

NH FORUM

For those who shape the built environment

AIANH Chapter Meeting March 29: The Design Process: Windham School



Join us March 29 as we take a tour of New Hampshire's newest secondary education facility, Windham High School. We'll be guided by Lance Whitehead AIA, Lavallee Brensinger Architects, who specializes in Pre-K-12 Education Facilities. The event will also include a reception with heavy appetizers. **Genest Concrete** is our sponsor.

Windham High School is a new free-standing High School completed in 2007. The project was fast-tracked under a CM GMP agreement with Harvey Construction and

later went on to win an AIANH Excellence in Design Award. The design was completed in 11 months with early structural packages released at 3 months and 6 months for bidding and construction. Totaling out at \$135/sf the 195,000 sf High School came in under budget and ahead of schedule.

The design is expressive of the high energy, cutting edge curriculum that the school houses as well as the culture that the Windham Community sought to embrace. The design team strove to push the envelope for what a modern

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Windham High School, Lavallee Brensinger Architects, 2010 AIANH Honor Award for Excellence in Architecture. Photo: Joseph St. Pierre

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with contributions

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Landscape Architects

and PlanNH

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The AIANH Editorial Board reserves the right to edit articles for available space and to review all material for appropriateness prior to inclusion.

The editors of the *NH Forum* seek to encourage a lively discussion of design and other topics of concern to designers. Opinions and proposals presented in the newsletter are those of the writers to whom they are attributed and are not a statement of official policy by AIANH, unless so stated.

Visit our Website at www.aianh.org

Perspective

Point of view from the president of AIANH



Dale Doller AIA
President 2012

What is truly "Green"?

I decided to have some fun with this month's letter. My question was, "What's the big deal about Green?"

Are the Irish automatically considered green? Kermit, the frog sang, "It isn't easy being green! What is it all about? So, I've decided to research the word "Green."

I was very interested in seeing what showed up when I Googled "Green." Of course, my list of items isn't by any means the full results of what came up in the search. And, I have taken some license in the selections I am sharing. But, it is representative of some of the top search items...and a few I thought were quite humorous!

The top item on the search results was of course the definition of "green"...at least from Webster's viewpoint. "**Green** is a color, the perception of which is evoked by light having a spectrum dominated by energy with a wavelength of roughly 520–570 nanometers." I thought this next definition was very interesting. "The word green is closely related to the Old English verb growan, "to grow"... Culturally, green has broad and sometimes contradictory meanings. In some cultures, green symbolizes hope and growth, while in others; it is associated with death, sickness, envy, or the devil. The most common

associations, however, are found in its ties to nature."

"**Green Energy**... Green contains the powerful energies of nature, growth, and desire to expand or increase. Balance and a sense of order are found in the color green.



Change and transformation is necessary for growth, and so this ability to sustain changes is also a part of the energy of green."

And who can forget Kermit! Check out this YouTube connection

for a viewpoint from The Frog as he describes how it's not easy being green — www.youtube.com/watch?v=hpiIWMWWVco.

The next group of "links" there a gathering of the usual "Green" list topics, "Green Bay Packers," "US Green Building Council," "Greenseal," "Greenpeace," "Green Gardener," "Green Guide," "Green Vegetarian," "Green Technologies," "Green Chemistry," "Green Nanotechnology," "Green's Gluten Free Beers," "Green Images," "The Green Party," "Green Jobs," and one that I thought was quite amusing but decided not to expand upon in this letter; "The 10 Steps to Greening your Sex Life!"...where did that topic come from?

We all know that "Environmentalism" is one topic that should show up on this list but I was surprised how far down it was... "Environmentalism advocates the preservation, restoration and/or improvement of the natural environment." And the closely associated "Green Building Industry" is something we all should be more closely associated with.

The final item I am sharing from my search results is "Greenwashing." This is something we should all be very wary of as we attempt to guide our clients in making the right choices in developing their environment both built and associated to a more responsive solution... "**Greenwashing** (a compound word modeled on "whitewash"), or "green sheen," is a form of spin in which green

Continued on p. 6

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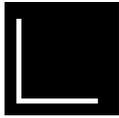
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Young Architects Forum

by Melissa Morancy Assoc. AIA, AIANH Associate Director



On February 8th of this year we had NCARB's Assistant Director, IDP Nick Serfass, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP for a presentation on "NCARB & You: IDP, ARE & Certification." There was a good turnout of young architects to hear him speak about the licensure process, IDP, what to expect with the ARE, the value of an NCARB Certificate and the recent changes that have been made to the NCARB program.

