



## **Builders Never Stop Learning**

By Marty Coates, President  
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Even in a housing market as we are experiencing right now, The Home Builders Association of Dayton Registered Builder members are working hard to learn about new methods, materials, products and equipment that will enhance their homes and make for better living for their home buyers. A great place for them to do that is the International Builders Show which opens Tuesday, January 20, unfortunately unless your builder is a member of the HBA of Dayton and therefore of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) they may be missing out. Fortunately, over 40 members of the Home Builders Association of Dayton are making the trip to learn the latest the home building industry has to offer. These diligent professionals will be returning with knowledge that be incorporated into their businesses and the homes they build.

The International Builders Show is considered the world's largest home show. It is featured every year on cable networks such as HGTV. Last year over 90,000 industry professionals attended the four day event. This year, they will walk over ten miles of aisles to see over 1,700 exhibitors representing more than 250 industry categories spread out over nearly two million square feet of space (to put into perspective, that's almost 70 football fields under roof). And they will have the option to learn from over 250 educational seminars on topics ranging from green building and design trends to construction codes and 50+ housing, as well as home tours and special events.

NAHB will again celebrate "Green Day" at the show this year in recognition of the phenomenal growth of green building. Held on Jan. 21, Green Day 2009 will feature a record number of green exhibitors welcoming attendees to the trade show floor with giveaways, special guests and other incentives. More than 30 education sessions on green building topics are planned, including a special featured speaker, "Green to Gold" author Andrew Winston. Green Day is sponsored by Kohler, Marvin Windows and Doors and

Whirlpool, three companies that supported the event at IBS 2008 in Orlando, when the NAHB National Green Building Program (**NAHBGreen**) was unveiled. Attendees can learn more about the components of the national program, including the online scoring tool, NAHB National Green Building Awards program, and the upcoming NAHB National Green Building Conference, by visiting the NAHBGreen Action Center on site.

Some other highlights include recognizing the phenomenal New American Home 2009. Equal parts laboratory, education tool and product showcase, The New American Home 2009 is a net-zero energy home that includes active solar design (photovoltaic cells), passive solar design (orientation and shading), an insulated concrete wall system, and a revolutionary gas-powered mechanical HVAC system. In addition to state-of-the-art green building technology, the home features dynamic aesthetic design, including fountains, pools and a basement-level subterranean courtyard. Visitors will look out through a wall of glass to see a waterfall that spills into the courtyard from the back yard.

Home Builder Association of Dayton members are continuously looking for ways to build a better home and over the years thousands of our association members have attended the show to help improve their businesses and the homes they build for the families in our communities. They will be returning with many innovative ideas to incorporate into the homes they are building.

Check back with this column in couple of weeks and we will share the many highlights of the show.