



# The SLO Green Scene

SLO GREEN BUILD'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

Summer 2010

## SLOGB Meetings:

### GREEN PEER REVIEW

July 20th, Aug. 17th, & Sept. 21st, 2010

5:30-7:00 PM

Location: Ludwick Comm. Center, Room A

864 Santa Rosa Street, San Luis Obispo

Contact [peer-review@slogreenbuild.org](mailto:peer-review@slogreenbuild.org)

(Dates and times subject to change,

verify before attending)

### USGBC C-4 OPEN MEETING

July 16th, Aug. 20th, & Sept. 17th, 2010

12:00-1:00 PM

Bring your lunch to discuss LEED topics

Location: RRM Design Group,

3765 S. Higuera Street, Suite 102, SLO

Contact (No RSVP necessary) Andy Pease at

[andy@inbalancegreen.com](mailto:andy@inbalancegreen.com)

### SLOGB BD. OF DIRECTORS

July 14th, Aug. 11th, & Sept. 8th, 2010

6:30-8:30 PM

Location: Air Pollution Control District

Conference Room, 3433 Roberto Ct., SLO

Contact Lana Adams @805.286.0072

or [admin@slogreenbuild.org](mailto:admin@slogreenbuild.org)

### GREEN BUILDING ALLIANCE

July 7th, Aug. 4th, & Sept. 1st, 2010

5:00-6:30 PM

Location: The Club House at This Old House

740 W. Foothill, San Luis Obispo

Contact Judy King, [judy@phatenergy.com](mailto:judy@phatenergy.com)

### SLOCOAT/ APPROP. TECH.

#### COALITION

July 21st, Aug. 18th, & Sept. 15th, 2010

6:30 PM

Location: 547 B Marsh St. San Luis Obispo

Contact Ken Haggard [slog@slonet.org](mailto:slog@slonet.org)

All meetings are listed online on the  
Events Calendar at [www.slogreenbuild.org](http://www.slogreenbuild.org)

## Did you know?

## SLO Green Build Has a Traveling ROADSHOW!

SLOGB provides a short, educational presentation available to groups such as professional organizations, clubs, students, etc. A trained SLOGB presenter travels to the group's location and presents an overview of who SLO Green Build is and what we do. We provide a history of green building, highlight local green projects, and offer green tips, or more in-depth material depending upon the audience's needs. The Roadshow promotes our mission of reducing the overall impact of the built environment on human health and the natural environment by introducing the public to SLO Green Build and inspiring people to participate in green living.

Organizations to which we have presented to date include:

- The Global Climate Change Coalition
- The Tea and Talk Weekly Discussion Group
- The Association of Realtors (MLS meeting)
- Retired Active Men's Group
- Grover Beach Rotary

Is your organization or company interested in learning more about green building? Please contact the Road Show Coordinator to request a Road Show presentation of any length for your next meeting agenda. Jeannie Mallor, (805) 466-6263 or [jeannie@madronelandscapes.com](mailto:jeannie@madronelandscapes.com).

## PEER REVIEW PROGRAM; MAKING A DIFFERENCE

By Rachel Aljilani

SLOGB's Peer Review Program encourages and recognizes projects that have met the requirements of standard green building rating systems like the LEED rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council or GreenPoint Rated by Build It Green. Peer-reviewed projects and those meeting the requirements of certification through a standard green building rating system are also recognized by the local municipalities and their peers with the presentation of a certificate of recognition.

Over the past four years, several project owners and design teams have been awarded



*Design team and SLO Green Build members from Left to right: Richard Beller (Founding SLOGB Board member), Mike Blum, Paul Wolff, Ken Haggard (Founding SLOGB Board member), Polly Cooper, Leslie Cohn, Scott Clark and Bob Wolf.*

# FSC Certified Lumber

By Greg Crabtree

## What is the FSC?

In 1993 the FSC, Forest Stewardship Council, was created as a way of seeking solutions to the global problems of deforestation and illegal logging practices throughout the planet. The FSC has developed standards and principles that help guide the forestry industry as well as forestry management towards sustainable harvesting of trees for lumber, paper, and other forest products. The FSC is an independent, non-profit, third-party certification organization that certifies the source of the wood – that it came from a sustainably managed forest.

The FSC evaluates two main attributes in order to measure the sustainability level of lumber: the harvesting process and the chain of custody. The harvesting process is evaluated based on how trees are planted, grown, cut down, and replanted in order to ensure the long-term health and existence of the forest. The chain of custody evaluates how the lumber is handled from harvest to marketplace – who processes and by what means they process the lumber.

## What makes FSC-certified lumber a “green” building product?

FSC-certified lumber guarantees that particular product was harvested from

a FSC-certified forest. These particular forests are managed in order to protect the long-term health of the forest as well as the other resources that these forests contain.