While all of his information was informative, the most interesting part of the lecture to me was about the changes that are being made to IDP. In April, NCARB will enact the final phase of converting to IDP 2.0; many of you will remember the beginning of these changes when the 6-month rule was enacted in July of 2009. Changing to IDP 2.0 is the biggest set of changes that have been made to IDP since the 1970s. The current IDP website will go down on April 3 and a newer, more user-friendly electronic recording system will be up and running on April 5.

While the overall number of hours remains the same, the number of hours in the different categories will change. Those who are just beginning NCARB and those who are about to begin will not feel the changes. The people who have the largest potential of being negatively affected by these changes are those who have been working on their IDP for a while and are close to finishing a particular category. The categories that have been finished in the current program will remain finished, and will not be subjected to the new hour requirements.

This is good news for those of us who have finished certain categories, because the new requirements in some (such as Schematic Design) consist of many more hours than the old requirements. For those who are close to finishing a category, I would recommend taking whatever time left to complete it. There are worksheets on the NCARB website that allow you to fulfill hours when you cannot find those hours at your office.

Another thing I learned while researching the new IDP system is that an NCARB certification is different from becoming licensed through the AIA. (This is why at the beginning of this article Nick Serfass has both AIA and NCARB behind his name.) I had always considered getting an NCARB certificate to be a part of the process to becoming AIA-licensed; not realizing it is an entirely different process to be completed.

For those who are finished with IDP but still plugging away at the ARE's, I would like to remind you that NHTI in Concord has all of the necessary books that one might need to study for the exams. One of the things Nick said that I took to heart was that the best study guides were those that are free.

There is a lot of information on the NCARB website to help people understand the new IDP system and its implications. Visit www.ncarb.org/en/Experience-Through-Internships/IDP-2.aspx for the latest information. Or you can email our own IDP Coordinator Nathan Stolarz at nathanstolarz@hotmail.com.

If you have comments or questions, email me at melissa@misiasekturpin.com. ■

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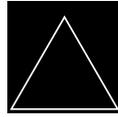
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Job Opportunities Positions Wanted

Job listings and positions sought listings are on the AIANH website: www.aianh.org/jobs.asp. To submit an ad, please email ad text to office@aianh.org. Ads are free for AIANH members and \$80 for four months for non-members. Please include your contact information with your ad listing.

Panama Canal Passage

Text and photos by Patricia Sherman FAIA



The Panama Canal was close to the top of my bucket list and this December, on a cruise from Miami to Los Angeles, we spent the better part of a day traversing this amazing engineering tour de force completed just over 97 years ago.

I read David McCullough's book *The Path between the Seas- The Creation of the Panama Canal 1870-1914* (Simon and Schuster 1977) before I left on this trip to get a better understanding of the people and the engineering behind the Canal. If the story were not true and documented, no fiction writer would dare to pen such drama without suffering ridicule.

I will leave that highly recommended story for your own delight, but the essence of the Canal is that it is gravity driven with the locks requiring less power than your lawn tractor to open and close (Photo 1). This simple solution to an incredibly complex engineering problem was created by the Americans after the French failed miserably in their initial efforts to dig a sea level canal with little or no real information



2. The Regatta

about the geology, hydrology, topography and culture of the area.

The Canal actually goes from west to east on an east to west passage due to the lay of the Isthmus of Panama. Traveling from the Atlantic to the Pacific you go through three locks to a height of about 80 plus feet above sea level and then down three locks to the Pacific.

The locks are 110 feet wide and 965 feet long and about 42 feet deep. Our ship, the



1. Full Lock

Regatta (Photo 2), a “small” cruise ship, with only 680 guests and a crew of 400, was 600 feet long and 90 feet wide. Looking down into the locks from our balcony on deck 8 it looked like we had minimum clearance (Photo 3), but from that same vantage point, the container ship next to us looked like it had NO clearance! (Photo 4)

The structures on the locks were all built with large overhangs to shelter them from the intense Panamanian sun. But as ships got larger and their flying bridges extended beyond the width of their ship’s hulls, these overhangs had to cut back as they were constantly being clipped by passing ships (Photo 5).

