



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2007

MEETING THIS MONTH

Please join the Cape Fear Green Building Alliance (CFGBA) at 7 pm @ Working Films (the firehouse @ 5th & Castle) on **May 15th** for a presentation on **GREEN BUILDING 101** at our next meeting. Following Earth Day, we usually have a big crowd and some new faces and like to have a general overview of all that 'green building' encompasses. More detail on specific questions or issues for later topics over the year can be discussed afterwards.

* Please stay after the Green 101 presentation for a 25 min. showing of the 'Big Ideas for a Small Planet' screening on 'BUILDING' from the Sundance Channel's 'The Green' series. See the website; <http://www.sundancechannel.com/thegreen> for more information & other links, facts, et. Al.

EVENTS

5/10/07

Solving the Ironwork Mystery: The Philadelphia - Wilmington Connection

New light is shed on Wilmington's Historic Ironwork in a lecture by **Dr. Ann Howell of Baltimore, Maryland** at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 10 at the The New Hanover Room- New Hanover County Main Library. Reservations not required but suggested. Call 251-3700, x.104 for reservations & information. Reception following at the Bellamy Mansion Museum, 503 Market Street. Sponsored by Historic Wilmington, Bellamy Mansion Museum, and Friends of NH Library.

5/12/07

Stormwater Wetland Planting.

Come out and help plant a new stormwater wetland at **Mary Bridger's Park** (Grace Street @ Burnt Mill Creek- just north of Chestnut Avenue). The project is part of an ongoing project aiming to improve the **Burnt Mill Creek** watershed (presented to CFGBA by Jason Wright @ NC State Extension last summer). The overall goal is to reduce stormwater pollution in the watershed by installing new BMP's (best management practices) like rain gardens and wetlands to educate watershed residents about stormwater pollution prevention. Several other phases have been installed (and highlighted on the CFGBA 'Green' Tour) including the parking lots @ YMCA, Port City Java off Market Street, near UNCW and at Gregory Elementary. **Volunteers should come around 9.30 am (with gloves & water)** to get their hands dirty for a new Wilmington park amenity. Call 910-343-4777 for more information. (rain date 5/19/07)

5/12/07

Canola Field Day- 10 am to Noon.

Learn more about the methods, economics, and markets surrounding Canola production in North Carolina. Harry Hart and his family have planted 6 acres of Canola in Bolton, NC (Miracle Farms) & will provide information about their crop, as well as the future of this industry. This event is co-hosted by **Cape Fear Biofuels**, a local group dedicated to the development of a biofuels infrastructure in our region. For information, go to: www.capefearbiofuels.com. Directions from ILM: Follow HWY 74/76 west towards Lake Waccamaw. Turn left (south) on HWY 211. Miracle Acres Lane is ~5 miles on the left. Call 910-471-5778 for more information.

5-14-15/07

Green Building Basics Seminar

Part of the Renewable Energy Diploma Series & the Green Building Diploma Series, this two-day workshop is a highly recommended course for anyone who considers a career in the renewable energy industry. The course is

an introduction to residential green building principles and practices, and will provide the necessary understanding of resource efficient and "healthy" buildings. Learn the basics of residential green building science, construction/design decision making for healthy homes, indoor air quality and other issues in home construction. 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. McKimmon Conference and Training Center Raleigh, NC Fee: \$560.00 (NC residents- \$448.00) There are many other seminars this week at varying levels see NC Solar Center website for more details. <http://www.ncsc.ncsu.edu/calendar/events.cfm>

5/16/07

Holly Shelter Eco-tour 8am to 2 pm.

This four-hour guided tour of the Holly Shelter Wildlife Game Land with Andy Wood of Audubon N.C. takes participants through a limited-access 100-square-mile natural area in the heart of rural Pender County. Explore grand expanses of long leaf pine savanna, pocosin, and cypress-rimmed pocket pond habitats. Stops along our 17-mile drive provide a closer look at Venus fly traps, the Red-cockaded Woodpecker, and other rare and unique species. Space is limited and pre-payment is required. **\$45/participant Limit:10**
Contact Andy Fairbanks @ 910.794.6001

5/19/07

First Annual Coastal Water Garden Tour

Masonboro Home and Garden and Cape Fear Water Garden are co-sponsoring the first annual **Coast Water Garden Tour** on Saturday, May 19, 2007. More than 15 custom-built water gardens are featured in the tour (large commercial ponds to private, small water gardens), which extends to Hampstead, Castle Hayne, and throughout Wilmington from 9 am to 5 pm. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased from Masonboro Home and Garden, Arboretum, Five Oaks Nursery, and Wild Bird and Garden. All proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the **Ability Garden at the Arboretum**. The self-guided tour begins at Masonboro Home and Garden at 4038 Masonboro Loop Road, where visitors will be able to view a demonstration system. Maps, driving instructions & descriptions of the water gardens will be distributed. Details of the water garden tour will also be available at the website, www.capefearwatergardens.com. Contact: Dawn York @ 910-612-1152 or 910-792-1499.

5/20/07

Kayak Eco Tour 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Airlie's Environmental Education Program, partnering with Salt Marsh Kayak Company, leads basic kayak tours into Bradley Creek. Groups discuss the ecology, wildlife, and human influences on one of the most productive ecosystems on the planet.

