



POST NEWSLETTER

June 2009

PBS&J WINS U.S. AIR FORCE MERIT AWARD FOR TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE FITNESS CENTER DESIGN

Tampa, FL – PBS&J’s design of a new energy-efficient fitness center at Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida was recently recognized by the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE) with a Merit Award for Concept Design. Established in 1976, the USAF Design Awards Program recognizes and promotes Air Force projects that “achieve a goal of design excellence as it relates to the natural and built environment.” Featuring alternative sources of energy and “green-build” design principles, the fitness center is designed to achieve a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum rating, the highest rating possible under the LEED program.

PBS&J’s design for the two-story, 75,278-square-foot fitness center was chosen from among the 87 entries received this year, according to David Duncan, program manager for the USAF Design Awards. Designed to benefit the men and women of the 325th Fighter Wing at Tyndall, the fitness center uses energy tax credits and is compliant with the Energy Policy Act of 2005. It is one of two eco-friendly sports and fitness centers the Air Force is constructing this year, and one of roughly 33 LEED projects PBS&J has supported over the past nine years.

According to PBS&J Deputy National Service Director Benton Rudolph, AIA, NCARB, “Our architects and LEED-accredited professionals are proud of this recognition for our support of the Air Force and its goals for this project. Our team viewed this project as a unique opportunity to respond to the client’s needs for an energy-conscious building with an exceptional design that will inspire its users. Our efforts also saved taxpayer dollars by providing a design that was ultimately \$3 million less than the original budget.”

Ann Garner, 325th Civil Engineer Squadron chief of engineering at Tyndall AFB, offered her support of the project by saying, “This building will be a spectacle of beauty, functionality, and energy efficiency. The building will also serve to educate the base population on the importance of energy conservation and sustainable development.”

The “Fit to Fight” Center will feature a gymnasium with two basketball courts; three racquetball courts; men’s and women’s locker rooms; an 11,000-square-foot cardio/weight room with a separate parent/child workout area; a 2-story lobby; spacious upper-level group exercise rooms; interior balconies; and excellent views of St. Andrews Bay off the Gulf of Mexico. The center will also include a separate 3,942-square-foot Health and Wellness Center (HAWC) to provide the 325th Fighter Wing with a welcoming place for personal counseling on healthy lifestyles.

In addition to taking advantage of recovered energy, the design’s “green” elements include alternative energy sources, high-efficiency cooling and heating systems, recycled materials from construction demolitions, integration of a solar power system on the roof, permeable paving, and high-efficiency lighting and controls. The building received high ratings in the following LEED categories: sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, and innovation and design.

The state-of-the-art fitness center design was the result of teamwork on the part of architects, engineers, interior designers, landscape architects, CADD specialists, and others, all of whom were overseen by the project’s manager, W. Blaine Paxton, AIA, NCARB, of PBS&J’s Tampa office. Ground breaking for the \$18.6 million project took place on December 11, 2008, and construction is expected to be completed in early 2010.

Scholarships

Scholarships will be presented at the July Meeting.

Corporate Membership

Sustaining members are asked to verify that they are making full use of their corporate membership. Each Sustaining Membership entitles your firm to designate five representatives. These representatives will receive the magazine, newsletter, and all other benefits that our individual members receive.

Sustaining Firms

You are invited to submit articles on projects of interest that you have either completed or are working on for publication in this newsletter. This will help keep everyone informed about the types of projects going on in the Vicksburg District. Also we are looking for Sustaining Firms to serve as A-E Hosts at upcoming meetings.

Please contact Jimmy Nelson (jnelson@allenhoshall.com or 601-977-8993) or Ashlyn Graves (agraves@evans-graves.com or 504-836-5151).

What better way to showcase your firm than to serve as A-E Host at an SAME meeting?

Young Members

We encourage young members and potential young members to attend meetings and join SAME. Please contact Jill Jackson, Vicksburg Post Junior Vice-President, about our programs geared toward young members. 601-634-3417 or Jill.M.Jackson@erdc.usace.army.mil.

Vicksburg Post Website is www.samevicksburg.org

2009 Meetings Summary

April Meeting – In the April meeting Mr. Ken Labry talked about High Definition Superstructure & Submerged Substructure Inspection Mapping and Integrated As-Found Model Construction –and The Bayou D’Arbonne Dam & Reservoir Project. The meeting was held April 28, 2009 at Toney’s Restaurant.

May Meeting – The May meeting was held May 28, 2009 at Toney’s Restaurant. Mr. Andy Martin, P.E talked about Mitigation of Runway 10-28 Differential Settlements at New Orleans International Airport. The meeting was hosted by Pyburn & Odom, Inc.

June Meeting – The June meeting was held on 25 June 2009 at Toney’s Restaurant. Mr. Dr. Andy Martin, P.E. was the speaker at the meeting and talked about “Applications of Biologically Produced Polymers in Sustainable Dust Control and Soil Stabilization”.

New Programs

If anyone has suggestions for a program you would like to see in the upcoming year, contact Cherry Talbert or Jared Johnson. Drop them an e-mail or give them a call. Cherry: cjones@ardaman.com or (225)752-4790. Jared: jared.l.johnson@usace.army.mil or (601)634-3050. Good informative programs make successful meetings. We need your ideas!

Upcoming Events

Meeting Dates:
28 July
25 August
22 September