

## 2009 CTGBC Membership Letter

We certainly made 2008 a wonderful year! Membership in CTGBC (CT Green Building Council) has tripled and we anticipate that the ever increasing awareness in sustainability will only continue to make our organization grow.

As the CT Chapter of the USGBC, our role is to forward all the information available to you regarding their activities as well as make our program the best it can be. CTGBC has active committees in many areas of sustainability so that members have ample opportunity to get involved in ways that interest them.

The great news is that our membership is now on-line at **ctgbc.org!** You can participate from your computer and the information provided will be directly downloaded into our data base. Our *extensive program listing and website* links you to the world of sustainability covering energy and environmental issues. Our cooperative and active relationship with other organizations gives members the additional opportunity to gather knowledge from others that share our passion for “green building”. We encourage you to take advantage of the *amazing networking opportunities* with other high performance construction professionals as well as all our *LEED educational programs*.

Due to the success of Greenbuild in Boston in November ‘08, the excitement has continued here at home as we bring sustainable awareness to the citizens of CT. We want to build on that momentum by offering *programs that inform and inspire* others to join our “green building” mission. We anticipate meetings at the new Science Center, Yale School of Forestry and more in our continuing effort to deliver interesting concepts in sustainability that can be incorporated into our everyday and working lives. In fact, at Greenbuild ‘08 there was a special pre-convention meeting for LEED Schools that discussed where the USGBC would like all chapters to be in the next year regarding the implementation of important school programs. Of the six items they listed as most important contributions a chapter can bring to its community, we can proudly say that we have already accomplished the first four and the next two are underway. Become an active member and start by viewing our 2009 program calendar at our website, [ctgbc.org](http://ctgbc.org).

It is obvious that the new law requiring LEED Silver, or its equivalent, will be taxing our state organizations to properly administer the program as well as certify that it is reaching its goals. Although the private sector has been put on hold for the year, the state and municipal will be underway. As a result, we anticipate an influx of both trained administrators and commissioning staff – it is our challenge to be at the forefront of this effort, to take a leadership role and get you involved to make sure it is done correctly.

In the past year, we have implemented *new committees* including LEED for Homes, School Advocacy, and Emerging Green Builders as a response to needs voiced by our membership. There is plenty of room for more – let us know what you’re interested in or how you can contribute! Make sure you check our monthly updates about events and happenings around Connecticut.

In closing, we appreciate your past participation and support. With all that we have to offer, the **CTGBC \$50 membership cost** is a real value. Program and affiliate membership discount prices (such as AIA) are just some of the bonuses, and invitations to the exclusive members only activities such as the Holiday Gathering increase the savings.

We look forward to your continued involvement and to another exciting year ahead!

*Todd Renz*

President