

Designed For You



7625 Dean Martin Drive, Suite #100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89139
office 702.876.0668 fax 702.876.3493

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architecture / engineering / site
GARY GUY WILSON



planning / interior design
ARCHITECTS

The Green Scene

Ask The Architect

The world is turning green. Every day in our lives, it is becoming commonplace in conversations, ads, publications, TV programs and even movies to be talking, pondering, promoting, and debating green. Green is here to stay. It is becoming a part of our culture.

Green and sustainability is a generator for many issues being discussed and evaluated in our society. From our special perspective, it has become a major area of study, investigation, consideration and implementation in the design of our homes, institutional buildings, our neighborhoods and communities. Green elements are incorporated in a design project both by general considerations for more careful selection of methods and materials employed in the project, and by site planning evaluations for minimal environmental impact and, from applying common sense and addressing code requirements as discussed in last month's article. Green is also incorporated into a design through detailed specialized efforts and decisions to pursue and meet specific criteria established by United States Green Building Corporation, (USGBC), through the Leadership in Energy and Environmental (LEED) Program, to achieve points toward Certification of the project.

1. **Natural Lighting:** If you are sitting in your chair and you can see natural light streaming into your space, green consideration is involved. The natural light reduces the need for artificial light in certain instances and times of the day.

2. **Daylight Views:** If you are sitting in your chair and can see outside to an exterior view, green and LEED considerations are involved. LEED has determined that exterior views contribute to a person's well being and productivity. So, such views are an asset to a project.

3. **Materials Selections:** If you follow some of the Interiors type magazines, catalogs, or just shop, and you are in the mood to redecorate, and you decide to change out your flooring material, for instance and you decide you like bamboo flooring, then you are thinking green. Bamboo is a rapidly renewed resource. It is great to look at and can be useful in accumulating LEED points for certification.

4. **Materials Selections:** If you decide you like the bare concrete floor exposed, perhaps with a color stain, you may be thinking green. The concrete as a building material, because it is produced locally, is a product that has positive green considerations. And, if you are selective in the stain used, and it gives off low emissions you may be in the green world.

We will talk about other common sense items of interest in future "Green Scene" articles. In the meantime, if you have any questions of interest regarding these "green" considerations in your life, please "ASK THE ARCHITECT/LEED AP" at ggw@ggwarchitects.com.



SPOTLIGHT *Todd Enninga*

It was at Laughlin's Aquarius Hotel-Casino where Todd Enninga crossed paths with GGWArchitects in 2006. By then, Todd had formed T.E. Services (teservices@embarqmail.com), his own construction consulting/management company, to help property owners through the construction process. He was the only contractor qualified to meet the time and budget constraints for the Aquarius project.

Todd began his career in carpentry, attending the "school of hard knocks" as an apprentice to his "Master Carpenter" dad for 8 years. Though born in Minnesota and raised in Rapid City, South Dakota, he migrated west, where his carpentry skills got him work in Arizona and Colorado. Todd's first big project was the "Point at South Mountain" Convention Center in Tempe, Arizona. He later joined Colorado's Bethesda Corporation, which built and/or renovated assisted-living facilities in Denver and Grand Junction.

It was the vibrant construction industry that lured Todd to Las Vegas in 1988. Beginning as a custom homebuilder, Todd joined Mardian Construction Company (now Perini), where he worked on the Flamingo-Hilton Hotel-Casino. Todd's career experience went on to include flyover bridges, highway construction, and mega resorts with mixed use venues. "Where else can you build a stratosphere and a pyramid?"

Currently, Todd is working with Tishman Construction Company at MGM Mirage's "City Center" project. Once his assignment is over in late 2009, he looks forward to further hotel-casino projects. He is especially proud of obtaining his customer millwork license in August, 2008.

Family is a prime focus in Todd's life, as well. He and his wife have 4 children, ages 8 to 22. Todd's brother and sister have also made Las Vegas their home.

Though the economy is bleak now, "Las Vegas seems to be bouncing back fast." He believes it will turn around within 18 months.

Todd enjoyed his experience with GGWArchitects in 2006 and would love the opportunity to join forces again. "Jason (Andoscia) was a pleasure to work with. Les (Travis) has been 'first cabin'. The level of professionalism has been the best I've seen. It's a great group of people here." Thanks, Todd; we'd love to work with you again, too!

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