers with adjusted gross incomes of \$500,000 for single taxpayers and \$1 million for joint filers. The two chambers differ in terms of abortion restrictions and the scope of the public option.

The Senate bill is far less burdensome to small businesses than its House counterpart. The House bill contains a broad employer mandate that the Senate bill does not. However, the Senate package would levy financial penalties on most firms that fail to provide health coverage and also would require all individuals to carry health insurance.

As the Senate bill currently stands, it does not have the necessary 60 votes to move forward. As a result, a number of amendments will be offered and debate will continue in an effort to pass the legislation by the end of the year. Senators must compromise on issues such as the public option, abortion and immigration.

The following is a breakdown of key areas of the Senate health plan of interest to NAHB members:

Employer Responsibilities.

Those with more than 200 employees must automatically enroll all new workers in health care coverage. Employers with more than 50 employees must offer coverage to their employees.

Employers with more than 50 employees who do not offer coverage and have at least one employee receiving the premium assistance tax credit would be fined the lesser of \$750 multiplied by the number of employees or \$3,000 for each employee receiving a tax credit. Businesses with 50 employees or less would be exempt from this responsibility.

Employers with more than 50 employees would be required to pay a fine for implementing waiting periods for employees who want to enroll in coverage: \$400 per employee during a 30 to 60 day waiting period; \$600 for any employee during a waiting period exceeding 60 days.

Small Business Tax Credit. These firms would receive tax credits equal to 50% of the amount of health coverage they pay for each employee. The tax credit would be limited to businesses with 25 or fewer full-time employees and with average annual wages below \$40,000. The full credit would phase out for employers with more than 10 full-time employees or average annual wages.

Income Tax. The Senate bill would increase the hospital insurance payroll tax by .5% on individuals earning more than \$200,000 and couples earning over \$250,000, effective 2013.

Insurance Fees. The Senate plan would impose a 40% excise tax on employer-sponsored health coverage that exceeds \$8,500 for an individual and \$23,000 for families, effective 2013.

Obama Touting Home Energy Efficiency Program

Hoping to jump-start his plans for job growth, President Barack Obama is pushing Congress to pass incentives for homeowners who retrofit their homes to make them more energy-efficient.

Last week, the president proposed a new spending plan that would provide tax breaks for energy-efficient retrofits in homes. The plan also calls for small business tax cuts and new spending on highway and bridge construction. The administration hasn't put a price tag on the plan, but it could cost more than \$150 billion.

The White House hopes the appeal of the retrofitting program — which some administration officials have dubbed Cash for Caulkers — will be similar to the now-expired Cash for Clunkers program, which offered rebates for trading in used vehicles for more fuel-efficient ones. At a White House

jobs summit earlier in the month, Obama told Home Depot chairman Frank Blake that home improvement companies would be key partners in this program.

Obama has also proposed expanding stimulus initiatives that promote energy efficiency and clean energy jobs. Currently, about \$8 billion of the \$787 billion stimulus package goes toward energy-saving investments in homes. The White House has said investments like installing insulation, sealing leaks and modernizing heating and air conditioning equipment will pay for themselves many times over.

In a memo for the president, Vice President Joe Biden said stimulus spending and other initiatives will lead to 1 million home energy-efficiency retrofits by 2012. The report also said the U.S. is on track to double renewable energy generation, including solar, wind and geothermal, in three years.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.BAEC.NET



**Johnny D's
Words of
Wisdom**

**Not what we give, but what
we share,**

**For the gift without the
giver is bare.**

James Russell Lowell



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20 Hartford Road, Suite 18, Salem, CT 06420
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We build neighborhoods and improve the communities in which we live and work.***



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**Call 860.859.3518 to
reserve your place today!**

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER 2009

Wed	16th	12:00 PM	Home Show Comm. Mtg. Modesto's , Franklin, CT
Fri	25th	Merry Christmas	(BAEC Office Closed Dec 25-Jan 3)

JANUARY 2010

Fri	1st	New Years Day	
Tues	5th	6:00 PM	BAEC Board Meeting
Tues	5th	8AM-5PM	EPA Lead Training Chace Building Supply Woodstock, CT
Thurs.	8th	6:00 PM	HBACT Developers Council
Wed	13th	4:00 PM	HBACT Board Meeting
Tues	19th-		NAHB IBS Show
Fri	22nd		Las Vegas, Nevada
Sat	23rd-	10AM-9PM	Home Show
Sun	24th	10AM-5PM	Mohegan Sun Arena, Uncasville, CT
Wed	27th	5:30 PM	BAEC Membership Mtg.

**For more information visit our
calendar at www.BAEC.net**