With all of this engineering skill, however they had to rely on simple manpower for one element of the trip. The ships go through the locks on their own power but are connected by hawsers to the “mules,” electric trains that run on cogs, to stabilize the ship mid lock and assure that it does not proceed to fast. To get these hawsers on board two men in a rowboat (Photo 6) row out to the ship as it approaches the locks to transfer a line to the ship, then row like crazy to get out of the way. They tried electric motors on these boats but when they were not dependable, they went back to manpower.

The cost of the passage is based on cargo tonnage. We paid about \$160,000 as compared to the container ship, which paid \$360,000. A man named Halliburton paid \$0.36 when he swam the Canal some years ago.

They are constructing new locks to be ready



3. View from the deck



4. Container ship



5. Roof at Gatun Lock

in 2014, the centennial of the Canal. These will be 180 feet wide and 1400 feet long by 60 feet deep. They will also have water reutilization basins to recapture some of the water flowing from the lock. Now this water just goes out to sea and is re-fed by the extreme rainfall in the area.

More information on the Canal is available on www.panamacanal.com. More pictures of the Canal passage are available by Googling “Daniel Ostler Panama Canal.” ■



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PlanNH Charrettes

Plan NH is currently seeking applications from New Hampshire communities for the 2012 Community Design Charrette Program.

Many towns have a downtown or a significant neighborhood that they need help with, but are not sure where to start. Perhaps it needs to be more inviting, or more vibrant. Some towns are trying to figure out how to recapture the essence of their "sense of place," or how to preserve it while planning for growth.

Plan NH works with communities to help them discover what they want and then develops recommendations based on that to help them move their vision forward.

Towns or groups completing and submitting the application by Friday, March 16, 2012 will be considered for an intensive, two-day brainstorming session, focusing on the issue or need of that town's choosing.

Selected communities will have a team of Plan NH professionals within the building and planning-related industries come to town and work in collaboration with local leaders and residents to develop recommendations.

Since the first charrette held in Belmont in 1996 to save the mill, Plan NH has completed 49 Design Charrettes around New Hampshire, almost 20% of our communities.

For more information about the program, and for application materials, visit www.plannh.org and click on CHARRETTES.

DOLLER, *Cont'd from page 2*

PR or green marketing is deceptively used to promote the perception that a company's policies or products are environmentally friendly."

This was all fun to take a look at the internet's view of "green." "Green" is a big world out there...a forest filled with all kinds of green things...they look green, they feel green, they smell green. But how do we sort this out? Like the little poisonous "Red Eyed Frog" from Costa Rica at the beginning of my letter, they may look friendly and green but are definitely not safe for our environment.

We as architects need to be more sensitive to our design and how it affects the occupants, how our buildings affects the neighborhood around them, and how they affect the community, the region, the continent, and our environment. We should be better leaders and educators and advocates for our environment. One way we can better succeed in this is to research into products we use. Using organizations that take the time to evaluate them is a great resource. There is an excellent article in February's *Environmental Business News* titled "What makes a Product Green?" in which they explain what issues they consider in determining whether a product is truly

The GSLA and PlanNH pages will now appear quarterly.

Look for them in the April issue!

green. Those areas of consideration include the following:

Efficient use of materials – recycle, reuse, less is always better including smaller buildings. (Read *Cradle to Cradle* by William McDonough)

Durable or Low Maintenance – long life and easy to maintain/repair.

Reduce Material Use

Salvage Content – conservation of resources and energy. But be careful of reclaimed wood as this may cause premature demolition of useful buildings and harmful affects to the environment by illegal reclamation practices.

Reusable, Recyclable, or Compostable – an efficient use of materials. But, any material can be recycled into something. The Federal Trade Commission specifies the need for an established market to qualify or an available composting industrial facility to process the material.

Responsible Sourcing – responsible supply chains and raw materials sourcing for environmentally and socially responsible practices through the use of recycled content and agricultural waste or renewable materials is better than extraction and use of raw materials.

Post-consumer Recycled Content – Waste stream material recovery result in

Cont'd on p. 9

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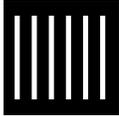
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DOJ's 2010 ADA Standards Become Mandatory March 15



On March 15, the Department of Justice's updated ADA Standards (2010) will become mandatory for new construction and alterations covered by the ADA. On the date, optional use of the original 1991 ADA standards will no longer be allowed. DOJ adopted the updated standards in September 2010, but permitted continued use of the 1991 standards for 18 months to allow time for transitioning to the 2010 edition.

