

Ingenium \ in-jen' e-um \ n, Latin 1: natural talent and knowledge in applying and linking resources in nature to the use and convenience of man 2: conceptualizer, designer, simulator of new techniques to help meet societal needs 3: the ability to inter-relate engineering principles with economic, social, legal, aesthetic, environmental and ethical issues 4: extrapolating beyond the current design to plan, predict, synthesize and evaluate systems and components with respect to the health, safety and well-being of people and property in the building of healthy communities.

the Ingenium

News from **WARD EDWARDS**

Summer 2005

Building Healthy Communities

www.WardEdwards.com

New Website Goes Live

I was beginning to think the day would never come, but on August 4th., it did. Our new website went live! I feel as if I have given birth. If you actually have given birth, you probably think that this analogy is a bit of stretch. But, if you have ever redesigned or created from scratch a website, you know that it truly is a labor of love (emphasis on labor). There were months of preparation, many people eagerly inquiring about the progress, plenty of little "surprises" along the way, and a lot of excitement during the last few weeks, but in the end, it was all worth it. Also, like many a doting mother, I want to show off my new creation to everyone. (*For you Seinfeld fans out there, recall the "you've gotta see the baaaaby" episode.*)

So, please take a few minutes to visit our new website at www.WardEdwards.com. We will be updating the site often with new projects, information and career opportunities. You can also view our newsletter online.

Special Inspections Ensure Quality and Safety

In January of 2005, the State of South Carolina Building Code Council effectively adopted the 2003 International Building Code (2003 IBC). This adoption included the provisions of Chapter 17 "Special Tests and Inspections". Unlike the 2000 IBC adoption, this chapter was not deleted per amendment. The result is that we in the design and construction community must work through these newer requirements.

The intent of Chapter 17 is to require the structural engineer of record to have more field involvement with the critical components of the design during construction. As the name suggests, these inspections are additional to the standard inspections required by the Code and building department. The focus of Chapter 17 surrounds structural issues, but also does include some requirements for mechanical electrical, plumbing, fire, and other miscellaneous items. The provisions of Chapter 17 are placed into effect whenever deemed necessary by the Building Official based on the size, risk, and nature

of the building. The Code clearly defines which inspections, tests, and reports are required. An approved special inspector performs the inspections to review the items that are critical to the project. Once all of the inspections, tests, and reports are performed or collected, a statement of Special Inspections prepared by the prime design professional is issued.

The first project that Ward Edwards worked on under the requirements of Chapter 17 was The Hospice Operations Center in Bluffton, South Carolina. The Beaufort County building department determined that Chapter 17 would be in effect for this project. We are currently working on the final statement to be issued to the building department. Overall, we found that we were able to work with the contractor and the owner's representative to perform these inspections. The construction manager and owner's representative for the project, Jack Resnick of Group 4 Construction Services, LLC, shared three positive points for the Special Inspections program:

- For a marginal additional fee, you have engineering inspections performed on key structural components of the job (concrete, steel, etc.), ensuring they were done correctly.

- The extra inspections reinforce in the minds of the subcontractors the quality that they must build to.

- I would go through this process again regardless of whether the Code required the inspections

It appears that for this project, the inspections were worth the additional effort and cost to obtain the intent sought out in the design documents. And effectively, the owner and the community have been provided with assurance that this is a safe building that meets the structural requirements of the Code.

Contact Andy Richardson, PE

Driftwood Art wins at Art Market

Ward Edwards sponsors the "Best Use of Environmental Elements" award at the annual Art Market hosted by the Coastal Discovery Museum. Fifty-four artists from twelve states participated in the juried fine art and craft show.

Phillip Simmons, 3-D mixed media artist of Greenville, S.C., is this year's award recipient.

Philip collects driftwood, mostly from the Albemarle Sound in North Carolina. He chooses the driftwood pieces by "seeing" things in them like fish, birds or dragons. Once the wood is dry, he determines which features he will add to enhance what he sees. He uses items such as hand-

cut copper, tin, leather, glass eyes and found objects to bring his creatures to life. He likes to leave the driftwood just as found, doing little or no carving. He says nature creates the pieces, he just gives them personality.



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In this issue: New Website, Summer Interns, Driftwood Art and Special Inspections

Summer Interns Gain Valuable Hands-On Experience

The Ward Edwards Summer Internship program is in its third year. The objective of the program is to familiarize civil engineering students with all facets of a comprehensive land development consulting business. By spending time with several departments, each intern obtains exposure to all phases of land development projects with a focus on engineering duties and career paths.

Allen Ward, President, describes the internship program as a great example of the win-win situations we love to create at Ward Edwards. "The students are exposed to soft business skills that most do not learn in school, and the practical application of the technical skills they are learning in school. Our company receives the benefits of youthful energy, the latest design techniques, a pipeline to the best future talent, and a closer connection to our universities, which is very important in a cutting-edge business like ours," says Allen. "The program really adds to the dynamic, creative environment we strive to develop in our business."

Michael Klink is currently interning for the third year. "Ward Edwards has helped me develop and apply the principles I have learned in the classroom setting to real world design. Beginning on day one, I have had the chance to get many aspects of the civil engineering field, from surveying, transportation analysis, Autodesk Land Desktop, hydrology analysis, cost estimating, earthwork, structural

analysis, and the programs that go along with these particular subjects. This summer I am getting more experience in the engineering programs used for hydrology analysis."

Jacquelyn McCurry also joined the Summer Internship Program to gain first hand experience with the engineering principles she is learning in college. "I believe that with all the additional knowledge that I am gaining from Ward Edwards, my classes will become more meaningful because I will be more familiar with the material that is given."

Working closely with the program, Project Manager Greg Baisch says that he has enjoyed teaching and learning from the interns and only regrets that he did not have the same opportunity that they have. "I'm excited and proud to be a part of a company that is willing to invest in people, and I believe that the investment will result in a direct and long term positive impact on the community."

Anyone interested in participating in the internship program should contact Doug Plank.



Summer Interns (from left to right): Michael Klink-Clemson University, Jacquelyn McCurry-University of Tennessee, Chris Blount-Georgia Institute of Technology, Matthew Ricks-Georgia Institute of Technology