By substituting FSC-certified lumber into a building project in place of “typically” harvested lumber you will be protecting the environment and helping to ensure clean, healthy forests for future generations to enjoy and continue to build with.

## Cost & Availability

FSC-certified lumber comes in a wide range of products from general framing members such as 2x4s and 2x6s to plywood and interior finish grade woods and veneers. Also available are engineered wood products, such as OSB, wood I-joists, LVLs, and glu-lam beams. Certain products may not be carried by your local lumber yard and require some forethought when beginning a project due to additional lead times. Another drawback to using FSC-certified lumber may be increased cost. Costs tend to be about 15% greater than traditional lumber but could be higher or lower, depending on availability in your area and quantity ordered. It is recommended that you check with your local lumber yards to determine cost and availability of products in your area.



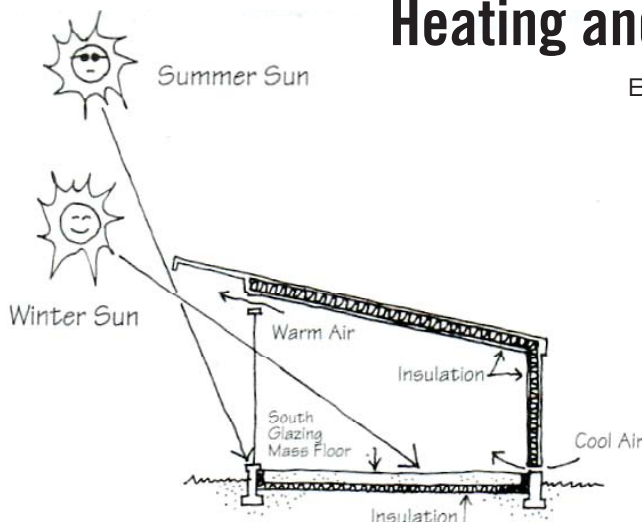
*FSC Certified forest, after harvest*



*Non-FSC 'forest' after harvest*

# Heating and Cooling for Free!

By Andy Pease



## Passive Thermal Design

Wouldn't it be great to have your indoor spaces be completely comfortable: toasty warm in the winter, cool in the summer, fresh clean air all year... and to have that comfort spending little or nothing on a utility bill? A well-designed building using the sun and wind to heat and cool, also known as “passive thermal design” can achieve all that and more!

Although there are sophisticated computer models to fine-tune a system, the basics are not rocket science. Good energy-efficient design focuses on the following key elements:

- Glass: location, quantity, and type of window

Join the team that keeps this powerful engine running **VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

continued page 3

## SLOGB & Member Events:

### Sage Eco-Gardens & Nursery Garden Discussion Topics

Saturday, July 3rd, Aug. 7th, Sept.11th, 2010  
10:00 AM-11:00 AM

July 3rd: Creating Beautiful Succulent Container Gardens

Aug. 7th: Asian Garden elements & There's a Bamboo for you!

Sept.11th: Growing Tuberous Begonias on the Central Coast!

Meet in the Demonstration Garden, b.y.o. lawn chair. 1188 Los Osos Valley Road, Los Osos (805) 528-1800

### SLOGB Quarterly Mixer

Thursday, July 15th, 2010

5:30 PM-7:30 PM

Get to know Green Build members and their businesses. Madrone Landscapes, 8045 Morro Road, Atascadero, CA  
Open to the public!

### Green Bldg. Codes Seminar

Wednesday, July 21st, 2010

8:00 AM-3:00 PM

ICC Central Coast Chapter will host the CALBO *Green Building Codes & Ordinances Seminar* at the City Council Chamber, 6907 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA  
Register by July 5th: Dave (805) 470.3410  
dmuehlhausen@atascadero.org

### Green Gala Fundraising Event

Saturday, Sept.25th

6:00 PM- 10:00 PM

At Castoro Cellars, 1315 North Bethel Road Templeton, CA

## HEATING AND COOLING from page 2

- Mass: thermal mass such as concrete, block or water
- Insulation: in floors, walls and roof

### Glass

The basic premise is to control how much and when the sun comes in, and the best way to do that is to orient your building toward the south. On the Central Coast, the winter sun at noon is only 30° above the horizon, so it's a straight shot for the sun to get in and heat your building as long as you have south-facing windows. In the summer at noon, the sun is 78° above the horizon, which means that with 1'-2' of overhang, these same south-facing windows won't have any direct heat gain at all.

On the east and west sides, the sun will beat in all year, even in the summer or fall when you don't want it, so those windows should be limited and have extra shading. North-facing windows provide good daylight and cross ventilation, but no solar gain so should also be limited to avoid unnecessary heat loss.

Of course, the location and quantity needs to be balanced with the reality of the site regarding the specific climate of the area, views, prevailing winds, daylight, etc.

