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## *Letter from the Editor*

By Micaela McCraner

How did it get to be March already? Before we know it, we will be in the throes of the spring building rush, and the long awaited CABEC Conference.

CABEC has grown by leaps and bounds since the last Conference, and much has happened with the new standards taking effect. This should make for some interesting topics. As a CEA, I think its essential to attend the Conference. It's seldom that we have the privilege of such a comprehensive group of speakers. Also, I am personally excited about this year's bonus day. It should be a great way to get warmed up to all the great material that will be covered.

No one will dispute that we in California are living in a time of flux. The fields of energy efficiency and green building in construction are growing at an ever-accelerating rate. I have a hard time keeping up with all the new products, services and programs being offered to help builders succeed.

In other news, this will be my last issue as editor of the newsletter. I've had a lot of fun working on it over the past couple of years, but I must move on. I look forward to seeing where the next brave person will take the newsletter. Any takers? If you are interested, please contact Kim ([kim@cabec.org](mailto:kim@cabec.org)) or 877-530-3045.

### Upcoming Events:

- May 6th-8th, 2010: CABEC Conference, San Luis Obispo
- March 5th: Residential CEPE Exams, in Downey and Sacramento
- April 23rd: Non-residential CEPE Exams, in Downey and Sacramento

## *Letter from the Board*

I don't know about you, but I have been getting more inquiries lately, regarding topics such as Green Building, LEED, and Zero Net Energy Homes. Even President Obama, in his State of the Union Address, mentioned the importance of energy efficiency, twice! Along with programs such as LEED for Homes, Energy Star and Build It Green, there is now a State Green Building Standards Code. Even ASHRAE is developing Standard 189.1, a High-Performance Green Building Model Code. Now is the time to prepare for this renewed emphasis on building effi-

ciency. Merely generating paperwork that convinces a building official to issue a building permit will no longer satisfy the demands of many of our clients.

I would like to see more CABEC members acquire the knowledge needed to assist their clients in integrated building energy systems design, as opposed to merely showing them how to meet the minimum Energy Code requirements required to obtain a building permit. A good way to get started down this path would be to become a CABEC Certi-

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## *Letter from the Board (continued)*

fied Energy Analyst.

The requirements for CEA certification, in addition to the prerequisite CEPE certification are as follows:

- CEPE Certification in the same category (Res or Non-res) as the CEA certification sought, including Code of Ethics compliance.
- 5 job references for Residential or Nonresidential work, whichever is applicable with at least a year of experience doing Title 24 Calculations.
- 6 hours of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) covering more than one topic (i.e., not just HVAC, or just Fenestration, or whatever, (CEPE training does not count) in the previous year. ***This is also an ongoing annual requirement to maintain your CEA Certification***, once it is awarded.
- Participate in a Professional Practices Workshop (PPW) or PPW Conference Call.
- \$125 application fee.

The application can be downloaded from: <http://cabec.org/ceaapplication.php>

For those of you who already are CEAs, remember that you must personally log the required CEUs on the CABEC website (login to the Member's Area to find your logs). This must be done each year or your CEA certificate will expire!

An excellent way of obtaining the additional training CEUs needed for the initial CEA certification or to meet one's 2010 annual certification maintenance training goal, would be to attend CABEC's Conference in San Louis Obispo this May 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>. Attending the conference will satisfy all of a CEA's annual CEU requirements for 2010. Also, note that we have added an additional day of training on Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. There is no additional charge to registered Conference participants for these additional classes, but you must pre-register for them. Note that Wednesday includes advanced training sessions for either EnergyPro or MicroPAS.

On a related subject, CABEC has been hearing rumblings from some rebate program managers and even the California Energy Commission regarding dissatisfaction with the quality of some CEPEs' work. Now that we are a couple of months into the new Standards, we are going to begin ramping up enforcement of our current CEPE requirements. Beyond that, it looks like there will be additional requirements coming from the PUC and State utilities regarding the qualifications needed by persons preparing documentation and analysis for utility rebate programs. I think it would behoove all of us to increase the depth and breadth of our knowledge so we will be prepared for the stricter rebate analysis requirements that appear to be inevitable. Even if you are not yet ready to commit to becoming a CEA, I recommend acquiring the CEUs soon so that you will already have this requirement satisfied when needed.

I hope to see you all in San Luis Obispo this May.

Pat Splitt

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## Farrar Green Home

The close relationship between energy efficient building and what has come to be known as Green Building cannot be overstated. Energy efficiency is the first essential building block in any green design. There are many other components, such as location, water use, material sourcing, etc. In Escondido, CA Rhonda and Nigel Farrar have used their role as home owners as a great opportunity to showcase many of these Green Building features, and hopefully inspire others to do the same.



