

The Rebuild America March/April 2001 Flash Report

“Good News from America’s Communities”

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New Partnerships

The following partnerships joined Rebuild America recently:

Rebuild Rahway Housing; Rahway, NJ
Rebuild Gentry; Gentry, AR
City of Marianna; Marianna, AR
Sheldon Jackson College; Anchorage, AK
Rebuild the Dalles Schools; The Dalles, OR
Deschutes County SWEEP; Bend, OR
Newport News Housing and Redevelopment Authority; Newport News, VA
Hagerstown Housing Authority; Hagerstown, MD
Rebuild USAO (The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma); Chickasha, OK

Currently, there are 335 active partnerships, located in 49 states and three territories. Altogether, these partnerships have 548,432,329 square feet of retrofits completed or underway.

Rebuild America Announces Energy Champion Award Winners

During a luncheon at the Rebuild America National Forum 2001 in Atlanta, Georgia, Rebuild America announced the 2001 Energy Champion Award Winners. The winners are: Partnership of the Year, Rebuild Boston Energy Initiative; Partnership Leader of the Year, John Root – Rebuild Muscatine, Iowa; State Partnership of the Year, Rebuild Alabama; Business Partner of the Year, Sempra Energy Services; K-12 Schools, Ohio Energy Project; Local Government, Rebuild Buffalo Niagara Region Partnership; Commercial Buildings, The Hotel Alice Project; Universities & Colleges, University of Utah; Public and Affordable Housing, Boston Housing Authority; and Man of the Year, Lorenz (Larry) Schoff.

For more information about the award winners and other Forum happenings, check out the March/April edition of the *Partner Update*.

Idaho Enacts New Performance Contracting Enabling Legislation

On April 2, 2001, Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne signed new legislation concerning performance contract enabling. The legislation makes it practical for state organizations to use performance contracting to upgrade their facilities.

Congratulations to Sue Seifert and Ken Baker of the Idaho Energy Division for their effort to get the law passed. They enlisted the Energy Services Coalition (ESC) to survey its members, seeking information from those who have performance contracting legislation in place. Using ESC's input, they worked with interested parties to craft performance contracting enabling legislation that fits Idaho. The fact that this legislation was passed by a wide margin in the Idaho legislature is a tribute to the fine work of Sue and Ken. Bret Hunter, Regional Manager for CMS Viron Energy Services, also made a major contribution to this effort. For more information, contact Michael Arny @ Leonardo@leonardo-academy.org.

Rebuild Carbondale Stays Busy

On April 19, 2001, Rebuild Carbondale, the Southern Illinois chapter of the Association of Professional Energy Consultants (APEC) and Developing Energy Resources for Business and Industry (DERBI) programs sponsored a workshop on energy efficient construction technologies. Entitled "Energy Efficient Styrofoam Blocks" and hosted by Larry Schieferdecker, the event examined the blocks and their role in energy-efficient construction.

Rebuild Carbondale also participated in the City of Carbondale's 2nd Annual Earth Fair, held at Turley Park on April 21, 2001. The fair featured music and presentations from a solar powered sound stage and exhibits on energy-efficient and earth-friendly products and practices.



Rebuild Carbondale educates members about energy-efficient building materials like the Styrofoam blocks used to build this structure.

Upcoming APEC/Rebuild Carbondale events will cover topics such as: Designing a Passive Solar Home; Harnessing Solar Power; Solar Powered Fuel Cell; U.S. DOE Industrial Energy Programs; Energy and Performance Contracting; Micro-Turbines and Applications; and Added Value Determination of Projects. For more information about Rebuild Carbondale or APEC activities, contact Manohar Kulkarni at 618/453-3221 or email at kulkarni@siu.edu.

Design and Construction 2001 Conference to Be Held in May

The Design and Construction 2001 Conference and Expo will be held on May 10, 2001, at the Philadelphia Marriott in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Sustainable Building Products Conference will address today's economic, health, energy and environmental building and management challenges. The concept of sustainable practices that result in lower life cycle building costs, reduced landfill costs, and reduced environmental costs make economic sense and is gaining a foothold in today's market.

This is an opportunity to learn from professionals who present a realistic perspective on the use of sustainable products and systems based on their own experiences and see products firsthand and speak to exhibitors about product qualities, prices and availability. For more information about the conference, contact Linda Knapp of Philadelphia Self-Reliant at 215/546-0724 or email at psr@netreach.net.

Salt Lake City to Host Sixteenth Annual Western States Energy Conference

The Hilton Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah, will be the home of the 16th Annual Western States Energy Conference and Technical Workshop on May 10 and 11, 2001. The purpose of the workshop is to bring facility managers, engineers and energy management professionals together to discuss energy efficiency resources and opportunities. For more information on the conference, please contact Patti Lynn Case of ETC Group, Inc. at 801/278-1927 or email at plcase@etcgpr.com.

Smart Growth Conference Hosted by NYSERDA

On April 23, 2001, NYSERDA hosted a one-day conference at the Empire State Plaza in Albany, New York, to discuss issues surrounding Smart Growth, including creating a community vision, collaborative community planning and regional planning. The conference also focused on the Quality Communities Interagency Task Force Report, which is the culmination of a yearlong effort of the Task Force chaired by Lt. Governor Mary Donohue. The report, "State and Local Governments Partnering for a Better NY," reflects a number of Task Force recommendations to improve the quality of life in the communities throughout the state of New York. NYSERDA and Rebuild New York's Communities are both ad-hoc member of this Task Force.