### Mass

Thermal mass is simply using something really heavy such as stone or concrete as your heat "battery" to even out temperature swings. We've all experienced the dramatic change in temperature due to thermal mass by going into a cellar, adobe building,

or even leaning against a concrete wall. When you're cold, a sun-drenched stone feels great, or when you're hot, entering an underground cellar feels refreshing.

Even if you have the right windows, if you design without mass you'll get plenty warm on a winter day but cold again by night. With mass, the sun will slowly warm the air as well as the concrete by day, then re-radiate the heat at night when you need it most. In the summer, since you have good overhangs on your windows, there won't be any direct sun in the building, so the mass absorbs the day's heat, and the room will stay cool and comfortable. At night, open your windows and the cool central coast evenings will whisk away heat from the mass, re-setting it to absorb the heat from the next hot day.

### Insulation

To make sure your glass and mass work effectively, your building needs to be well insulated. Insulation is measured in how well it resists heat loss (R value); the higher the R-value, the more insulating. R-13 is still allowed by code, but R-19 is more appropriate minimum and requires a wall 6" thick for batt insulation. Up to R-30 would still benefit performance, which is usually accomplished using alternate wall systems such as straw bale or insulating concrete forms (ICF).

For more details on passive thermal design, see the SLO Green Build Passive Heating and Cooling Rules of Thumb. After all, who could argue with cooling and heating for free?

## PEER REVIEW from page 1

certificates of recognition from SLOGB including Congregation Beth David in San Luis Obispo which was the first building to be LEED certified in SLO County with the cumbersome documentation done by volunteers. Beth David as well as other projects receiving certificates of recognition will be added to the case studies section of SLOGB's website. By providing local examples and recognizing green buildings, the peer review program hopes to build awareness and encourage every building to be a green building. Schedule a Peer Review today! peer-review@slogreenbuild.org



*Congregation Beth David in San Luis Obispo awarded certificates of recognition from SLOGB and became the first building to be LEED certified in SLO County (Interior of Sanctuary pictured to right)*



[www.slogreenbuild.org](http://www.slogreenbuild.org)

**Your local nonprofit organization** dedicated to minimize construction-related waste, create healthier, more durable buildings, reduce operating costs, and support local businesses.

**SLO Green Build is on Twitter and Facebook!**

Join the more than 1500 followers for exclusive content and interact with other SLO Green Build fans.

**Receive this newsletter via email!**

Help us go even greener by reducing our printing quantity. Please make requests to [admin@slogreenbuild.org](mailto:admin@slogreenbuild.org)

*Green Scene editing and graphic layout by Jessie Skidmore  
www.jessieskidmore.com*

**Annual memberships to SLO Green Build are available at the following levels (please check one):**

- Cypress \$50**     **Student/Senior \$25**  
Window decal, monthly Green Inside newsletter, access to SLOGB member logo
- Manzanita \$100**  
Above + listing as member on SLOGB website
- Bay Laurel \$250**  
Above + one featured insert in *Green by Example\**
- Madrone \$500**  
Above + listing in Green Building professionals Resource on SLOGB website; brochures displayed at applicable SLOGB events\*
- Coastal Live Oak \$1000**  
Above + four additional featured inserts and logo displayed on sponsorship page in *Green by Example\**
- Sycamore \$2500**  
Contact SLOGB, [admin@slogreenbuild.org](mailto:admin@slogreenbuild.org)
- Redwood \$5000**  
Contact SLOGB, [admin@slogreenbuild.org](mailto:admin@slogreenbuild.org)

**NEW: Join online! [www.slogreenbuild.org](http://www.slogreenbuild.org)**

*\*Green by Example* features SLOGB members' sustainability case studies and are on display at SLOGB kiosks located throughout the county and at SLOGB events. Please contact [admin@slogreenbuild.org](mailto:admin@slogreenbuild.org) for specifications and other information.

*join us for:*

**SLOGB Quarterly Mixer  
at Madrone Landscape**

8045 Morro Rd. Atascadero

Open to the Public!

July 15, 2010

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**Green Gala Fundraising  
Event at Castoro Cellars**

1315 N. Bethel Road, Templeton

Live and Silent Auctions!

September 25, 2010

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

**Annual memberships to SLO Green Build are available at the following levels (please check one):**

**YES! I support SLO Green Build. Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_.** SLO Green Build is a nonprofit organization.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Profession \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make your check payable to: SLOGB**

Detach and mail to: SLO Green Build  
P.O. Box 12043  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

Business members will be asked to sign a SLO Green Build "Commitment to Green Business Practices" agreement prior to being added to the Green Building Professionals Resource website listing (Madrone level and above)

For questions or more information, contact SLO Green Build by email at "[admin@slogreenbuild.org](mailto:admin@slogreenbuild.org)" or by phone at (805) 286.0072