While most of us may not be able to build on such a grand scale, we all can be inspired by the Farrar's commitment to build a beautiful green showcase home, and their willingness to share its many bells and whistles with others. They have gone so far as to create a website for their home, complete with beautiful pictures and links to all their design team partners! The home page

states: "The purpose of this site is to help others build green homes by sharing our experiences with you. We have learned a lot about energy efficient design and sustainable building during this process and want to help others live in a more sustainable way. We hope our home will be a model for green design and building and that our plans for a sustainable farm will be a model for local sustainable family farming." They have definitely achieved their goal!

The two-story, four bedroom home has many exciting features. The walls are constructed from 1' thick insulated concrete form (ICF) block made from 85% recycled concrete, with any construction waste being used for hardscaping. They have used Parallel Strand Laminate (PSL) structural beams, which reduce the need for new materials. The roof is insulated with formaldehyde free blown-in cellulose, and the roof surface is a metal "cool" roof, which also helps with rain water harvesting.

They have chosen to mechanically heat and cool the home with a geothermal ground source heat pump, which is powered by the PV system. The home uses passive solar design for optimum natural lighting and passive cooling, as well as a rooftop photovoltaic system big enough to power the home and two plug-in hybrid vehi-



**The Farrars aimed to not only build a net zero energy design, but also to incorporate the surrounding landscape in an effort to achieve a carbon neutral footprint.**

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#### CABEC Membership Benefits:

- Energy Consultant Training
- Regional Meetings
- Conferences
- Technical Bulletins
- Job Announcements
- Regional Meetings
- CEC Representation
- Website Member Listing
- Quarterly Newsletter

**The upshot of AB 811 is that property owners can finance renewable on-site generation and energy efficiency improvements without financial risk.**

## Welcome New Members!

**Please help us welcome the following folks to CABEC:**

Armen Abramian  
Patrick Aranda  
James Blomquist  
Hal Bohner  
Tim Butts  
Leonard Cruz

Frank Cuthbert  
Alea German  
Edison Guerra  
Philip Higley  
Adrienne Kimmy  
Wanda Lowrey  
Steven Mish  
Kamran Naziri  
Philip Neumann  
Joseph Nicolich

Curtis Randolph  
Pat Salak  
Nova Sayadian  
Wendy Siao  
Jerry Stater  
Mike Vargas  
Aaron Wintersmith  
Christopher Zabaneh

## New Member Profiles

### Hal Bohner

Hal has been an attorney for many years and is now embarking on a new career as an energy consultant. He has an undergraduate degree in engineering and was a practicing engineer before becoming an attorney. He will be taking the CEPE exam this March and believe that becoming a CEPE will be helpful.

### Tim Butts

Tim is a third-generation Sacramento building contractor with over 35 years of experience. Between the years of 2003-2009 he has built over 30 energy efficient green custom homes ranging in size from 3,500–12,000 sq. ft. He is currently the only custom builder who has earned the “Energy Efficient” award from the California organization Flex Your Power.

Tim is currently with Twin Rivers Unified School District (TRUSD) and has taken a position as their Adult Education Contractor Training Director. TRUSD is receiving foreclosed homes through Sacramento Housing

and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) and is conducting a “deep energy green retrofit” work development training program for dislocated workers, parolees, and *Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)* recipients that will deliver newly remodeled net zero energy homes that will be sold as low income housing.

Also, he is a regional Energy Specialist speaker at the Sacramento Valley Home Show circuit where the “ask- the-expert” show has been a favorite with the show patrons for the past four years.

### Edison Guerra

Edison is from Venezuela with a background in the oil industry, separation systems, supply management, waste management, and the military. Now he is transitioning to the energy efficiency industry. He has a Masters in Project Management an MBA.

He is a project manager and consultant using the energy audit as part of the solution to the energy crisis in CA. As a new member in the industry and with

## New Member Profiles

great vision of all the opportunities this industry can bring for a win-win situation, he is looking to associate with private clean energy providers, energy auditors, and government agencies, as well as volunteer in exchange for experience.

### Kamran Naziri

Kamran was born in Iran, and as a teenager moved to the U.S. He graduated from the University of Texas as a civil engineer and has been in the Plan Examiner business for more than 22 years. He is currently working as a Plan Examiner for the City of Thousand Oaks. His main objective for joining CABEC is to be able to expand his skill set as an energy consultant in order to be more competitive in this demanding job market.

### Michael Vargas

He is a certified small minority owned business owner, and was born in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico and has lived in San Diego for the past 18 years. He is excited to participate in the Energy Efficiency movement by being a member of CABEC. He is preparing for my CEPE residential and non-residential exams in the next couple of months.