Through NYSERDA's involvement, the organization impressed upon other members the fact that energy use is integral to all of the other areas they have identified as affecting the quality of life in our communities. Areas such as: Revitalizing Central Cities, Main Streets, and Small Towns; Preservation of Open Spaces and Other Critical Environmental Resources; Transportation and More Liveable Neighborhoods; and Sustainable Economic Development.

The conference was attended by 200-300 people, including Lt. Governor Mary Donohue, Anton Nelessen, President of A. Nelessen Associates, and former Secretary of State Alexander Treadwell. For more information contact Peggie Neville at 518/862-1090.

Learning the Benefits of Recycling

Rebuild Sarasota, Florida will be hosting a two-day workshop on May 17-18, 2001 in Sarasota, Florida, for local government officials, staff, and stakeholders to learn about environmentally-friendly purchasing. Richard Keller, Chief of the Environmental Services, Maryland Office of Environmental Services and Waste Management Program, will be the guest speaker and will discuss how state and county governments can take advantage of purchasing and using recycled materials in their buildings and at work. The Rebuild Sarasota partnership recently adopted their Action Plan, which includes incorporating disaster mitigation and green buildings practices into their Rebuild America activities. For information about this event, contact Jennifer Carver at 850/414-9670.

Colleges and Universities Workshop Hosted by Tennessee Higher Education Facilities Officers

The Tennessee Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers (APPA) held a workshop March 22, 2001, at Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) in Murfreesboro. There were 30 attendees representing educational institutions across the state and members of the State Board of Regents. Presentations were made by Joe Whitefield, Director of the Center for Energy Efficiency at MTSU, Mike MacDonald, Rebuild America Sector Manager for Higher Education, and Rick Wood, P.E., of Smith, Seckman & Reid, Inc., Consulting Engineers. At issue was overall heating and cooling plant system strategic approaches and configurations, with comparisons of energy benefits, costs, and methods. Many attendees reported they were ready to start major projects on their campuses following a state decision that educational institutions will be allowed to retain utility cost savings and also allowing use of performance contracting. For more information, contact Mike MacDonald at 865/574-5187 or email at khm@ornl.gov.

Rebuild Iowa Coordinators Travel to Atlanta

Community coordinators for five Rebuild Iowa communities traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, for the Rebuild America National Forum. Catherine Bergman, Barry Johnson, Elizabeth Plasket, John Root and Margaret Bishop left winter behind in Iowa to learn more about Rebuild America in sunny, warm Atlanta.

During the conference the coordinators took advantage of the many opportunities to exchange ideas with other Rebuild America Partnerships. The forum was also an opportunity to learn about the assistance and resources available to the partnerships.

They were also on hand when John Root, Rebuild Muscatine, received the Partnership Leader of the Year award during the Energy Champions luncheon on Wednesday, March 14. "We're excited that John was selected to receive this award," said Rebecca Spiess, Rebuild Iowa State Representative. "This award is a testament to the hard work and commitment he offers toward improving energy efficiency in his community and our state."

Rebecca Spiess is the new Rebuild Iowa State Representative and can provide more information on Rebuild Iowa and the community partnerships. She can be reached at 515/281-5007 or via email at rebecca.spiess@dnr.state.ia.us.

The City of Centerville Joins Rebuild Iowa

The city of Centerville is the latest Iowa community to join Rebuild Iowa. Centerville signed on in April 2001 and will begin planning and development goals this spring. Sponsored by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Rebuild Iowa encourages economic and environmental sustainability on the local level. Centerville signed with the program in April, and will begin planning and development of community goals this spring.

Centerville will participate in a unique collaboration between Rebuild Iowa and the DNR's Building Energy Code Education (BECE) program to increase energy efficiency and enhance economic development for the city. According to the DNR's Rebuild Iowa Coordinator, Rebecca Spiess, the venture focuses on building retrofit projects and community education to teach facilities about building energy code interpretation and understanding. Both Rebuild Iowa and BECE programs will be offered countywide.

The City of Centerville joins a growing list of Rebuild Iowa communities that are reducing energy costs, creating new jobs, decreasing waste, and generating community investment through energy efficiency improvements. Other participants include Pella, Akron-Westfield, Muscatine, Hamilton County, and Winneshiek and Worth counties. For more information, contact Rebecca Spiess at 515/281-5007 or email at rebecca.spiess@dnr.state.ia.us.

Rebuild New York's Communities Celebrates Earth Day

In honor of Earth Day 2001 festivities, **Rebuild New York's Communities** exhibited at Buffalo State College's Earth Day Fair on April 22. A host of exhibits from environmental groups, corporations and community organizations were on hand to educate the Western New York community about environmental issues, connecting active parties with one another and encouraging the general public to get involved. For more information contact, Peggie Neville at 518/862-1090.

Keep us informed:

We hoped you enjoyed reading the latest edition of the Rebuild America Flash Report. This report is delivered via e-mail or fax to all Rebuild America program team members, the main

contacts of all Rebuild America partnerships and key energy and environmental media. The Flash Report is fast becoming a practical resource for partnerships and other Rebuild America contacts to keep up to date with the many events and occurrences across the nation that affect the program.

Please share your news with us! Subscribe to the Flash Report and let your colleagues know what you are up to by submitting material for the Rebuild America Flash Report. It's easy - contact Maureen O'Brien at Potomac Communications by phone: 202/466-7391 or e-mail: mobrien@pcgpr.com

Remember, no story is too big or too small. We'll feature your news, and then send it to hundreds of individuals who are curious about what's new and innovative in Rebuild America communities. There is always room for another story!

Check out the Rebuild America website for more news, tools, contacts and an event calendar at:

www.rebuild.org

Note: Be sure to include your name and contact information with any Flash Report submissions. Information used in the Flash Report may be included in Rebuild America weekly reports to the U.S. Department of Energy.