6/8 5.30 pm-9 pm, 6/9- 9 am to 5 pm.

Global Warming Conference @ UNCW. 'What do we know, What can we do?'

UNC-Wilmington will be hosting an educational series of talks, workshops, and events regarding recent events and findings about global warming. Speakers include UNCW professors Dr. Lawrence Cahoon & Dr. Bert Drake. Workshops include: Green Building & Remodeling, Green Transportation, Help For Our Cities, Impending Storm: NC Coast, Government Officials on Global Warming, Food: Problems & Solutions, Water & Energy Conservation, Renewable Energy Sources, Poverty, Social Change & Global Warming [2 hr panel], What *Do* We Know: Scientists' Roundtable. Registration is \$20 until 5/26, then \$30 until day of conference. See www.globalwarmingnc.org for full details.

6/21/07

'Reel Architecture'- AIA150 Architecture in Film Series

For AIA150, AIA Wilmington is having a film series, 'Reel Architecture', at Jengo's Playhouse several times this year on the third Thursday of the month. The next showing will be **'The World'**- a dramatic feature from China that explores the relationship between two workers (a dancer & a security guard) at a Chinese theme park. Through their story, the audience gets an inside look at a 'vegas-like' environment of a gaudy theme park filled with recreations of foreign landmarks that is noted as critique of globalization of China. Individual tickets are \$5, or series passes (available at Jengo's Warehouse- 815 Princess Street) are \$25. Movie starts @ 7 pm.

PROJECTS:

Solar Powered Fountain Project

Cape Fear Green Building Alliance, is organizing the design and construction of a solar powered fountain in downtown Wilmington. The purpose of the fountain is to create a refreshing, aesthetically pleasing play & relaxation space for pedestrians along the Riverwalk, and to showcase state-of-the-art renewable energy & green building technologies in a local project. CFGBA's Victor Brown is heading up the

Action Team for implementing this project- the team is meeting once a month outside of our usual meetings (Downtown library space). If you signed up for the project sub-committee and offered additional support, **please contact the CFGBA Administrator** at info@cfgba.org and check in with Victor and others at the March meeting.

Toomer Alley

Cape Fear Green Building Alliance is working with the City of Wilmington to renovate Toomer Alley in downtown Wilmington using pervious pavement, to reduce stormwater runoff and help improve local water quality. Toomer Alley is located across from Front Street Brewery, between Front Street and the 2nd Street parking deck. Finishing touches are still to come such as planters & possibly solar lighting. The adjacent empty lot is also being renovated by the Parks & Recreation Dept. for an interim pocket park (until eventual development occurs) with summer outdoor movies! Also, look for announcements on an official "ribbon-cutting" soon?

OPPORTUNITIES/ANNOUCEMENTS:

CFGBA New T-shirts & window/bumper stickers!

Member **Steve Hotz & his company D2** (Dynamic Digital, 207-0030) designed the new logo for CFGBA & it's a huge hit. We launched the new T-shirts and window/bumper stickers at Earth Day & plan on other items to promote the group and our 'green' mission throughout the year. See <http://www.dynamicdigital.org/> for more of his work. GREAT JOB, STEVE!!

CFGBA Website & Message Board

Please continue to visit our website during its remodeling phase at www.cfgba.org. New changes will include a member's listing and sponsor page, updated membership and sponsorship information, upcoming meeting highlights, monthly newsletter archive, and enhanced green building resources. Also visit our message board at <http://bcfgba7.runboard.com> to post questions and join discussions on current green building issues and related topics.

Cape Fear 'Green Pages'

Discussions have commenced recently about publishing a '**green pages**' for the Cape Fear Area (see this link for a similar one in the Asheville area) If you are interested in volunteering time and working on an action group talk to board member Todd King at the next meeting. Green building, resources, vendors, products, government organizations, non-profits, etc. are all planned to be catalogued and featured. <http://www.wncgbc.org/publications/directories.php>

Electronic Automobile Association- NEW Wilmington Chapter

Page Paterson has contacted CFGBA about her efforts to head up the start up of a Wilmington Chapter of the EAA electric automobile association. She is looking to find members locally and will be sending out educational articles and announcements of events. Once a core group of members to the national organization is met, a local chapter will be officially sanctioned. See <http://www.eaaev.org/> or contact Page @ PagePaterson@ec.rr.com for more information and get on her e-mail list.

In Case You Missed It.... In April, **Jessica Biel & Jeff Harvey** from **PANELWERX** in Holly Ridge, NC gave a demonstration on **structural insulated panels** or **SIPS**. See their website: <http://www.panelwerx.com/>, for more product information. Or the industry site; <http://www.sips.org/> for more general information. Also, CFGBA was well represented at the **NH County Library's 'Green Forum'** on 4/18, as well as, at a screening of **Kilowatt Ours @ UNCW**.

Ron Wilson gave us an update that CFCC students **placed 2nd and 3rd** in the **2007 NC Sustainable Building Design Competition judged** on 4/21. What an amazing track record! See www.sustainabledesigncompetition.org for further details or contact Ron Wilson (CFGBA board member) @ CFCC, 362-7337.

Scott Ogden, Secretary
Cape Fear Green Building Alliance
www.cfgba.org

"Global warming is too serious for the world any longer to ignore its danger or split into opposing factions on it." Tony Blair (so long....)