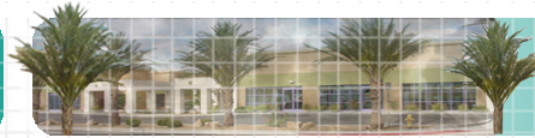


# Designed For You



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architecture / engineering / site  
**GARY GUY WILSON**



planning / interior design  
**ARCHITECTS**

## Changing LEED Credentials?

by Gary Guy Wilson, AIA, LEED AP

The USGBC (United States Green Building Council) has a wealth of information available on this subject. And, in addition, one can find much more about it by contacting [ggw@ggwarchitects.com](mailto:ggw@ggwarchitects.com).

In the fall of 2009, the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI) launched the Credential Maintenance Program (CMP). This program began the Designation and Development over the next two years of a new LEED AP+ specialty credential program. The program allows LEED AP's, with the interest, to pursue training in specialty areas, and be so recognized.

New Candidates for LEED accreditation will either pursue and be examined for LEED AP+ or for "Green Associate". Green Associate provides accreditation and recognition for familiarity with LEED, but, for those who will not be working directly on LEED projects.

Current LEED AP's (or Legacy LEED AP's) may participate in the new specialty program or not at their choice. While at the same time, they maintain their rights and credentials as a LEED AP, practicing in the review and processing of LEED projects.

There was a two year limit set to allow those choosing to opt in to the Specialty Program and CMP. Half of that time has now expired. Those with interest can go to "Credential Maintenance Program Guide," at [www.GBCI.org](http://www.GBCI.org) for options in earning training hours. LEED AP's can also log on to "MyCredentials" on [www.GBCI.org](http://www.GBCI.org) for their status, enrollment period, and to enroll in a specialty credential via testing and or continuing education.

Appropriately, much of the USGBC approved GBCI CE (continuing education) is also approved by the American Institute of Architect for AIA/CES LU's (Continuing Education Learning Units). So in many instances, it is possible to hit two goals with the same stick.

For next time, did you know you can save energy and increase occupant thermal comfort level with radiant heating and cooling? More on this topic next time....

The Architect says "Why Build Green?": To SAVE energy consumption and cost, SAVE water and cost, SAVE resources and cost, SAVE on operating cost, SAVE on personnel down time due to illness, SAVE, SAVE, and SAVE...

Do you Questions or Comments regarding "Green" considerations in your life? "ASK THE ARCHITECT/LEED AP" at [ggw@ggwarchitects.com](mailto:ggw@ggwarchitects.com)."



## SPOTLIGHT *George Kalb*

It's always nice to re-connect with a longtime client, Such is the case with Kalb Construction's President, George Kalb. George first teamed up with GGWArchitects at our Spring Mountain Road office 30 years ago on design/build projects. This kind of teaming controls costs and keeps change orders to a minimum. The 2 firms designed and built retail, office, and convenience store facilities to name a few. Kalb Construction was very pleased with GGWArchitects. "The service was fine and on time. They were happy; we were happy."

George Kalb was almost "born" into the construction business. His dad moved the family from the San Fernando Valley to Las Vegas for better career opportunities and founded George F. Kalb Construction in 1963. George and his brother "bought out" their dad's business and formed Kalb Construction in 1980. George became sole owner in 2007.

The experience George gained, growing up in the industry, combined with Bachelor of Science degree in Building Technology Architecture from Seattle's University of Washington, paved the way for a full career in construction. It's all he's ever known.

Today George is President of Kalb Construction and pleased that son, Jeff, is on board as Vice President. Kalb currently has 3 generations represented, with a fourth in development. Jeff's 18-year-old son is in a construction program at college. It's a great source of pride.

Over the years, Kalb Construction has built a diverse mix of private and public projects, including multiple car dealerships, banks, and over 100 convenience stores. They have also done work in casinos, community facilities, and schools, as well as 3.5 million s.f. of concrete tilt-up buildings, which include tenant improvement/warehouse space. All projects are in Nevada, and they have clearly left a mark. The AGC has awarded the firm with several "safety awards".

The suffering economy has forced some changes. They've had to "pair down" their staff from 60 to 15. It's also forced George and his team to devote 50% of their time on marketing. They can no longer rely on "word-of-mouth" or "repeat" business. They are revisiting past clients and developing a "brand new client base". "We are re-marketing ourselves by going into tenant improvement work. There are so many free-standing buildings that are vacant. Tenants will want build-outs." Kalb is also seeking government projects.

George and Jeff are beginning to see a light at the end of the tunnel and have picked up some good projects over the last 60 days. They are cautiously optimistic. "I think it will take another couple years for things to turn around." Kalb Construction has been a true survivor through being "lean and mean", says George.

A strong company and a strong family go hand-in-hand. George and his wife, Barbara, have 2 children, Jeff, and Cynthia, and 3 grandchildren. Success on both fronts is evident.

George is looking forward to the possibility of working with GGWArchitects again in the near future. A renewal of this working relationship would be welcome!

# GGWArchitects<sup>2</sup>