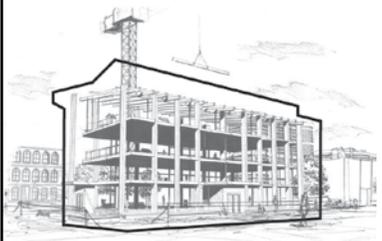
Under DOJ's ADA regulations, the March 15 effective date applies to the date of the permit application or, where no permit is required, to the physical start of construction or alteration. For public accommodations and commercial facilities covered by title III of the ADA, compliance with the 2010 standards is required where:

- the date the last application for a building permit or permit extension is certified to be complete by a State, county, or local government is on or after March 15, 2012;

- the date the last application for a building permit or permit extension is received by a State, county, or local government (where the government does not certify the completion of applications) is on or after March 15, 2012; or
- the start of physical construction or alteration (if no permit is required) is on or after March 15, 2012.

For state and local government facilities covered by title II, compliance with the 2010 standards is required where the physical start of construction or alteration occurs on or after March 15, 2012. However, public transportation facilities, including bus stops and rail stations, are subject to ADA standards issued by the Department of Transportation (DOT), not DOJ. DOT's updated ADA standards (2006), which are very similar to DOJ's 2010 edition, are already mandatory for public transportation facilities.

Copies of the 2010 standards and related information are available at www.ada.gov. ■



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NH Construction Industry Ethics Award

The late Mark "Killer" Bates, formerly president and co-owner of Weaver Brothers Construction, Bow, NH, was selected as the recipient of the 16th annual New Hampshire Construction Industry Ethics Award. The award honors the "individual, business or organization that, through its words and deeds, best demonstrates a commitment to upholding the highest ethical standards in construction." Bates died on July 15, 2011 at age 58 following a seven-month battle with cancer.

"He was indeed one of a kind," notes Gary Stevens, president of The Rowley Agency. "It didn't matter who you were. In every facet of his life, no matter whom he was dealing with, he did so honestly, ethically, and with a great deal of integrity."

Bates' commitment to the betterment of the industry was unparalleled. He served terms as president of the New Hampshire Good Roads Association and Associated General Contractors of New Hampshire, as well as lengthy tenures on the boards and numerous committees of both organizations. He was also a respected presence at the State House, where he regularly testified on issues affecting the industry.

Bates was also passionate about serving the community. The 30+ year resident of Contoocook was active in town affairs, serving on the Road Committee for many years, the last decade as chairman. He also spent a number of years on the Economic Development Committee, was a member and former commissioner of the Contoocook Men's Softball League and a founding benefactor of the Hopkinton Boys and Girls Club. Weaver Brothers was a supporter of the Warner Fall Foliage Festival and donated money, materials and labor to build ball fields in Warner and Hopkinton.

The award carries with it a \$1,000 donation to the recipient's charity of choice, which the Bates family has designated to go to the William Weaver Memorial Scholarship Fund that last year awarded more than \$11,000 to four students.



We had a sell-out crowd at the February 16 AIANH Chapter Meeting. Jesse Thompson AIA, above, gave a very interesting presentation on "Passivhaus." Jesse, from Kaplan Thompson Architects in Portland, ME, is a Certified Passive House Consultant, having completed the rigorous nine days of training required by the Passive House Institute US (PHIUS) and passed the examinations of both PHIUS and the Passivhaus Institute in Germany (PHI). Kaplan Thompson Architects currently has several Passivhaus projects under design and construction. Guests indicated that they learned a great deal more about energy reduction techniques and energy modeling.



Prior to the presentation groups toured Regeneration Park. The tour outlined the super insulated building envelope and the re-use of materials throughout the building. Regeneration Park refurbishes a 1970's style, previous automobile dealership building into a "near net-zero" office building and steakhouse restaurant, Demeter's, who supplied us with wonderful appetizers and drinks. The building has super insulated walls and roof with foam insulation, Serious Windows and Doors, Solar Thermal Hot Water arrays, and re-used, recycled materials throughout. Thanks to our Sponsor, Serious Windows. Photos by John Hession

DOLLER, Cont'd from page 6

less waste, pollution and energy use than raw materials. And, it potentially diverts materials from landfills. Life cycle costing as it gets better may help to identify what is a truly viable recycled product.

Pre-consumer Recycled Content (Post Industrial) – the reuse of industrial by-products. Excluded from this category by FTC definition is the use of scrap materials generated in the production that would have typically been returned to the manufacturing process anyway.

Biobased and Sustainably Sourced – Growing and harvesting our building materials.