Line of work: Cost Engineering, Project Management, and Quality Systems Management Professional spanning Renewable Energies, Structural and Miscellaneous metals, General Contracting, Demolition, Environmental Engineering, preparing defensible financials implementing effective controls by controlling the time, cost, qual-

ity, scope, and team at the right time and reacting according to measurable, verifiable results based on actual performance and measured against planned performance.

Michael has a beautiful 16 month old daughter and lovely wife. He just completed his MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management this week. He will be completing a Master's of Project Management in the next three months as well. Michael Vargas is a LEED Accredited Green Associate and has been selected to serve on the GBCI's Continuing Education Advisory Group.

### Aaron Wintersmith

Aaron graduated with a BS in Mechanical Engineering from CSU Sacramento, and is currently an Associate and Senior Energy Analyst at Capital Engineering Consultants in Sacramento. He has 5 years of energy efficiency experience including non-residential T-24 whole building analysis, CHPS, HPI, and LEED. Aaron currently resides in West Sacramento with his wife and daughter. They love to camp and kayak.

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**The upshot of AB 811 is that property owners can finance renewable on-site generation and energy efficiency improvements without financial risk.**

## *Announcements*

**Reminder: Register for the Conference!** It runs May 6th-8th, plus an optional free “bonus day” on May 5th. Register now at:  
[http://cabec.org/2010conference\\_SLOinfo.php](http://cabec.org/2010conference_SLOinfo.php)

**You can stay at the Embassy Suites for \$149/night plus taxes.** Your registration includes free daily breakfast and a complimentary nightly happy hour.

To register online:

<http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/SLOCAES-XB0-20100505/index.jhtml> or call: 805-549-0800 and tell the front desk agent that you are coming to the CABEC Conference, or provide the code XB0 (X-B-ZERO).

**Did you miss the Regional meetings in February?** Contact Kim Coolbaugh ([kim@cabec.org](mailto:kim@cabec.org)) for a pdf copy of the HERS Measures and/or Utility Rebate and Incentive presentations.

### **Several Local Green Building Ordinances Approved by the Energy Commission**

The California Energy Commission has approved several local green building ordinances adopted by cities and counties which require that certain buildings exceed the 2008 Title 24 standards by 15% or more. To keep track of which jurisdictions now have legally enforceable local energy requirements which exceed the 2008 standards, go to the Commission's web site where these ordinances are listed: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/title24/2008standards/ordinances/>

We recommend that you bookmark this URL on your Internet browser, and periodically check the listing to see what additional local ordinances have been added.

## *Farrar Green Home (continued)*



cles. For water heating, they have also chosen to use the help of the sun, opting for a solar hot water system.

The Farrars aimed to not only build a net zero energy design, but also to incorporate the surrounding landscape in an effort to achieve a carbon neutral footprint. The property is a working organic farm that supplies produce to grocery stores all over the West. One of the guiding principles of the farm is to supply most of the fruits and vegetables for the Farrar family, with the surplus supplying a corner fruit stand adjacent to the property meant to serve neighboring families. This reduces the need to shop at distant grocery stores and enhances the fabric of the local community.

The list of cool features goes on and on. If you would like to read more about this outstanding example of building with good intention, please visit its website at [www.farrargreenhome.org](http://www.farrargreenhome.org). It is truly inspiring!

## California Association of Building Energy Consultants

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*"To encourage energy efficiency and regulatory compliance throughout the energy consulting industry."*

*The California Association of Building Energy Consultants (CABEC), a non-profit organization, was founded in 1986 to foster professional development and ethics in the field of energy compliance through sponsorship of educational programs for industry*



*professionals on building energy efficiency. This includes a voluntary Certified Energy Analyst program, the Certified Energy Plans Examiner training and testing, a quarterly web based newsletter, web site, annual meetings and free regional meetings. These activities have been*

*developed to assure a professional level of training, experience and qualification for those individuals preparing Title 24 compliance and energy analysis documentation.*

## Helpful Links

Build It Green  
[www.builditgreen.org](http://www.builditgreen.org)

California Building Performance Contractors Association  
[www.cbpc.org](http://www.cbpc.org)

CalCERTS  
[www.calcerts.com](http://www.calcerts.com)

California Center for Sustainable Energy  
<http://www.energycenter.org/>

California Home Energy Efficiency Rating Services  
[www.cheers.org](http://www.cheers.org)

California Lighting Technology Center  
<http://cltc.ucdavis.edu/>

CEC Blueprints  
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/efficiency/blueprint/index.html>

Cool Roof Rating Council  
[www.coolroofs.org](http://www.coolroofs.org)

Natural Resources Defense Council  
[www.nrdc.org](http://www.nrdc.org)

Sustainable Energy Jobs  
[www.sustainableenergyjobs.com](http://www.sustainableenergyjobs.com)

U.S. Green Building Council  
<http://www.usgbc.org/>

Western Cooling Efficiency Center  
<http://wcec.ucdavis.edu/>