Certified Wood – Third party certified standards to insure our products come from well-managed forests.

Uses of Agriculture Waste – materials that might otherwise be wasted.

Energy and Water Conservation – including reducing heating and cooling loads, energy conserving equipment, water conserving equipment and fixtures, renewable energy equipment.

Low-Impact Operations – reducing

building operation waste, pollution and other impacts on the environment

Healthy Building – including improved light quality, acoustical performance, improved air quality from mold, moisture and contaminant emitting products and operations. Monitoring systems help to identify when indoor environmental qualities are compromised.

Sustainable Industry, Resilient Communities – Green products can be considered more or less green based on the manufacturers responsible practices and activities, material supply chain, reduced manufacturing impacts and role in contributing to their own communities.

This is a very brief summary of EBN article and their process for determining what is truly green. I encourage you to read the full story. As Kermit tells us....it truly isn't easy being green!

I invite you to please share your thoughts about being "Green."

Dale Doller AIA, AIANH President



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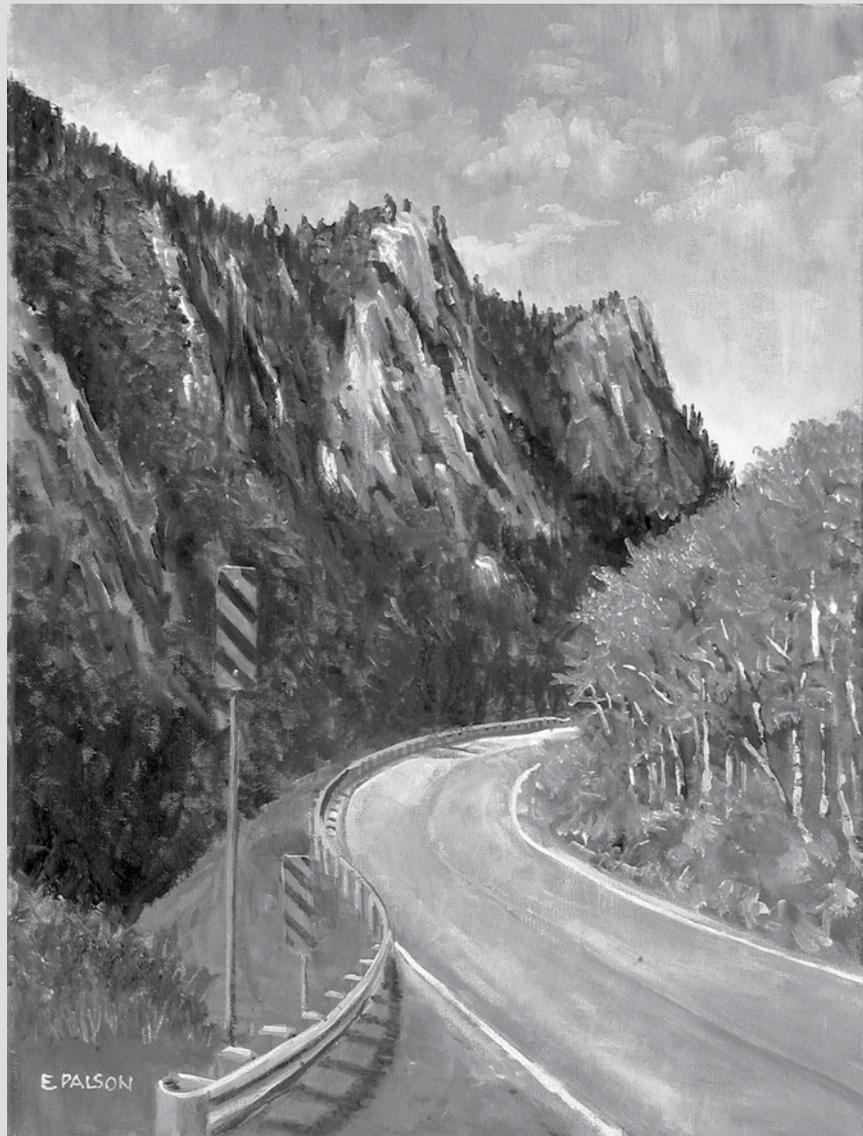
MARCH 29 AIANH CHAPTER MEETING, Cont'd from page 1

NH High School should portray while staying within the tight budget constraints.

Past School Board Member Bet Valentine says, "Lavallee Brensinger created a design for our school that is exactly reflective of the spirit, culture and tenor we were striving for. Our building has an energy, a life to it – you want to strive for greatness when you are in it."

You can register for this event at: www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp. We hope to see you there! ■

Sketch of the Month



Notch

Painting by Eric Palson AIA, SMP Architecture

Submit your Sketch/Painting/Drawing for publication! Please scan your work at 300 ppi and send to office@aianh.org. Include a caption with it! We look forward to seeing your work – take the time for art!

Construction Summary

Project Type: Alpha Phi Sorority / Residential Dormitory (25 Students)
Location: Hanover, NH
Owner: Dartmouth College
Architect: Haynes & Garthwaite
Engineers: Engineering Ventures, DuBois & King Inc., Kohler & Lewis Engineers, DeWolfe Engineering Associates Inc.
Gen. Cont.: Trumbull Nelson Co.

Project Type: Trader Joes Shell Building (Webster Square Mall)
Location: Nashua, NH
Owner: Trader Joes
Architect: Landry Architects
Engineers: Engineering Advantage, South Shore Construction Consultants
Gen. Cont.: West Rac Contracting

Project Type: Center for Assessment Renovations
Location: Dover, NH
Owner: Center for Assessment
Architect: AG Architects PC
Engineers: Tritech Engineering, Engineered, Building Systems Inc., Integrated Engineered Systems, Bennett Engineering, Summit Engineering
Gen. Cont.: North & South Builders

Construction Summary is provided by Construction Summary of NH, Inc. 734 Chestnut St., Manchester, NH 03104

Project Type: Memorial Union Building - Leadership Center
Cost: \$278,700
Location: Durham, NH
Owner: University System Of NH
Architect: Harriman Associates
Engineers: Harriman Associates, Charters Brothers

Project Type: Durham Public Library (Design/Build)
Cost: \$3,200,000
Location: Durham, NH
Owner: Durham Public Library
Architect: Sheerr McCrystal Palson Architecture Inc.
Gen. Cont.: Bauen Corp.

Project Type: Phillips Hall Renovations (Phase II)
Location: Exeter, NH
Owner: Phillips Exeter Academy
Architect: Architectural Resources Cambridge
Engineers: Altus Engineering, Rist Frost Shumway Engineering, Lemessurier Consultants
Gen. Cont.: Harvey Construction Corp. of NH

Project Type: The Friendly Kitchen Facility
Location: Concord, NH
Owner: FOCO Inc.
Architect: Warrenstreet Architects
Engineer: Nobis Engineering
Gen. Cont.: Cobb Hill Construction



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Calendar

Mar 8-10 AIA Grassroots Conference, Washington DC

Mar 13 Eastern White Cedar, A Sustainable Choice for Exterior Siding, Architectural Luncheon Seminar Series, Atlantic Design Center, York, ME. Space limited to 12 attendees, please register early, 1 AIA HSW/SD CEU. www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp

Mar 24-25 Old House & Barn Expo, NH Preservation Alliance, 9 am-5 pm Center of New Hampshire, Radisson Hotel, 700 Elm Street, Manchester, NH, www.nhpreservation.org

Mar 29 AIANH Chapter Meeting, The Design Process: Windham School, 5:30 pm, Tour, presentation, and reception, *AIA CEUS*, www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp

Mar 29 PlanNH Merit Awards dinner Thursday, Centennial Inn, Concord. www.plannh.org

Apr 13 Film: *Biophilic Design: The Architecture of Life*, 7 pm, followed by a panel discussion with noted design professional; Grappone Auditorium, Concord, NH. Presented by the Landscape and Environmental Design Department at NHTI, Wings of Knowledge Lecture Series and the Film Society.

Apr 26 AIANH Chapter Meeting with KSC, 5:30 pm, tour of TDS building under construction, dinner, presentation by Andrew Wells FAIA, *AIA CEUS*, www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp

May 17-19 AIA Convention, Washington, DC

May 24 AIANH/AIAVT Joint Chapter Meeting, 4 pm, Bennington, VT, *AIA CEUS*, www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp

June 16 PlanNH Road Race, www.plannh.com

June 23 Plan NH Walk/Run NHTI Concord 9 AM

June 28 AIANH / Currier Gallery of Art film screening: Romanza, the California Structures Designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, 3-7 pm. *AIA CEUS*. Reception following, www.aianh.org/aia_events.asp



AIA New Hampshire

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Photo of the Month



Gehry Museum awning at University of Minnesota

by Randall Walter AIA, Bensonwood

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